

2021 MUNICIPAL PRIMARY UMOVA NOTICE

Official Notice of Election for Military and Overseas Voters

County of Cameron

2021 Municipal Primary (May 18, 2021)

This is an official notice of a Primary election to be conducted on 5/18/2021 in Cameron County. You may register to vote and request an official absentee ballot by using the Federal Postcard Application (FPCA), available at www.votespa.com or www.fvap.gov. You may apply for an absentee ballot by submitting your FPCA by fax to (814) 486 - 3176, or by email to elections@cameroncountypa.com.

You may request an absentee ballot from this office at any time prior to a primary or election. However, if time does not permit you to receive and return an official absentee ballot, you are also entitled to vote using the Federal Write-in Absentee Ballot (FWAB). Military electors may also use the FWAB to register to vote and vote simultaneously.

You may use the FWAB to vote for a candidate for President of the United States and U.S. Representative (Representative in Congress) as well as candidates for all state and local offices, and ballot initiatives.

To vote, refer to page 3 of the FWAB.

To vote for state and local offices or for ballot initiatives, write the names of candidates or ballot initiatives in the Addendum section of the FWAB. Under the **Office/Ballot Initiative** heading, enter the office the candidate is running for or the title of the Ballot Initiative (referendum). Under the **Candidate Name, Party Affiliation or Initiative Vote** heading, list the name of the candidate you wish to vote for, or if you are voting on a Referendum questions write "yes" or "no."

DEMOCRATIC BALLOT

JUSTICE OF THE SUPREME COURT -- Vote for One -- All Precincts within Cameron County
JUDGE OF THE SUPERIOR COURT -- Vote for One -- All Precincts within Cameron County
JUDGE OF THE COMMONWEALTH COURT -- Vote for Two -- All Precincts within Cameron County

Countywide:

Prothonotary--Vote for One—All Precincts within Cameron County
Sheriff—Vote for One— All Precincts within Cameron County
School Director At Large—Vote for One (Elect two)--All Precincts within Cameron County

Municipality/Borough:

Driftwood Borough

Driftwood Borough Mayor-Four year Term-Vote for One
Driftwood Borough Council Person--Four year term--(Vote for not more than three)
Driftwood Borough Council Person--Two year term--(Vote for one)
School Director-Region III--Four Year Term--Vote for one
Judge of Elections--Four year Term--Vote for One
Inspector of Elections-- Four year Term--Vote for One

Emporium Borough

Emporium Borough Mayor--Four year Term--Vote for One
Emporium Borough Council Person--Four year term--(Vote for not more than three)
School Director-Region I-West Ward & Middle Ward--Four Year Term--Vote for one
School Director-Region II-East Ward--Four Year Term--Vote for one
Judge of Elections--Four year Term--Vote for One
Inspector of Elections-- Four year Term--Vote for One

Gibson Township

Gibson Township Supervisor--Six Year Term--Vote for one
Gibson Township Supervisor--Two Year Term--Vote for one
School Director-Region III--Four Year Term--Vote for one
Judge of Elections--Four Year Term--Vote for one
Inspector of Elections--Four year Term--Vote for One

Grove Township

Grove Township Supervisor--Six Year Term--Vote for one
Grove Township Supervisor--Two Year Term--Vote for one
School Director-Region III--Four Year Term--Vote for one
Judge of Elections--Four Year Term--Vote for one
Inspector of Elections--Four year Term--Vote for One

Lumber Township

Lumber Township Supervisor--Six year Term--Vote for One
Lumber Township Auditor--Six Year Term--Vote for One
Lumber Township Constable--Six Year Term--Vote for One
School Director-Region III--Four Year Term--Vote for one
Judge of Elections--Four Year Term--Vote for one
Inspector of Elections--Four year Term--Vote for One

Portage Township

Portage Township Supervisor--Six Year Term--Vote for one
Portage Township Auditor--Six Year Term--Vote for One
School Director-Region III--Four Year Term--Vote for one
Judge of Elections--Four Year Term--Vote for one
Inspector of Elections--Four year Term--Vote for One

East Shippen Township

Shippen Township Supervisor--Six year Term--Vote for one
Shippen Township Supervisor--Two Year Term--Vote for one
Shippen Township Auditor--Four Year Term--Vote for one
School Director-Region III--Four Year Term--Vote for one
Judge of Elections--Four Year Term--Vote for one
Inspector of Elections--Four year Term--Vote for One

