

**BALLOT QUESTIONS AND
PROPOSED AMENDMENTS
TO THE
PENNSYLVANIA CONSTITUTION**

A Compilation with Statistics from 1958 to 2005

NOVEMBER 2005



Staff Report
General Assembly of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
JOINT STATE GOVERNMENT COMMISSION
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The release of this report should not be construed as an indication that the members of the Executive Committee of the Joint State Government Commission endorse all of the report's findings, recommendations or conclusions.

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The Joint State Government Commission was created by act of July 1, 1937 (P.L.2460, No.459) as amended, as a continuing agency for the development of facts and recommendations on all phases of government for the use of the General Assembly.

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INDEX

BORROWING

Agricultural Conservation Easements	42
Economic Redevelopment	39
Environmental Initiatives (Including Open Space and Farmland Preservation, Watershed Protection and Acid Mine Drainage Remediation).....	57
Volunteer Fire and Emergency Services	31, 35, 45, 54
Flood Control.....	35
Nursing Homes and Personal Care Boarding Homes	28, 38
Persian Gulf Veterans	47
Prison Facilities	45
State Capital Projects.....	18
State Parks, Conservation and Recreation	9, 48
Vietnam Veterans.....	20, 22, 27
Water and Sewage Treatments.....	16, 43, 46, 56

GOVERNOR

Pardons.....	50
Senate Confirmation ("Interim Appointments").....	29
Succession of Terms.....	6, 14

JUDICIARY

Bail	52
Civil Case Verdicts	23
Commonwealth Right to Trial by Jury	52
Disposal of Business	10
Education and Training of Justices	12
Initiation of Criminal Proceedings.....	27
Judicial Conduct Board	47
Mandatory Retirement.....	53
Retention Elections	34
Statewide Selection of Judges	21

JUDICIARY—(continued)

Terms for Appointed Judges	33
Superior Court.....	34
Unified Court System	19
Voluntary Confession	40
Witness Confrontation	49, 55

LEGISLATIVE

Appointments to a Civil Office	24
Disaster Relief.....	32
Interim Seat of Government	8
Meetings.....	4
Reapportionment.....	18, 36, 53
Retirement or Pension Systems.....	36
Special Sessions.....	13

LOCAL GOVERNMENT

Borrowing Capacity	11
Competitive Bidding	14
County Officers Salary	24
Optional Form of Government.....	19
Real Estate Tax Rates	44
Refunds Without an Appropriation	6
Succession of Terms (County Treasurer).....	7

TAXATION

Agricultural Reserves	26
Aviation Fuel Excise Taxes	37
Disabled Veterans.....	7
Exemptions	18
Flood and Storm Damage	25, 30
Forest Reserves.....	3
Homestead Property	50
Occupational Privilege Taxes.....	10
Pennsylvania Disabled Veterans.....	32
Real Property Tax Provisions.....	40
School Districts	4

MISCELLANEOUS

Absentee Voting.....15, 41, 51
Appointment of Public Officers11
Attorney General Election33
Civil Rights13
Clean Air and Pure Water23
College Loans8
Constitutional Amendment Process15
Constitutional Convention9, 13
Disabled Veterans' Spouses' Benefits.....41
Private Corporations12
Public Employer Dispute Settlements17
Qualified Voters in Prior District5
Railroads and Canals.....15
Secretary of Internal Affairs.....6
Sexual Discrimination.....23

INTRODUCTION

The Constitution of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania provides that questions must be submitted to the voters for approval before two things may occur: the incurring of public debt and the amendment of the Constitution.

Section 7(a)(3) of Article VIII provides that "[d]ebt may be incurred without limit for purposes specifically itemized in the law authorizing such debt, if the question whether the debt shall be incurred has been submitted to the electors and approved by a majority of those voting on the question."

Section 1 of Article XI describes the procedure by which amendments to the Constitution must be submitted to the electorate.

Amendments to this Constitution may be proposed in the Senate or House of Representatives; and if the same shall be agreed to by a majority of the members elected to each House, such proposed amendment or amendments shall be entered on their journals with the yeas and nays taken thereon, and the Secretary of the Commonwealth shall cause the same to be published three months before the next general election, in at least two newspapers in every county in which such newspapers shall be published; and if, in the General Assembly next afterwards chosen, such proposed amendment or amendments shall be agreed to by a majority of the members elected to each House, the Secretary of the Commonwealth shall cause the same again to be published in the manner aforesaid; and such proposed amendment or amendments shall be submitted to the qualified electors of the State in such

manner, and at such time at least three months after being so agreed to by the two Houses, as the General Assembly shall prescribe; and, if such amendment or amendments shall be approved by a majority of those voting thereon, such amendment or amendments shall become a part of the Constitution; but no amendment or amendments shall be submitted oftener than once in five years. When two or more amendments shall be submitted they shall be voted upon separately.

