THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 2340 Session of 2022

INTRODUCED BY BIZZARRO, SNYDER, MATZIE, MERSKI, MADDEN, KRAJEWSKI, McNEILL, N. NELSON, GUZMAN, HOHENSTEIN, DELLOSO, O'MARA, SCHLOSSBERG, SANCHEZ, ZABEL, WARREN, ROZZI, DeLUCA, CIRESI, WEBSTER, CEPHAS AND KINKEAD, FEBRUARY 11, 2022

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON STATE GOVERNMENT, FEBRUARY 11, 2022

A JOINT RESOLUTION

- 1 Proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the Commonwealth
- of Pennsylvania, further providing for proposal of amendments
- by the General Assembly and their adoption.
- 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 section 1 of Article XI be amended to read:
- 9 § 1. Proposal of amendments by the General Assembly and their
- 10 adoption.
- 11 Amendments to this Constitution may be proposed in the Senate
- 12 or House of Representatives; and if the same shall be agreed to
- 13 by [a majority] at least two-thirds of the members elected to
- 14 each House, such proposed amendment or amendments shall be
- 15 entered on their journals with the yeas and nays taken thereon,
- 16 and the Secretary of the Commonwealth shall cause the same to be
- 17 published three months before the next general election, in at

- 1 least two newspapers in every county in which such newspapers
- 2 shall be published; and if, in the General Assembly next
- 3 afterwards chosen, such proposed amendment or amendments shall
- 4 be agreed to by [a majority] at least two-thirds of the members
- 5 elected to each House, the Secretary of the Commonwealth shall
- 6 cause the same again to be published in the manner aforesaid;
- 7 and such proposed amendment or amendments shall be submitted to
- 8 the qualified electors of the State in such manner, and at such
- 9 time at least three months after being so agreed to by the two
- 10 Houses, as the General Assembly shall prescribe; and, if such
- 11 amendment or amendments shall be approved by a majority of those
- 12 voting thereon, such amendment or amendments shall become a part
- 13 of the Constitution; but no amendment or amendments shall be
- 14 submitted oftener than once in five years. When two or more
- 15 amendments shall be submitted they shall be voted upon
- 16 separately.
- 17 (a) In the event a major emergency threatens or is about to
- 18 threaten the Commonwealth and if the safety or welfare of the
- 19 Commonwealth requires prompt amendment of this Constitution,
- 20 such amendments to this Constitution may be proposed in the
- 21 Senate or House of Representatives at any regular or special
- 22 session of the General Assembly, and if agreed to by at least
- 23 two-thirds of the members elected to each House, a proposed
- 24 amendment shall be entered on the journal of each House with the
- 25 yeas and nays taken thereon and the official in charge of
- 26 statewide elections shall promptly publish such proposed
- 27 amendment in at least two newspapers in every county in which
- 28 such newspapers are published. Such amendment shall then be
- 29 submitted to the qualified electors of the Commonwealth in such
- 30 manner, and at such time, at least one month after being agreed

- 1 to by both Houses as the General Assembly prescribes.
- 2 (b) If an emergency amendment is approved by a majority of
- 3 the qualified electors voting thereon, it shall become part of
- 4 this Constitution. When two or more emergency amendments are
- 5 submitted they shall be voted on separately.
- 6 Section 2. (a) Upon the first passage by the General
- 7 Assembly of this proposed constitutional amendment, the
- 8 Secretary of the Commonwealth shall proceed immediately to
- 9 comply with the advertising requirements of section 1 of Article
- 10 XI of the Constitution of Pennsylvania and shall transmit the
- 11 required advertisements to two newspapers in every county in
- 12 which such newspapers are published in sufficient time after
- 13 passage of this proposed constitutional amendment.
- 14 (b) Upon the second passage by the General Assembly of this
- 15 proposed constitutional amendment, the Secretary of the
- 16 Commonwealth shall proceed immediately to comply with the
- 17 advertising requirements of section 1 of Article XI of the
- 18 Constitution of Pennsylvania and shall transmit the required
- 19 advertisements to two newspapers in every county in which such
- 20 newspapers are published in sufficient time after passage of
- 21 this proposed constitutional amendment. The Secretary of the
- 22 Commonwealth shall submit this proposed constitutional amendment
- 23 to the qualified electors of this Commonwealth at the first
- 24 general election which meets the requirements of and is in
- 25 conformance with section 1 of Article XI of the Constitution of
- 26 Pennsylvania and which occurs at least three months after the
- 27 proposed constitutional amendment is passed by the General
- 28 Assembly.