West Shippen Township

Shippen Township Supervisor--Six year Term--Vote for one
Shippen Township Supervisor--Two Year Term--Vote for one
Shippen Township Auditor--Four Year Term--Vote for one
School Director-Region III--Four Year Term--Vote for one
Judge of Elections--Four Year Term--Vote for one
Inspector of Elections--Four year Term--Vote for One

PROPOSED CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT 1
TERMINATION OR EXTENSION OF DISASTER EMERGENCY DECLARATIONS

Ballot Question

Shall the Pennsylvania Constitution be amended to change existing law and increase the power of the General Assembly to unilaterally terminate or extend a disaster emergency declaration—and the powers of Commonwealth agencies to address the disaster regardless of its severity pursuant to that declaration—through passing a concurrent resolution by simple majority, thereby removing the existing check and balance of presenting a resolution to the Governor for approval or disapproval?

Plain English Statement of the Office of Attorney General

JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 2021-1

RELATING TO THE TERMINATION OR EXTENSION OF DISASTER EMERGENCY DECLARATIONS

JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 2021-1 proposes to amend Article III, Section 9 of the Pennsylvania Constitution to provide a new exception to traditional legislative procedure by allowing the General Assembly to terminate or extend a disaster emergency declaration or a portion of such declaration without needing the Governor's approval.

Currently, Article III, Section 9 establishes a general rule that all orders, resolutions or votes requiring approval by both the House of Representatives and Senate must be presented to the Governor for his approval or veto. Resolutions for the adjournment of the General Assembly are exempted from this process. If the order, resolution or vote is approved by the Governor, it becomes law. If the Governor vetoes the resolution, it does not become law unless two-thirds of the House and Senate vote to override the veto. The proposed amendment would create an additional exception to this customary legislative procedure for concurrent resolutions to terminate or extend, in whole or in part, a disaster emergency declaration issued by the Governor.

The proposed amendment will also have the effect of reversing a recent ruling of the Pennsylvania Supreme Court which held the Pennsylvania Constitution prohibited the General Assembly from passing a concurrent resolution to terminate the Governor's Covid-19 disaster emergency declaration without presenting it to the Governor for his approval. It will change the law to allow the General Assembly to terminate or extend a disaster emergency declaration through a concurrent resolution approved by only a majority of the members of the House and Senate, without having to present the resolution to the Governor for his approval or veto.

The proposed amendment is limited in that it only changes the traditional legislative process for terminating or extending disaster emergency declarations issued by the Governor. The amendment will not alter the current legislative procedure with respect to which orders, resolutions or votes of the General Assembly must be presented to the Governor for his approval on any other subject matter.

PROPOSED CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT 2
DISASTER EMERGENCY DECLARATION AND MANAGEMENT

Ballot Question

Shall the Pennsylvania Constitution be amended to change existing law so that: a disaster emergency declaration will expire automatically after 21 days, regardless of the severity of the emergency, unless the General Assembly takes action to extend the disaster emergency; the Governor may not declare a new disaster emergency to respond to the dangers facing the Commonwealth unless the General Assembly passes a concurrent resolution; the General Assembly enacts new laws for disaster management?

Plain English Statement of the Office of Attorney General

Joint Resolution No. 2021-1

Disaster Emergency Declaration and Management

JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 2021-1 proposes adding a new section to Article IV of the Pennsylvania Constitution. This amendment incorporates disaster emergency declaration and management powers directly into the Constitution by:

- Granting the Governor authority to declare a disaster emergency declaration by proclamation or executive order;
- Requiring each declaration to indicate the nature, location and type of disaster;
- Granting the General Assembly authority to pass laws providing for the manner in which each disaster shall be managed;
- Limiting the duration of a Governor's declaration to 21 days, unless otherwise extended, in whole or in part, by a concurrent resolution of the General Assembly;
- Preventing the Governor, upon the expiration of a declaration, from issuing a new declaration based upon the same or substantially similar facts, unless the General Assembly passes a concurrent resolution expressly approving a new declaration.

Currently, disaster emergency declaration and management powers are delegated by statute to the Governor. The Governor has the sole authority to issue and manage all disaster emergency declarations, which cannot extend beyond 90 days unless renewed by the Governor. The General Assembly may override a Governor's disaster emergency declaration by concurrent resolution that must be presented to the Governor for his approval or veto.

