

---

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

---

SENATE BILL

No. 735 Session of  
2021

---

INTRODUCED BY J. WARD, MASTRIANO, ARGALL, BARTOLOTTA, MARTIN,  
YAW, HUTCHINSON, PHILLIPS-HILL, STEFANO, MENSCH, PITTMAN,  
BAKER, AUMENT AND SCAVELLO, JUNE 11, 2021

---

SENATOR ARGALL, STATE GOVERNMENT, AS AMENDED, JUNE 15, 2021

---

A JOINT RESOLUTION

1 Proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the Commonwealth  
2 of Pennsylvania, further providing for qualifications of  
3 electors.

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 ~~(1)~~ That section 1 of Article VII be amended to read: <--

9 § 1. Qualifications of electors.

10 (a) Every citizen 21 years of age, possessing the following  
11 qualifications, shall be entitled to vote at all elections  
12 subject, however, to such laws requiring and regulating the  
13 registration of electors as the General Assembly may enact.

14 1. He or she shall have been a citizen of the United States  
15 at least one month.

16 2. He or she shall have resided in the State 90 days  
17 immediately preceding the election.

1 3. He or she shall have resided in the election district  
2 where he or she shall offer to vote at least 60 days immediately  
3 preceding the election, except that if qualified to vote in an  
4 election district prior to removal of residence, he or she may,  
5 if a resident of Pennsylvania, vote in the election district  
6 from which he or she removed his or her residence within 60 days  
7 preceding the election.

8 ~~(b) (1) In addition to the qualifications under subsection~~ <--  
9 ~~(a), a qualified elector shall provide identification at each~~  
10 ~~election by:~~

11 ~~(i) presenting valid identification before receiving a~~  
12 ~~ballot to vote in person; or~~

13 ~~(ii) enclosing a copy of valid identification with his or~~  
14 ~~her ballot to vote by absentee or mail in ballot.~~

15 ~~(2) The types of valid identification that a person may~~  
16 ~~provide to comply with this subsection shall be provided for by~~  
17 ~~law.~~

18 ~~(B) IN ADDITION TO THE QUALIFICATIONS UNDER SUBSECTION (A)~~ <--  
19 ~~OF THIS SECTION, A QUALIFIED ELECTOR SHALL PROVIDE A VALID~~  
20 ~~IDENTIFICATION AT EACH ELECTION IN ACCORDANCE WITH THE~~  
21 ~~FOLLOWING:~~

22 ~~1. WHEN VOTING IN PERSON, THE QUALIFIED ELECTOR SHALL~~  
23 ~~PRESENT A VALID IDENTIFICATION BEFORE RECEIVING A BALLOT TO VOTE~~  
24 ~~IN PERSON.~~

25 ~~2. WHEN NOT VOTING IN PERSON, THE QUALIFIED ELECTOR SHALL~~  
26 ~~PROVIDE A COPY OF A VALID IDENTIFICATION WITH HIS OR HER BALLOT.~~

27 ~~(C) NOTWITHSTANDING ANY LAW REGARDING THE TYPES OF VALID~~  
28 ~~IDENTIFICATIONS NECESSARY FOR A QUALIFIED ELECTOR TO COMPLY WITH~~  
29 ~~SUBSECTION (B), VALID IDENTIFICATIONS SHALL INCLUDE, BUT NOT BE~~  
30 ~~LIMITED TO, A VALID GOVERNMENT-ISSUED IDENTIFICATION.~~

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

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