
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 488 Session of
2017

INTRODUCED BY SIMMONS, MURT, DAVIS, DRISCOLL, DEAN, GODSHALL,
MACKENZIE, ROZZI, V. BROWN, TALLMAN, SANTORA, D. COSTA,
ZIMMERMAN, ROTHMAN, HAHN, FARRY, FREEMAN AND NESBIT,
FEBRUARY 14, 2017

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON FINANCE, FEBRUARY 14, 2017

A JOINT RESOLUTION

1 Proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the Commonwealth
2 of Pennsylvania, further providing for exemptions and special
3 provisions relating to taxation.

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(c) of Article VIII be amended to read:

9 § 2. Exemptions and special provisions.

10 * * *

11 (c) Citizens and residents of this Commonwealth, who served
12 in any war or armed conflict in which the United States was
13 engaged and were honorably discharged or released under
14 honorable circumstances from active service, shall be exempt
15 from the payment of all real property taxes upon the residence
16 occupied by the said citizens and residents of this Commonwealth
17 imposed by the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania or any of its

1 political subdivisions if, as a result of military service, they
2 are blind, paraplegic or double or quadruple amputees or have a
3 service-connected disability declared by the United States
4 Veterans Administration or its successor to be a total or [100%]
5 70% or greater permanent disability, and if the State Veterans'
6 Commission determines that such persons are in need of the tax
7 exemptions granted herein. This exemption shall be extended to
8 the unmarried surviving spouse upon the death of an eligible
9 veteran provided that the State Veterans' Commission determines
10 that such person is in need of the exemption.

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

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

1 XI of the Constitution of Pennsylvania and which occurs at least
2 three months after the proposed constitutional amendment is
3 passed by the General Assembly.