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THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

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SENATE BILL

No. 1127 Session of  
2022

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INTRODUCED BY YAW, ARGALL, J. WARD, STEFANO AND MASTRIANO,  
MARCH 17, 2022

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REFERRED TO STATE GOVERNMENT, MARCH 17, 2022

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A JOINT RESOLUTION

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

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 10(d) of Article V be amended to read:

9 § 10. Judicial administration.

10 \* \* \*

11 (d) The Chief Justice and president judges of all courts  
12 with [seven] two or less judges shall be the justice or judge  
13 longest in continuous service on their respective courts; and in  
14 the event of his resignation from this position the justice or  
15 judge next longest in continuous service shall be the Chief  
16 Justice or president judge. The president judges of all other  
17 courts shall be selected for five-year terms by the members of  
18 their respective courts. A Chief Justice or president judge may

1 resign such position and remain a member of the court. In the  
2 event of a tie vote for office of president judge in a court  
3 which elects its president judge, the Supreme Court shall  
4 appoint as president judge one of the judges receiving the  
5 highest number of votes.

6 \* \* \*

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

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