

A PROCLAMATION BY THE GOVERNOR

In the Name and by Authority of the
COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA



GOVERNOR'S OFFICE

HARRISBURG, PA.

PROCLAMATION

RECOMMENDATIONS OF CONSTITUTIONAL CONVENTION

WHEREAS, Pursuant to Act No. 2, approved March 15, 1967, the electorate of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, at the primary election held on May 16, 1967, approved the calling of a Constitutional Convention to prepare for submission to the electorate proposals for limited revision of the Constitution of Pennsylvania; and

WHEREAS, The duly elected delegates to the said Convention convened in the Hall of the House of Representatives at Harrisburg, Dauphin County, Pennsylvania, on December 1, 1967, and concluded their session sine die on February 29, 1968; and

WHEREAS, The said Constitutional Convention, pursuant to the authority of the aforesaid Act No. 2, recommended revision to the Constitution on the subjects of legislative apportionment, judicial administration, organization, selection and tenure, local government, taxation and State finance, for submission to the electors of the Commonwealth at the primary election held on April 23, 1968, as follows:

(1) *Legislative Apportionment.*—Amending Article II of the Constitution of Pennsylvania to provide for fifty senatorial districts and 203 representative districts, each senatorial district to elect one senator and each representative district to elect one representative, and for a commission to reapportion the Legislature after each decennial census.

(2) *State Finance.*—Amending Article VIII of the Constitution of Pennsylvania to provide for a limit on borrowing based on tax revenues, budgeting,

financial planning, auditing, specifying audit control of public monies, establishing and regulating a balanced State budget, and related matters. Repealing existing Sections 4, 5, 11, 12, 13, 16 and 16, immediately, and Sections 24 and 25 when the last bonds have been issued under their authority.

(3) *Taxation.*—Amending Article VIII of the Constitution of Pennsylvania further defining exemptions of certain classes of property from State and local taxation; providing that the payment to the Commonwealth of Gross Receipts Taxes or other special taxes in replacement thereof by a public utility and the distribution thereof to the local taxing authorities shall be in lieu of local taxes upon real property which is used or useful in furnishing public utility services.

(4) *Local Government.*—Adding a new Article IX providing for home rule for all units of local government, optional forms of government, uniform procedures for merger, consolidation and boundary changes, intergovernmental cooperation and area governments, local finance and debt limitations, apportionment, and related matters. Repealing all of Articles XIII, XIV and XV.

(5) *Judiciary.*—Adding a new Judiciary Article V establishing a unified judicial system providing for qualification, selection, tenure, removal, discipline and retirement of and prohibiting certain activities of justices, judges and justices of the peace, and related matters. Repealing the present Article V, and those provisions of Schedules Nos. 1 and 2 insofar as they are inconsistent with the new amendments, relating to judiciary.

WHEREAS, The aforesaid proposed constitutional amendments were submitted for approval by the qualified electors of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania at an election held on April 23, 1968; and

WHEREAS, The Secretary of the Commonwealth did on May 22, 1968, certify to me that the aforesaid proposed constitutional amendments were approved by the electorate on the aforesaid day;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Raymond P. Shafer, Governor of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, do proclaim and pronounce that the aforesaid constitutional amendments were adopted by a majority of the electors voting thereon on April 23, 1968.

GIVEN under my hand and the Great Seal of the State, at the City of Harrisburg, this twenty-second day of May, in the year of our Lord one thousand nine hundred and sixty-eight, and of the Commonwealth the one hundred and ninety-second.

[GREAT SEAL]

RAYMOND P. SHAFER

By the Governor:

Governor

Secretary of the Commonwealth