The questions submitted to the voters of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania from 1958 through 2005 and the results of the vote for each question are presented in the following pages. Where a "question summary" is provided, the exact language of the question could not be found. Voter registration data is also provided at the end of each date's entries.

NOVEMBER 4, 1958

Question

Summary: Proposed amendment to Article IX, section 1 of the Constitution.

Set up standards and qualifications for private forest reserves and make special provision for taxation thereof.

Result: Approved

Vote: Yes: 816,160 No: 502,943

Percentage of total voter registration: 15.1% 9.3%

Voter registration:	Democrat	2,554,007	47.3%
	Republican	2,771,613	51.4
	Other	<u>71,787</u>	<u>1.3</u>
	Total	5,397,407	100.0%

NOVEMBER 3, 1959

Question 1

Summary: Proposed amendment to Article II, section 4 of the Constitution.

Legislature shall meet each year the first Tuesday in January and in even years handle fiscal matters.

Result: Approved

Vote: Yes: 632,422 No: 568,800

Percentage of total voter registration: 12.0% 10.8%

Question 2

Summary: Proposed amendment to Article IX, section 8 of the Constitution.

School district debts not to exceed 15 percent of assessed valuation of taxable property.

Result: Defeated

Vote: Yes: 513,987 No: 719,923

Percentage of total voter registration: 9.8% 13.7%

NOVEMBER 3, 1959—(continued)

Question 3

Summary: Proposed amendment to Article VIII, section 1 of the Constitution.

If a qualified voter moves within the state within 60 days of an election he may vote in old district.

Result: Approved

Vote: Yes: 956,138 No: 292,019

Percentage of total voter registration: 18.1% 5.5%

Voter registration:	Democrat	2,566,629	48.7%
	Republican	2,636,525	50.1
	Other	<u>65,288</u>	<u>1.2</u>
	Total	5,268,442	100.0%

NOVEMBER 7, 1961

Question 1

Summary: Proposed amendment to Article III, section 16 of the Constitution.

Refunds of taxes and fees may be paid out of fund without an appropriation.

Result: Approved

Vote: Yes: 1,108,506 No: 449,778

Percentage of total voter registration: 19.8% 8.0%

Question 2

Summary: Proposed amendment to Article IV, section 3 of the Constitution.

Governor able to succeed self.

Result: Defeated

Vote: Yes: 762,569 No: 847,869

Percentage of total voter registration: 13.6% 15.1%

Question 3

Summary: Proposed amendment to Article IV, section 21 of the Constitution.

Secretary of Internal Affairs to take office in January.

Result: Approved

Vote: Yes: 1,110,470 No: 400,402

Percentage of total voter registration: 19.8% 7.1%

NOVEMBER 7, 1961--(continued)

Question 4

Summary: Proposed amendment to Article IX, section 1 of the Constitution.

Tax exemption for certain disabled veterans.

Result: Approved

Vote: Yes: 1,122,261 No: 453,280

Percentage of total voter registration: 20.0% 8.1%

Question 5

Summary: Proposed amendment to Article XIV, section 1 of the Constitution.

County treasurer able to succeed self.

Result: Defeated

Vote: Yes: 674,099 No: 884,130

Percentage of total voter registration: 12.0% 15.8%

Voter registration:	Democrat	2,841,144	50.7%
	Republican	2,685,505	47.9
	Other	<u>76,189</u>	<u>1.4</u>
	Total	5,602,838	100.0%

NOVEMBER 5, 1963

Question 1

Summary: Proposed amendment to Article III, section 18 (renumbered Article III, section 29) of the Constitution.

Loans for higher education but not if attending theological schools.

Result: Approved

Vote: Yes: 1,348,908 No: 868,003

Percentage of total voter registration: 24.7% 15.9%

Question 2

Summary: Proposed amendment to Article III, section 35 of the Constitution.

General Assembly may provide emergency interim seats of government in case of disaster.

Result: Approved

Vote: Yes: 1,280,036 No: 831,335

Percentage of total voter registration: 23.4% 15.2%

NOVEMBER 5, 1963—(continued)

Question 3

Summary: Proposed amendment to Article IX, section 24 of the Constitution.

