
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 1217 Session of
2021

INTRODUCED BY DAVANZO, CIRESI, JAMES, E. NELSON, SOLOMON AND
ZIMMERMAN, APRIL 19, 2021

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON LOCAL GOVERNMENT, APRIL 19, 2021

A JOINT RESOLUTION

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

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 IX be amended by adding a section to read:

8 § 15. Removal of municipal officers.

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

17 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.