

long behave themselves well; but for any reasonable cause, which shall not be sufficient ground for impeachment, the Governor may remove any of them on the address of two-thirds of each House of General Assembly.

The Chief Justice of the Supreme Court may designate and assign former judges, learned in the law, who are willing so to do, who have served at least one term and who have not been defeated for reelection, to the office of judge of any court of record, to temporarily sit in the courts of any judicial district for the disposal of business under such circumstances and subject to such qualifications and conditions as the General Assembly may prescribe.

No. 7

A JOINT RESOLUTION

Proposing an amendment to article nine, section four of the Constitution of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania, providing for and regulating Commonwealth debt for capital improvements and certain other purposes and prohibiting debts and obligations inconsistent therewith.

The General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania hereby resolves as follows:

Section 1. The following amendment to the Constitution of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania is proposed in accordance with the provisions of the eighteenth article thereof:

That article nine, section four of the Constitution of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania be amended to read:

Section 4. (a) No debt shall be created by or on behalf of this Commonwealth unless (1) the debt has been authorized by statute, (2) the debt is for capital improvements separately specified in the statute, (3) the debt has been submitted to the qualified electors of the Commonwealth at a general, municipal, primary or special election and has been approved by a majority vote of those voting on the question, and (4) the debt is evidenced by general obligation bonds of this Commonwealth. Except as herein provided, no debt or other obligation shall hereafter be created by or on behalf of this Commonwealth or by any Commonwealth Authority or other Commonwealth agency the repayment of which will be made, either directly or indirectly, from Commonwealth revenues whether by direct payment or through leases or other contractual obligations. The foregoing provisions do not apply (1) to debts payable solely from the revenue from designated projects and not payable out of any other revenues of the Commonwealth, (2) to the debts created in a manner provided by law by the issuance and sale of tax anticipation notes payable

in the fiscal period in which they are issued from revenues already provided, (3) to loans authorized by section eighteen of this article, (4) to leases and contractual obligations entered into in the course of the ordinary conduct of government and not for the purpose of financing capital improvements by making payments through rentals or otherwise to liquidate debts created by Commonwealth Authorities or other Commonwealth agencies without the approval of the qualified electors, (5) to debts created by any Municipal or local Authority or by the State Public School Building Authority, and (6) to debts created by Commonwealth Authorities for capital improvements authorized by the Legislature and approved by the Authority prior to the ratification of this amendment. Nor do the foregoing provisions *apply to debt created to repel invasion, suppress insurrection or defend the Commonwealth in war or to rehabilitate areas affected by disaster. No debt to supply casual deficiencies of revenue shall be created exceeding one million dollars in the aggregate at any one time.

(b) All bonds issued shall be serial bonds repayable in equal annual installments over a period of time which shall be provided by law. The first payment of principal shall not be more than two years after the date of the bond.

(c) The General Assembly may authorize, by statute, the issuance of general obligation bonds for the purpose of assuming any debt heretofore incurred by any Commonwealth Authority and which is currently payable from Commonwealth revenues under leases to this Commonwealth. The General Assembly may, from time to time, authorize by law the issuance of refunding bonds to pay any bonded debt of the Commonwealth existing at the time.

Section 2. This amendment shall become effective six months after the date of its approval by the majority of the electors voting thereon.

* "apply" in original.