

THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 72 Session of  
2013

INTRODUCED BY GODSHALL, STEPHENS, MUSTIO, MARSHALL, GINGRICH,  
HARHAI, TRUITT, D. COSTA, KORTZ, MARSICO, BLOOM, KAUFFMAN, C.  
HARRIS, SWANGER, REED, ROCK, BENNINGHOFF, PETRI, READSHAW AND  
DELUCA, JANUARY 10, 2013

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON STATE GOVERNMENT, JANUARY 10, 2013

A JOINT RESOLUTION

1 Proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the Commonwealth  
2 of Pennsylvania, reducing the size of the General Assembly.

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 section 16 of Article II be amended to read:

8 § 16. Legislative districts.

9 The Commonwealth shall be divided into [50] 30 senatorial and  
10 [203] 121 representative districts, which shall be composed of  
11 compact and contiguous territory as nearly equal in population  
12 as practicable. Each senatorial district shall elect one  
13 Senator, and each representative district one Representative.  
14 Unless absolutely necessary no county, city, incorporated town,  
15 borough, township or ward shall be divided in forming either a  
16 senatorial or representative district.

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.

23 Section 3. The amendment of section 16 of Article II of the  
24 Constitution of Pennsylvania shall take effect after the 2010  
25 Federal census reapportionment.

26 Section 4. The Senate and House of Representatives, upon the  
27 effective date of the amendment of section 16 of Article II of  
28 the Constitution of Pennsylvania, shall each reduce their  
29 budgets by 40% compared to the budgets of the prior year.