If approved, the amendment would transfer certain of the Governor's existing authority to respond to and manage disaster emergencies to the General Assembly. The Governor would retain the authority to issue an initial disaster emergency declaration but the declaration's permissible length would be reduced from 90 to 21 days. The sole authority to extend a declaration would lie with the General Assembly; presently, this power rests with the Governor. Upon expiration of the initial declaration, the amendment prohibits the Governor from issuing a new declaration based upon the same or substantially similar facts without the approval of the General Assembly. The Governor would no

longer have unilateral authority to manage disasters, but would have to do so consistent with the laws passed by the General Assembly.

If approved, the General Assembly would be required to pass new laws establishing the manner in which each type of disaster shall be managed. If added to the Pennsylvania Constitution, the proposed amendment cannot be modified or repealed except by a judicial decision finding all or part of the proposed amendment unconstitutional or by the approval of a subsequent constitutional amendment.

**PROPOSED CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT 3
PROHIBITION AGAINST DENIAL OR ABRIDGEMENT
OF EQUALITY OF RIGHTS BECAUSE OF RACE OR ETHNICITY**

Ballot Question

Shall the Pennsylvania Constitution be amended by adding a new section providing that equality of rights under the law shall not be denied or abridged because of an individual's race or ethnicity?

Plain English Statement of the Office of Attorney General

Joint Resolution No. 2021-1

Prohibition Against Denial or Abridgment of Equality of Rights Because of Race and Ethnicity

JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 2021-1, if approved by the electorate, will add a new section to Article I of the Pennsylvania Constitution. This amendment creates a constitutional prohibition against restricting or denying an individual's equal rights under Pennsylvania law because of race or ethnicity.

Generally, inclusion of this amendment within the Pennsylvania Constitution signifies that freedom from discrimination based on race or ethnicity is an essential principle of liberty and free government. This amendment applies to all Pennsylvania state, county and local governmental entities, and guarantees equality of rights under the law. The amendment, if enacted, will become a part of the Pennsylvania Constitution. As such, its provisions must be applied consistent with the other provisions of the Constitution.

This equal right to be free from racial or ethnic discrimination will exist independent from any such rights under the United States Constitution or corresponding federal law. If the current federal protections proscribing racial or ethnic discrimination are abolished, the prohibition against such discrimination will remain in the Pennsylvania Constitution. The amendment is limited in that it creates a right only under Pennsylvania law.

Once added to the Pennsylvania Constitution, the right to be free from racial or ethnic discrimination under the law cannot be eliminated except by a judicial decision finding the amendment unconstitutional or the approval of a subsequent constitutional amendment. If approved, the General Assembly may pass new laws to implement the amendment, but it may not pass a law inconsistent with it.

STATEWIDE REFERENDUM
MAKING MUNICIPAL FIRE AND EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES COMPANIES ELIGIBLE FOR LOANS

Do you favor expanding the use of the indebtedness authorized under the referendum for loans to volunteer fire companies, volunteer ambulance services and volunteer rescue squads under 35 PA.C.S. §7378.1 (related to referendum for additional indebtedness) to include loans to municipal fire departments or companies that provide services through paid personnel and emergency medical services companies for the purpose of establishing and modernizing facilities to house apparatus equipment, ambulances and rescue vehicles, and for purchasing apparatus equipment, ambulances and rescue vehicles, protective and communications equipment and any other accessory equipment necessary for the proper performance of the duties of the fire companies and emergency medical services companies?

REPUBLICAN BALLOT

JUSTICE OF THE SUPREME COURT -- Vote for One -- All Precincts within Cameron County
JUDGE OF THE SUPERIOR COURT -- Vote for One -- All Precincts within Cameron County
JUDGE OF THE COMMONWEALTH COURT -- Vote for Two -- All Precincts within Cameron County

Countywide:

Prothonotary--Vote for One—All Precincts within Cameron County
Sheriff—Vote for One— All Precincts within Cameron County
School Director At Large--Vote for One (Elect two)--All Precincts within Cameron County

Municipality/Borough:

Driftwood Borough

Driftwood Borough Mayor-Four year Term-Vote for One
Driftwood Borough Council Person--Four year term--(Vote for not more than three)
Driftwood Borough Council Person--Two year term--(Vote for one)
School Director-Region III--Four Year Term--Vote for one
Judge of Elections--Four year Term--Vote for One
Inspector of Elections-- Four year Term--Vote for One

Emporium Borough

Emporium Borough Mayor-Four year Term-Vote for One
Emporium Borough Council Person--Four year term--(Vote for not more than three)
School Director-Region I-West Ward & Middle Ward-Four Year Term--Vote for one
School Director-Region II-East Ward-Four Year Term--Vote for one
Judge of Elections--Four year Term--Vote for One
Inspector of Elections-- Four year Term--Vote for One

Gibson Township

Gibson Township Supervisor--Six Year Term--Vote for one
Gibson Township Supervisor--Two Year Term--Vote for one
School Director-Region III--Four Year Term--Vote for one
Judge of Elections--Four Year Term--Vote for one
Inspector of Elections--Four year Term--Vote for One

Grove Township

Grove Township Supervisor--Six Year Term--Vote for one
Grove Township Supervisor--Two Year Term--Vote for one
School Director-Region III--Four Year Term--Vote for one
Judge of Elections--Four Year Term--Vote for one
Inspector of Elections--Four year Term--Vote for One

Lumber Township

Lumber Township Supervisor--Six year Term--Vote for One
Lumber Township Auditor--Six Year Term--Vote for One
Lumber Township Constable--Six Year Term--Vote for One
School Director-Region III--Four Year Term--Vote for one
Judge of Elections--Four Year Term--Vote for one
Inspector of Elections--Four year Term--Vote for One

Portage Township

Portage Township Supervisor--Six Year Term--Vote for one
Portage Township Auditor--Six Year Term--Vote for One
School Director-Region III--Four Year Term--Vote for one
Judge of Elections--Four Year Term--Vote for one
Inspector of Elections--Four year Term--Vote for One

East Shippen Township

Shippen Township Supervisor--Six year Term--Vote for one
Shippen Township Supervisor--Two Year Term--Vote for one
Shippen Township Auditor--Six Year Term--Vote for one
School Director-Region III--Four Year Term--Vote for one
Judge of Elections--Four Year Term--Vote for one
Inspector of Elections--Four year Term--Vote for One

West Shippen Township

Shippen Township Supervisor--Six year Term--Vote for one
Shippen Township Supervisor--Two Year Term--Vote for one
Shippen Township Auditor--Six Year Term--Vote for one
School Director-Region III--Four Year Term--Vote for one
Judge of Elections--Four Year Term--Vote for one
Inspector of Elections--Four year Term--Vote for One

PROPOSED CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT 1
TERMINATION OR EXTENSION OF DISASTER EMERGENCY DECLARATIONS

Ballot Question

Shall the Pennsylvania Constitution be amended to change existing law and increase the power of the General Assembly to unilaterally terminate or extend a disaster emergency declaration—and the powers of Commonwealth agencies to address the disaster regardless of its severity pursuant to that declaration—through passing a concurrent resolution by simple majority, thereby removing the existing check and balance of presenting a resolution to the Governor for approval or disapproval?

Plain English Statement of the Office of Attorney General

RELATING TO THE TERMINATION OR EXTENSION OF DISASTER EMERGENCY DECLARATIONS

JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 2021-1 proposes to amend Article III, Section 9 of the Pennsylvania Constitution to provide a new exception to traditional legislative procedure by allowing the General Assembly to terminate or extend a disaster emergency declaration or a portion of such declaration without needing the Governor's approval.

Currently, Article III, Section 9 establishes a general rule that all orders, resolutions or votes requiring approval by both the House of Representatives and Senate must be presented to the Governor for his approval or veto. Resolutions for the adjournment of the General Assembly are exempted from this process. If the order, resolution or vote is approved by the Governor, it becomes law. If the Governor vetoes the resolution, it does not become law unless two-thirds of the House and Senate vote to override the veto. The proposed amendment would create an additional exception to this customary legislative procedure for concurrent resolutions to terminate or extend, in whole or in part, a disaster emergency declaration issued by the Governor.