Commonwealth to create a debt of \$70 million for the acquisition of land for State parks, reservoirs, conservation, recreation, historical preservation purposes.

Result: Approved

Vote:	Yes: 1,149,263	No: 1,036,154
Percentage of total voter registration:	21.0%	19.0%

Question 4

Summary: Proposed Constitutional Convention.

Result: Defeated

Vote:	Yes: 1,106,388	No: 1,148,060
Percentage of total voter registration:	20.2%	21.0%

Voter registration:	Democrat	2,739,416	50.1%
	Republican	2,656,403	48.6
	Other	<u>70,899</u>	<u>1.3</u>
	Total	5,466,718	100.0%

NOVEMBER 2, 1965

Question 1

Summary: Proposed amendment to Article V, section 15 of the Constitution.

The General Assembly may allow the Chief Justice of the Supreme Court to assign former judges temporarily in courts for the disposal of business.

Result: Approved

Vote: Yes: 1,041,821 No: 351,737

Percentage of total voter registration: 18.7% 6.3%

Question 2

Summary: Proposed amendment to Article IX, section 1 of the Constitution.

To exempt persons earning less than \$1,000 per year from paying occupation privilege taxes.

Result: Approved

Vote: Yes: 1,141,176 No: 292,700

Percentage of total voter registration: 20.5% 5.3%

Voter registration:	Democrat	2,795,257	50.3%
	Republican	2,685,258	48.3
	Other	<u>80,075</u>	<u>1.4</u>
	Total	5,560,590	100.0%

MAY 17, 1966

Question 1

Summary: Proposed amendment to Article IX, section 8.

To permit an increase in the borrowing capacity of any county, city, borough, township, school district, other municipality or incorporated district, except Philadelphia.

Result: Approved

Vote: Yes: 610,465 No: 600,434

Percentage of total voter registration: 11.2% 11.0%

Question 2

Summary: Proposed combination of Articles VI, VII and XII of the Constitution.

To consolidate into a single amendment the appointment of public officers whose selection is not provided for by the Constitution.

Result: Approved

Vote: Yes: 788,662 No: 430,679

Percentage of total voter registration: 14.5% 7.9%

Voter registration:	Democrat	2,735,241	50.2%
	Republican	2,641,285	48.4
	Other	<u>76,790</u>	<u>1.4</u>
	Total	5,453,316	100.0%

NOVEMBER 8, 1966

Question 1

Summary: Proposed repeal of Article XVI of the Constitution.

To move from one article to another the section of the Constitution on private corporations.

Result: Approved

Vote: Yes: 1,212,790 No: 636,925

Percentage of total voter registration: 22.0% 11.5%

Question 2

Summary: Authorizing the General Assembly to require the completion of a course of training and education by newly elected justices of the peace and aldermen who have not been admitted to practice law in the Commonwealth.

Result: Approved

Vote: Yes: 1,153,759 No: 853,200

Percentage of total voter registration: 20.9% 15.5%

Voter registration:	Democrat	2,759,524	50.0%
	Republican	2,678,934	48.5
	Other	<u>80,543</u>	<u>1.5</u>
	Total	5,519,001	100.0%

MAY 16, 1967

Question 1

Summary: Proposed Constitutional Convention to rewrite four sections of the Constitution. (1) Judiciary, (2) Local Government, (3) State Finance, (4) Reapportionment.

Result: Approved

Vote: Yes: 1,140,931 No: 703,576

Percentage of total voter registration: 21.8% 13.5%

Question 2

Summary: Prohibit discrimination or denial of any person of his civil rights.

Result: Approved

Vote: Yes: 1,232,575 No: 638,365

Percentage of total voter registration: 23.6% 12.2%

Question 3

Summary: To provide that each Legislature be a continuing body for two years and to empower the Legislature to call itself into special session.

Result: Approved

Vote: Yes: 1,249,914 No: 600,157

Percentage of total voter registration: 23.9% 11.5%

MAY 16, 1967—(continued)

Question 4

Summary: Streamline legislative process of competitive bidding for State purchases where possible.

Result: Approved

Vote: Yes: 1,233,709 No: 621,381

Percentage of total voter registration: 23.6% 11.9%

Question 5

Summary: Governor and Lieutenant Governor to be elected jointly. State Treasurer may not run for Auditor General. These four officers may succeed themselves once. Eliminate Secretary of Internal Affairs as an elective office.

