

## 1972 SPECIAL SESSION NO. 1

## No. 1

HB 4

## A JOINT RESOLUTION

Proposing an amendment to article eight of the Constitution of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania granting the General Assembly the power to enact special laws to aid certain individuals, corporations, associations, institutions or non-public schools adversely affected by conditions caused by certain storms or floods.

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

Section 1. Millions of Pennsylvanians have suffered greatly from the ravages of the most disastrous flood in the history of the Commonwealth. This flood has left devastation in its wake. Thousands of people have been left homeless and countless industrial and commercial establishments and public facilities have been damaged or destroyed.

It is imperative that the victims of this disaster immediately receive the fullest possible aid from both the public and private sectors in order to clean up and rebuild the affected areas of the Commonwealth.

In addition, many Pennsylvanians suffered greatly as a result of the Great Storm or Flood of September, 1971.

The General Assembly desires to alleviate such storm or economic deprivation caused by the flood, but is limited in its efforts by rigid restrictions in the Constitution of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. The safety and welfare of the Commonwealth requires prompt amendment to the Constitution of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania.

The following amendment to the Constitution of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania is proposed in accordance with the emergency provisions contained in subsections (a) and (b) of section one of the eleventh article thereof:

That article eight of the Constitution of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania be amended by adding a new section to read:

**Section 17. Special Emergency Legislation.—Notwithstanding any provisions of this Constitution to the contrary, the General Assembly shall have the authority to enact laws providing for tax rebates, credits, exemptions, grants-in-aid, State supplementations, or otherwise provide special provisions for individuals, corporations, associations or non-profit institutions, including nonpublic schools (whether sectarian or nonsectarian) in order to alleviate the danger, damage, suffering or hardship faced by such individuals, corporations, associations, institutions or nonpublic schools as a result of a Great Storm or Flood of September, 1971 or of June, 1972.**

Section 2. This proposed amendment shall be submitted by the Secretary of the Commonwealth to the qualified electors of the State, at

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the General Election to be held on November 7, 1972, after the advertising requirements of subsection (a) of section one of article eleven of the Constitution of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania have been satisfied.

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "C. McLaughlin Tusk". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, prominent initial "C".

*Secretary of the Commonwealth*