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THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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SENATE BILL

No. 1068 Session of  
2020

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INTRODUCED BY STEFANO, MARTIN, MASTRIANO AND BARTOLOTTA,  
MARCH 11, 2020

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REFERRED TO LOCAL GOVERNMENT, MARCH 11, 2020

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A JOINT RESOLUTION

1 Proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the Commonwealth  
2 of Pennsylvania, in local government, providing for removal  
3 of municipal officers.

4 The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania  
5 hereby resolves as follows:

6 Section 1. The following amendment to the Constitution of  
7 Pennsylvania is proposed in accordance with Article XI:

8 That Article IX be amended by adding a section to read:

9 § 15. Removal of municipal officers.

10 The General Assembly shall provide, by uniform general law or  
11 by classification, for the removal of elected officers of a  
12 municipality. Elected officers shall be removed only for cause  
13 as defined by the General Assembly. Cause shall include  
14 absenteeism from meetings and dereliction of duty. The  
15 authorization provided by this section shall not preclude the  
16 use of other provisions contained in this Constitution for the  
17 disqualification, impeachment or removal of municipal officers.

18 Section 2. (a) Upon the first passage by the General

1 Assembly of this proposed constitutional amendment, the  
2 Secretary of the Commonwealth shall proceed immediately to  
3 comply with the advertising requirements of section 1 of Article  
4 XI of the Constitution of Pennsylvania and shall transmit the  
5 required advertisements to two newspapers in every county in  
6 which such newspapers are published in sufficient time after  
7 passage of this proposed constitutional amendment.

8 (b) Upon the second passage by the General Assembly of this  
9 proposed constitutional amendment, the Secretary of the  
10 Commonwealth shall proceed immediately to comply with the  
11 advertising requirements of section 1 of Article XI of the  
12 Constitution of Pennsylvania and shall transmit the required  
13 advertisements to two newspapers in every county in which such  
14 newspapers are published in sufficient time after passage of  
15 this proposed constitutional amendment. The Secretary of the  
16 Commonwealth shall submit this proposed constitutional amendment  
17 to the qualified electors of this Commonwealth at the first  
18 primary, general or municipal election which meets the  
19 requirements of and is in conformance with section 1 of Article  
20 XI of the Constitution of Pennsylvania and which occurs at least  
21 three months after the proposed constitutional amendment is  
22 passed by the General Assembly.