The proposed amendment will also have the effect of reversing a recent ruling of the Pennsylvania Supreme Court which held the Pennsylvania Constitution prohibited the General Assembly from passing a concurrent resolution to terminate the Governor's Covid-19 disaster emergency declaration without presenting it to the Governor for his approval. It will change the law to allow the General Assembly to terminate or extend a disaster emergency declaration through a concurrent resolution approved by only a majority of the members of the House and Senate, without having to present the resolution to the Governor for his approval or veto.

The proposed amendment is limited in that it only changes the traditional legislative process for terminating or extending disaster emergency declarations issued by the Governor. The amendment will not alter the current legislative procedure with respect to which orders, resolutions or votes of the General Assembly must be presented to the Governor for his approval on any other subject matter.

PROPOSED CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT 2 DISASTER EMERGENCY DECLARATION AND MANAGEMENT

Ballot Question

Shall the Pennsylvania Constitution be amended to change existing law so that: a disaster emergency declaration will expire automatically after 21 days, regardless of the severity of the emergency, unless the General Assembly takes action to extend the disaster emergency; the Governor may not declare a new disaster emergency to respond to the dangers facing the Commonwealth unless the General Assembly passes a concurrent resolution; the General Assembly enacts new laws for disaster management?

Plain English Statement of the Office of Attorney General

Joint Resolution No. 2021-1

Disaster Emergency Declaration and Management

JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 2021-1 proposes adding a new section to Article IV of the Pennsylvania Constitution. This amendment incorporates disaster emergency declaration and management powers

directly into the Constitution by:

- Granting the Governor authority to declare a disaster emergency declaration by proclamation or executive order;
- Requiring each declaration to indicate the nature, location and type of disaster;
- Granting the General Assembly authority to pass laws providing for the manner in which each disaster shall be managed;
- Limiting the duration of a Governor's declaration to 21 days, unless otherwise extended, in whole or in part, by a concurrent resolution of the General Assembly;
- Preventing the Governor, upon the expiration of a declaration, from issuing a new declaration based upon the same or substantially similar facts, unless the General Assembly passes a concurrent resolution expressly approving a new declaration.

Currently, disaster emergency declaration and management powers are delegated by statute to the Governor. The Governor has the sole authority to issue and manage all disaster emergency declarations, which cannot extend beyond 90 days unless renewed by the Governor. The General Assembly may override a Governor's disaster emergency declaration by concurrent resolution that must be presented to the Governor for his approval or veto.

If approved, the amendment would transfer certain of the Governor's existing authority to respond to and manage disaster emergencies to the General Assembly. The Governor would retain the authority to issue an initial disaster emergency declaration but the declaration's permissible length would be reduced from 90 to 21 days. The sole authority to extend a declaration would lie with the General Assembly; presently, this power rests with the Governor. Upon expiration of the initial declaration, the amendment prohibits the Governor from issuing a new declaration based upon the same or substantially similar facts without the approval of the General Assembly. The Governor would no longer have unilateral authority to manage disasters, but would have to do so consistent with the laws passed by the General Assembly.

If approved, the General Assembly would be required to pass new laws establishing the manner in which each type of disaster shall be managed. If added to the Pennsylvania Constitution, the proposed amendment cannot be modified or repealed except by a judicial decision finding all or part of the proposed amendment unconstitutional or by the approval of a subsequent constitutional amendment.

PROPOSED CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT 3
PROHIBITION AGAINST DENIAL OR ABRIDGEMENT
OF EQUALITY OF RIGHTS BECAUSE OF RACE OR ETHNICITY

Ballot Question

Shall the Pennsylvania Constitution be amended by adding a new section providing that equality of rights under the law shall not be denied or abridged because of an individual's race or ethnicity?

Joint Resolution No. 2021-1

Prohibition Against Denial or Abridgment of Equality of Rights Because of Race and Ethnicity

JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 2021-1, if approved by the electorate, will add a new section to Article I of the Pennsylvania Constitution. This amendment creates a constitutional prohibition against restricting or denying an individual's equal rights under Pennsylvania law because of race or ethnicity.

Generally, inclusion of this amendment within the Pennsylvania Constitution signifies that freedom from discrimination based on race or ethnicity is an essential principle of liberty and free government. This amendment applies to all Pennsylvania state, county and local governmental entities, and guarantees equality of rights under the law. The amendment, if enacted, will become a part of the Pennsylvania Constitution. As such, its provisions must be applied consistent with the other provisions of the Constitution.