Result: Approved

Vote: Yes: 1,221,773 No: 628,011

Percentage of total voter registration: 23.4% 12.0%

MAY 16, 1967—(continued)

Question 6

Summary: Ninety-day residence required to vote. Require
Legislature to enact absentee voters law.

Result: Approved

Vote: Yes: 1,227,214 No: 638,361

Percentage of total voter registration: 23.5% 12.2%

Question 7

Summary: To amend the Constitution in time of an emergency.
(1) two-thirds approval by each House, (2) publicizing full
text in newspapers throughout the State, (3) approval of
the voters, in statewide election at least one month after
passage by General Assembly.

Result: Approved

Vote: Yes: 1,198,076 No: 626,711

Percentage of total voter registration: 22.9% 12.0%

Question 8

Summary: Repeal all 12 sections dealing with railroads and canals.

Result: Approved

Vote: Yes: 1,221,907 No: 629,067

Percentage of total voter registration: 23.4% 12.0%

MAY 16, 1967—(continued)

Question 9

Summary: State government to borrow \$500 million to fight stream and water pollution to help communities to build sewage treatment plants, to develop and equip Project 70 recreational areas. Help restore mining areas.

Result: Approved

Vote: Yes: 1,163,779 No: 677,808

Percentage of total voter registration: 22.3% 13.0%

Voter registration:	Democrat	2,574,479	49.2%
	Republican	2,581,987	49.4
	Other	<u>72,512</u>	<u>1.4</u>
	Total	5,228,978	100.0%

NOVEMBER 7, 1967

Question

Summary: The General Assembly is authorized to amend Article III, section 31, to enact law providing that findings of panels selected for settlement of disputes between policemen, firemen and public employers shall be binding and must be complied with by all parties.

Result: Approved

Vote: Yes: 1,396,312 No: 409,534

Percentage of total voter registration: 26.2% 7.7%

Voter registration:	Democrat	2,618,723	9.2%
	Republican	2,628,225	49.4
	Other	<u>76,166</u>	<u>1.4</u>
	Total	5,323,114	100.0%

APRIL 23, 1968

Question 1

Summary: Mandated decennial reapportionment of the Legislature.

Result: Approved

Vote: Yes: 1,063,603 No: 583,091

Percentage of total voter registration: 20.4% 11.2%

Question 2

Summary: Debt limit for State capital projects. Forbid borrowing for operating deficiencies.

Result: Approved

Vote: Yes: 1,022,706 No: 614,110

Percentage of total voter registration: 19.6% 11.8%

Question 3

Summary: Provide for certain tax exemptions.

Result: Approved

Vote: Yes: 882,116 No: 763,745

Percentage of total voter registration: 16.9% 14.6%

APRIL 23, 1968—(continued)

Question 4

Summary: Local government allowed optional form of government.

Result: Approved

Vote: Yes: 986,855 No: 633,323

Percentage of total voter registration: 18.9% 12.1%

Question 5

Summary: Judiciary--a unified court system under the administration of the State Supreme court.

Result: Approved

Vote: Yes: 910,855 No: 729,845

Percentage of total voter registration: 17.4% 14.0%

Voter registration:	Democrat	2,549,821	48.8%
	Republican	2,595,062	49.7
	Other	<u>75,995</u>	<u>1.5</u>
	Total	5,220,878	100.0%

NOVEMBER 5, 1968

Question: Shall debt be incurred in the amount of twenty-eight million dollars (\$28,000,000) to provide compensation to veterans in accordance with the Vietnam Conflict Veterans' Compensation Act No. 183 of 1968?

Result: Approved

Vote: Yes: 2,077,634 No: 640,627

Percentage of total voter registration: 37.1% 11.4%

Voter registration:	Democrat	2,715,507	48.5%
	Republican	2,775,456	49.6
	Other	<u>108,401</u>	<u>1.9</u>
	Total	5,599,364	100.0%

MAY 20, 1969

Question

Summary: Selection procedure for statewide election of judges.

Result: Defeated

Vote: Yes: 624,453 No: 643,960

Percentage of total voter registration: 11.5% 11.8%

Voter registration:	Democrat	2,640,071	48.5%
	Republican	2,701,929	49.6
	Other	<u>104,554</u>	<u>1.9</u>
	Total	5,446,554	100.0%

MAY 19, 1970

Question: Shall debt be incurred in the amount of twenty-seven million dollars (\$27,000,000) to extend the provisions of the Vietnam Conflict Veterans' Compensation Act of 1968 to provide compensation to veterans for time spent in military hospitals, outside of the Vietnam Theatre of Operations, as a result of service-connected wounds, diseases or injuries sustained in the Vietnam Theatre of Operations and for additional funds to insure payment other than hospitalization?

