
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE BILL

No. 1166 Session of
2020

INTRODUCED BY K. WARD, DiSANTO, KILLION, MARTIN, ARNOLD,
BARTOLOTTA, ARGALL, MENSCH, STEFANO, PITTMAN, AUMENT,
SCARNATI AND CORMAN, JUNE 5, 2020

REFERRED TO VETERANS AFFAIRS AND EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS,
JUNE 5, 2020

A JOINT RESOLUTION

1 Proposing an amendment to the Constitution of Pennsylvania, in
2 the executive, providing for disaster emergency duration.

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

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

7 That Article IV be amended by adding a section to read:

8 § 20. Disaster emergency duration.

9 The Governor may issue emergency declarations under
10 circumstances provided for by law for that purpose. The General
11 Assembly may by law grant the Governor certain enumerated powers
12 to address and abate the declared emergency. A declaration by
13 the Governor of an emergency shall not last longer than 30 days
14 unless extended by a concurrent resolution of the General
15 Assembly approving the continuation of the declaration. Upon the
16 expiration of the Governor's emergency declaration, the Governor

1 may not declare a new state of emergency based upon the same or
2 substantially similar facts and circumstances without the
3 passage of a concurrent resolution of the General Assembly
4 expressly approving the new emergency declaration.

5 Section 2. (a) Upon the first passage by the General
6 Assembly of this proposed constitutional amendment, the
7 Secretary of the Commonwealth shall proceed immediately to
8 comply with the advertising requirements of section 1 of Article
9 XI of the Constitution of Pennsylvania and shall transmit the
10 required advertisements to two newspapers in every county in
11 which such newspapers are published in sufficient time after
12 passage of this proposed constitutional amendment.

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