
THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF PENNSYLVANIA

HOUSE BILL

No. 1678 Session of
2013

INTRODUCED BY TRUITT, AUMENT, BLOOM, CUTLER, GRELL, WATSON,
MILLARD, KAUFFMAN, JAMES, GIBBONS, TALLMAN, BENNINGHOFF,
GINGRICH, MURT AND SWANGER, SEPTEMBER 9, 2013

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE ON APPROPRIATIONS, SEPTEMBER 9, 2013

A JOINT RESOLUTION

1 Proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the Commonwealth
2 of Pennsylvania, providing for budget by operation of law.

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 Article VIII be amended by adding a section to read:

8 § 18. Budget by operation of law.

9 In the event that a general appropriation act for a fiscal
10 year is not enacted by the final day of the immediately
11 preceding fiscal year, the immediately preceding fiscal year's
12 general appropriation act shall be imposed by operation of law
13 from the first day of the fiscal year until such time as a
14 general appropriation act for the fiscal year has been finally
15 passed by the Senate and the House of Representatives and signed
16 by the Governor, subject to the condition that, if
17 appropriations made by the General Assembly for the immediately

1 preceding fiscal year exceed the actual revenues and surplus
2 available for the immediately preceding fiscal year, each line
3 item appropriation shall be reduced by a factor determined by
4 dividing total revenues by total expenditures and subtracting
5 the quotient from 1.0.

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

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