Result: Approved

Vote: Yes: 775,346 No: 233,175

Percentage of total voter registration: 14.4% 4.3%

Voter registration:	Democrat	2,602,941	48.5%
	Republican	2,659,592	49.5
	Other	<u>105,186</u>	<u>2.0</u>
	Total	5,367,719	100.0%

MAY 18, 1971

Question 1: Shall Article I, section 6 of the Constitution be amended to permit a verdict, in a civil case, to be rendered by no less than five-sixths of the jury?

Result: Approved

Vote: Yes: 833,283 No: 423,606

Percentage of total voter registration: 15.8% 8.0%

Question 2: Shall Article I of the Constitution be amended by adding a new section prohibiting any denial or abridgment of rights because of an individual's sex?

Result: Approved

Vote: Yes: 783,441 No: 464,882

Percentage of total voter registration: 14.9% 8.8%

Question 3: Shall Article I of the Constitution be amended by adding a new section guaranteeing the people's right to clean air and pure water and the preservation and conservation, by the Commonwealth, of the State's natural resources for the people's benefit?

Result: Approved

Vote: Yes: 1,021,342 No: 259,979

Percentage of total voter registration: 19.4% 4.9%

MAY 18, 1971—(continued)

Question 4: Shall Article III, section 27 of the Constitution be amended to permit the salary or emoluments during the term of a county officer to be increased or decreased only in the event a change in county classification requires it?

Result: Defeated

Vote: Yes: 567,472 No: 656,603

Percentage of total voter registration: 10.8% 12.5%

Question 5: Shall Article II, section 6 of the Constitution be amended to permit any Senator or Representative to resign and to be appointed to a civil office during the time for which he was elected so long as the civil office was not created nor its emoluments increased during the time for which he was elected and to provide for immediate forfeiture of the elective office for any person holding an office other than one so permitted?

Result: Defeated

Vote: Yes: 487,976 No: 741,458

Percentage of total voter registration: 9.3% 14.1%

Voter registration:	Democrat	2,647,326	50.3%
	Republican	2,511,939	47.7
	Other	<u>106,656</u>	<u>2.0</u>
	Total	5,265,921	100.0%

NOVEMBER 7, 1972

Question: Shall Article VIII of the Constitution of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania be amended to give the General Assembly authority to provide tax rebates, credits, exemptions, grants-in-aid, State supplementations or special provisions for individuals, corporations, associations or nonprofit institutions, including nonpublic schools (whether sectarian or nonsectarian) to alleviate the danger, damage, suffering or hardship faced as a result of storms or floods of September 1971 and June 1972?

Result: Approved

Vote: Yes: 1,711,509 No: 686,792

Percentage of total voter registration: 29.1% 11.7%

Voter registration:	Democrat	2,993,092	51.0%
	Republican	2,697,694	45.9
	Other	<u>181,116</u>	<u>3.1</u>
	Total	5,871,902	100.0%

MAY 15, 1973

Question: Shall Article VIII, section 2 of the Constitution of the Commonwealth be amended to permit legislation for establishing standards, qualifications and special tax provisions for agriculture reserves and lands devoted to agriculture use?

Result: Approved

Vote: Yes: 803,173 No: 325,952

Percentage of total voter registration: 14.1% 5.7%

Voter registration:	Democrat	2,597,933	45.7%
	Republican	2,914,398	51.3
	Other	<u>170,970</u>	<u>3.0</u>
	Total	5,683,301	100.0%

NOVEMBER 6, 1973

Question 1: Shall the aggregate debt of the Commonwealth to carry out the purposes of the Vietnam Conflict Veterans' Compensation Act be increased from fifty-five million dollars (\$55,000,000) to sixty-five million dollars (\$65,000,000)?

Result: Approved

Vote: Yes: 1,143,147 No: 557,820

Percentage of total voter registration: 20.0% 9.7%

Question 2: Shall Article I, section 10 of the Constitution of the Commonwealth be amended so that each of the several courts of common pleas may, with the approval of the Supreme Court, provide for the initiation of criminal proceedings by information, without the necessity for an indictment by a grand jury?

