
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 1410 Session of
2023

INTRODUCED BY McCLINTON, KINSEY, WAXMAN, McNEILL, KHAN, MADDEN,
KINKEAD, HILL-EVANS, HANBIDGE, SCHLOSSBERG, HOHENSTEIN,
MALAGARI, PROBST, SMITH-WADE-EL, D. WILLIAMS, BURGOS,
KENYATTA, SANCHEZ, HOWARD, SCOTT, STEELE, CEPEDA-FREYTIZ AND
PARKER, JUNE 14, 2023

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON JUDICIARY, JUNE 14, 2023

A JOINT RESOLUTION

1 Proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the Commonwealth
2 of Pennsylvania, further providing for pardoning power and
3 Board of Pardons.

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 9(a) of Article IV be amended to read:

9 § 9. Pardoning power; Board of Pardons.

10 (a) In all criminal cases except impeachment the Governor
11 shall have power to remit fines and forfeitures, to grant
12 reprieves, commutation of sentences and pardons; but no pardon
13 shall be granted, nor sentence commuted, except on the
14 recommendation in writing of a majority of the Board of Pardons,
15 and, in the case of a sentence of death or life imprisonment, on
16 the [unanimous] recommendation in writing of three-fifths of the

1 Board of Pardons, after full hearing in open session, upon due
2 public notice. The recommendation, with the reasons therefor at
3 length, shall be delivered to the Governor and a copy thereof
4 shall be kept on file in the office of the Lieutenant Governor
5 in a docket kept for that purpose.

6 * * *

7 Section 2. The following procedure applies to the proposed
8 constitutional amendment in this joint resolution:

9 (1) Upon the first passage by the General Assembly of
10 the amendment, the Secretary of the Commonwealth shall
11 proceed immediately to comply with the advertising
12 requirements of section 1 of Article XI of the Constitution
13 of Pennsylvania.

14 (2) Upon the second passage by the General Assembly of
15 the amendment, the Secretary of the Commonwealth shall
16 proceed immediately to comply with the advertising
17 requirements of section 1 of Article XI of the Constitution
18 of Pennsylvania. The Secretary of the Commonwealth shall
19 submit the amendment to the qualified electors of this
20 Commonwealth at the first general or municipal election which
21 meets the requirements of section 1 of Article XI of the
22 Constitution of Pennsylvania.