This equal right to be free from racial or ethnic discrimination will exist independent from any such rights under the United States Constitution or corresponding federal law. If the current federal protections proscribing racial or ethnic discrimination are abolished, the prohibition against such discrimination will remain in the Pennsylvania Constitution. The amendment is limited in that it creates a right only under Pennsylvania law.

Once added to the Pennsylvania Constitution, the right to be free from racial or ethnic discrimination under the law cannot be eliminated except by a judicial decision finding the amendment unconstitutional or the approval of a subsequent constitutional amendment. If approved, the General Assembly may pass new laws to implement the amendment, but it may not pass a law inconsistent with it.

STATEWIDE REFERENDUM

MAKING MUNICIPAL FIRE AND EMERGENCY MEDICAL SERVICES COMPANIES ELIGIBLE FOR LOANS

Do you favor expanding the use of the indebtedness authorized under the referendum for loans to volunteer fire companies, volunteer ambulance services and volunteer rescue squads under 35 PA.C.S. §7378.1 (related to referendum for additional indebtedness) to include loans to municipal fire departments or companies that provide services through paid personnel and emergency medical services companies for the purpose of establishing and modernizing facilities to house apparatus equipment, ambulances and rescue vehicles, and for purchasing apparatus equipment, ambulances and rescue vehicles, protective and communications equipment and any other accessory equipment necessary for the proper performance of the duties of the fire companies and emergency medical services companies?

NON-PARTISAN BALLOT

PROPOSED CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT 1
TERMINATION OR EXTENSION OF DISASTER EMERGENCY DECLARATIONS

Ballot Question

Shall the Pennsylvania Constitution be amended to change existing law and increase the power of the General Assembly to unilaterally terminate or extend a disaster emergency declaration—and the powers of Commonwealth agencies to address the disaster regardless of its severity pursuant to that declaration—through passing a concurrent resolution by simple majority, thereby removing the existing check and balance of presenting a resolution to the Governor for approval or disapproval?

Plain English Statement of the Office of Attorney General

JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 2021-1

RELATING TO THE TERMINATION OR EXTENSION OF DISASTER EMERGENCY DECLARATIONS

JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 2021-1 proposes to amend Article III, Section 9 of the Pennsylvania Constitution to provide a new exception to traditional legislative procedure by allowing the General Assembly to terminate or extend a disaster emergency declaration or a portion of such declaration without needing the Governor's approval.

Currently, Article III, Section 9 establishes a general rule that all orders, resolutions or votes requiring approval by both the House of Representatives and Senate must be presented to the Governor for his approval or veto. Resolutions for the adjournment of the General Assembly are exempted from this process. If the order, resolution or vote is approved by the Governor, it becomes law. If the Governor vetoes the resolution, it does not become law unless two-thirds of the House and Senate vote to override the veto. The proposed amendment would create an additional exception to this customary legislative procedure for concurrent resolutions to terminate or extend, in whole or in part, a disaster emergency declaration issued by the Governor.

The proposed amendment will also have the effect of reversing a recent ruling of the Pennsylvania Supreme Court which held the Pennsylvania Constitution prohibited the General Assembly from passing a concurrent resolution to terminate the Governor's Covid-19 disaster emergency declaration without presenting it to the Governor for his approval. It will change the law to allow the General Assembly to terminate or extend a disaster emergency declaration through a concurrent resolution approved by only a majority of the members of the House and Senate, without having to present the resolution to the Governor for his approval or veto.

The proposed amendment is limited in that it only changes the traditional legislative process for terminating or extending disaster emergency declarations issued by the Governor. The amendment will not alter the current legislative procedure with respect to which orders, resolutions or votes of the General Assembly must be presented to the Governor for his approval on any other subject matter.

PROPOSED CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT 2
DISASTER EMERGENCY DECLARATION AND MANAGEMENT

Ballot Question

Shall the Pennsylvania Constitution be amended to change existing law so that: a disaster emergency declaration will expire automatically after 21 days, regardless of the severity of the emergency, unless the General Assembly takes action to extend the disaster emergency; the Governor may not declare a new disaster emergency to respond to the dangers facing the Commonwealth unless the General Assembly passes a concurrent resolution; the General Assembly enacts new laws for disaster management?

