THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

SENATE BILL

No. 1075 Session of 2024

INTRODUCED BY FLYNN, BOSCOLA, FONTANA, BREWSTER, KEARNEY AND KANE, FEBRUARY 12, 2024

REFERRED TO STATE GOVERNMENT, FEBRUARY 12, 2024

A JOINT RESOLUTION

- 1 Proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the Commonwealth
- of Pennsylvania, further providing for exemptions and special
- 3 provisions.
- 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 2(b) of Article VIII be amended to read:
- 9 § 2. Exemptions and special provisions.
- 10 * * *
- 11 (b) The General Assembly may, by law:
- 12 (i) Establish standards and qualifications for private
- 13 forest reserves, agricultural reserves, and land actively
- 14 devoted to agricultural use, and make special provision for the
- 15 taxation thereof;
- 16 (ii) Establish as a class or classes of subjects of taxation
- 17 the property or privileges of persons who, because of age,
- 18 disability, infirmity or poverty are determined to be in need of

- 1 tax exemption or of special tax provisions, and for any such
- 2 class or classes, uniform standards and qualifications. The
- 3 Commonwealth, or any other taxing authority, may adopt or employ
- 4 such class or classes and standards and qualifications, and
- 5 except as herein provided may impose taxes, grant exemptions, or
- 6 make special tax provisions in accordance therewith. No
- 7 exemption or special provision shall be made under this clause
- 8 with respect to taxes upon the sale or use of personal property,
- 9 and no exemption from any tax upon real property shall be
- 10 granted by the General Assembly under this clause unless the
- 11 General Assembly shall provide for the reimbursement of local
- 12 taxing authorities by or through the Commonwealth for revenue
- 13 losses occasioned by such exemption;
- 14 (ii.1) Establish standards and qualifications to authorize
- 15 <u>local taxing authorities to exclude the established class or</u>
- 16 classes under clause (ii) from taxation in accordance with and
- 17 <u>in addition to the homestead property exclusion program</u>
- 18 <u>established under 53 Pa.C.S. Ch. 85 Subch. F (relating to</u>
- 19 <u>homestead property exclusion</u>);
- 20 (iii) Establish standards and qualifications by which local
- 21 taxing authorities may make uniform special tax provisions
- 22 applicable to a taxpayer for a limited period of time to
- 23 encourage improvement of deteriorating property or areas by an
- 24 individual, association or corporation, or to encourage
- 25 industrial development by a non-profit corporation; and
- 26 (iv) Make special tax provisions on any increase in value of
- 27 real estate resulting from residential construction. Such
- 28 special tax provisions shall be applicable for a period not to
- 29 exceed two years.
- 30 (v) Establish standards and qualifications by which local

- 1 taxing authorities in counties of the first and second class may
- 2 make uniform special real property tax provisions applicable to
- 3 taxpayers who are longtime owner-occupants as shall be defined
- 4 by the General Assembly of residences in areas where real
- 5 property values have risen markedly as a consequence of the
- 6 refurbishing or renovating of other deteriorating residences or
- 7 the construction of new residences.
- 8 (vi) Authorize local taxing authorities to exclude from
- 9 taxation an amount based on the assessed value of homestead
- 10 property. The exclusions authorized by this clause shall not
- 11 exceed 100% of the assessed value of each homestead property
- 12 within a local taxing jurisdiction. A local taxing authority may
- 13 not increase the millage rate of its tax on real property to pay
- 14 for these exclusions.
- 15 * * *
- 16 Section 2. The following procedure applies to the proposed
- 17 constitutional amendment in this joint resolution:
- 18 (1) Upon the first passage by the General Assembly of
- 19 the amendment, the Secretary of the Commonwealth shall
- 20 proceed immediately to comply with the advertising
- 21 requirements of section 1 of Article XI of the Constitution
- of Pennsylvania.
- 23 (2) Upon the second passage by the General Assembly of
- the amendment, the Secretary of the Commonwealth shall
- 25 proceed immediately to comply with the advertising
- 26 requirements of section 1 of Article XI of the Constitution
- of Pennsylvania. The Secretary of the Commonwealth shall
- submit the amendment to the qualified electors of this
- 29 Commonwealth at the first general or municipal election which
- 30 meets the requirements of section 1 of Article XI of the

1 Constitution of Pennsylvania.