Plain English Statement of the Office of Attorney General

JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 2021-1

Disaster Emergency Declaration and Management

JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 2021-1 proposes adding a new section to Article IV of the Pennsylvania Constitution. This amendment incorporates disaster emergency declaration and management powers directly into the Constitution by:

- Granting the Governor authority to declare a disaster emergency declaration by proclamation or executive order;
- Requiring each declaration to indicate the nature, location and type of disaster;
- Granting the General Assembly authority to pass laws providing for the manner in which each disaster shall be managed;
- Limiting the duration of a Governor's declaration to 21 days, unless otherwise extended, in whole or in part, by a concurrent resolution of the General Assembly;
- Preventing the Governor, upon the expiration of a declaration, from issuing a new declaration based upon the same or substantially similar facts, unless the General Assembly passes a concurrent resolution expressly approving a new declaration.

Currently, disaster emergency declaration and management powers are delegated by statute to the Governor. The Governor has the sole authority to issue and manage all disaster emergency declarations, which cannot extend beyond 90 days unless renewed by the Governor. The General Assembly may override a Governor's disaster emergency declaration by concurrent resolution that must be presented to the Governor for his approval or veto.

If approved, the amendment would transfer certain of the Governor's existing authority to respond to and manage disaster emergencies to the General Assembly. The Governor would retain the authority to issue an initial disaster emergency declaration but the declaration's permissible length would be reduced from 90 to 21 days. The sole authority to extend a declaration would lie with the General Assembly; presently, this power rests with the Governor. Upon expiration of the initial declaration, the amendment prohibits the Governor from issuing a new declaration based upon the same or

substantially similar facts without the approval of the General Assembly. The Governor would no longer have unilateral authority to manage disasters, but would have to do so consistent with the laws passed by the General Assembly.

If approved, the General Assembly would be required to pass new laws establishing the manner in which each type of disaster shall be managed. If added to the Pennsylvania Constitution, the proposed amendment cannot be modified or repealed except by a judicial decision finding all or part of the proposed amendment unconstitutional or by the approval of a subsequent constitutional amendment.

**PROPOSED CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT 3
PROHIBITION AGAINST DENIAL OR ABRIDGEMENT
OF EQUALITY OF RIGHTS BECAUSE OF RACE OR ETHNICITY**

Ballot Question

Shall the Pennsylvania Constitution be amended by adding a new section providing that equality of rights under the law shall not be denied or abridged because of an individual's race or ethnicity?

Plain English Statement of the Office of Attorney General

JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 2021-1

Prohibition Against Denial or Abridgment of Equality of Rights Because of Race and Ethnicity

JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 2021-1, if approved by the electorate, will add a new section to Article I of the Pennsylvania Constitution. This amendment creates a constitutional prohibition against restricting or denying an individual's equal rights under Pennsylvania law because of race or ethnicity.

Generally, inclusion of this amendment within the Pennsylvania Constitution signifies that freedom from discrimination based on race or ethnicity is an essential principle of liberty and free government. This amendment applies to all Pennsylvania state, county and local governmental entities, and guarantees equality of rights under the law. The amendment, if enacted, will become a part of the Pennsylvania Constitution. As such, its provisions must be applied consistent with the other provisions of the Constitution.

This equal right to be free from racial or ethnic discrimination will exist independent from any such rights under the United States Constitution or corresponding federal law. If the current federal protections proscribing racial or ethnic discrimination are abolished, the prohibition against such discrimination will remain in the Pennsylvania Constitution. The amendment is limited in that it creates a right only under Pennsylvania law.

Once added to the Pennsylvania Constitution, the right to be free from racial or ethnic discrimination under the law cannot be eliminated except by a judicial decision finding the amendment unconstitutional or the approval of a subsequent constitutional amendment. If approved, the General Assembly may pass new laws to implement the amendment, but it may not pass a law inconsistent with it.

Do you favor expanding the use of the indebtedness authorized under the referendum for loans to volunteer fire companies, volunteer ambulance services and volunteer rescue squads under 35 PA.C.S. §7378.1 (related to referendum for additional indebtedness) to include loans to municipal fire departments or companies that provide services through paid personnel and emergency medical services companies for the purpose of establishing and modernizing facilities to house apparatus equipment, ambulances and rescue vehicles, and for purchasing apparatus equipment, ambulances and rescue vehicles, protective and communications equipment and any other accessory equipment necessary for the proper performance of the duties of the fire companies and emergency medical services companies?