Result: Approved

Vote: Yes: 897,295 No: 552,797

Percentage of total voter registration: 15.7% 9.7%

Voter registration:	Democrat	2,947,632	51.5%
	Republican	2,605,925	45.5
	Other	<u>173,005</u>	<u>3.0</u>
	Total	5,726,562	100.0%

MAY 21, 1974

Question: Do you favor the incurrence of indebtedness by the Commonwealth of \$100,000,000 for use through loans to provide for repairs, reconstruction and rehabilitation of nursing homes necessary to insure compliance with State and Federal safety standards?

Result: Approved

Vote: Yes: 924,566 No: 301,918

Percentage of total voter registration: 16.9% 5.5%

Voter registration:	Democrat	2,838,593	51.9%
	Republican	2,472,260	45.2
	Other	<u>158,550</u>	<u>2.9</u>
	Total	5,469,403	100.0%

MAY 20, 1975

Question: Shall Article IV, sections 8 and 9, and Article V, section 13 of the Pennsylvania Constitution be amended so that all nominations by the Governor to vacancies in offices requiring Senate confirmation, regardless of when the vacancies occur, become subject to majority or two-thirds consent of the Senate as provided by law, and subject to Senate action within twenty-five legislative days after submission or the nominee shall take office as if the Senate had consented?

Result: Approved

Vote: Yes: 937,249 No: 209,026

Percentage of total voter registration: 18.2% 4.1%

Voter registration:	Democrat	2,753,512	53.6%
	Republican	2,256,714	43.9
	Other	<u>129,292</u>	<u>2.5</u>
	Total	5,139,518	100.0%

NOVEMBER 4, 1975

Question: Shall Article VIII, section 17 of the Pennsylvania Constitution be amended so that the General Assembly may provide for tax rebates, credits, exemptions, grants-in-aid, State supplementations, or otherwise provide special provisions for individuals, corporations, associations or nonprofit institutions, including nonpublic schools (whether sectarian or nonsectarian) in order to alleviate the danger, damage, suffering or hardship caused by great storms or floods of 1974 or 1975?

Result: Approved. The emergency amendment provisions of the Constitution were followed by the State.

Vote: Yes: 1,241,622 No: 594,254

Percentage of total voter registration: 23.6% 11.3%

Voter registration:	Democrat	2,838,046	54.0%
	Republican	2,281,188	43.4
	Other	<u>136,770</u>	<u>2.6</u>
	Total	5,256,004	100.0%

NOVEMBER 2, 1976

Question

Summary: Commonwealth indebtedness of \$10,000,000 for loans to volunteer fire companies and ambulance service companies.

Result: Approved

Vote: Yes: 1,408,284 No: 537,692

Percentage of total voter registration: 24.5% 9.4%

Voter registration:	Democrat	3,152,450	54.8%
	Republican	2,387,297	41.5
	Other	<u>210,013</u>	<u>3.7</u>
	Total	5,749,660	100.0%

NOVEMBER 8, 1977

Question 1: Shall Article VIII, section 2(c) of the Pennsylvania Constitution be amended to provide that the exemption from certain real property taxes already applied to certain disabled veterans be extended to all those citizens and residents of Pennsylvania who have served the United States in any war or armed conflict and who have been declared to have a one hundred percent service-connected disability by the United States Veterans Administration?

Result: Approved

Vote: Yes: 1,189,626 No: 360,211

Percentage of total voter registration: 21.0% 6.4%

Question 2: Shall Article VIII, section 17 of the Pennsylvania Constitution be amended to provide that special emergency legislation may be enacted by a vote of two-thirds of the General Assembly to make appropriations limited to monies required for Federal emergency or major disaster relief and shall this provision apply retroactively to 1976 or 1977?

Result: Approved

Vote: Yes: 1,066,563 No: 428,388

Percentage of total voter registration: 18.8% 7.6%

Voter registration:	Democrat	3,134,943	55.3%
	Republican	2,324,884	41.0
	Other	<u>212,703</u>	<u>3.7</u>
	Total	5,672,530	100.0%

MAY 16, 1978

Question 1

Summary: Provides for the election of the Attorney General and provides for his qualifications.

Result: Approved

Vote: Yes: 1,017,830 No: 206,528

Percentage of total voter registration: 18.2% 3.7%

Question 2: Shall Article V of the Pennsylvania Constitution be amended to provide that persons appointed to fill vacancies in the office of justice, judge or justice of the peace shall serve for a term ending on the first Monday of January following the next municipal election more than ten months after the vacancy occurs or for the remainder of the unexpired term whichever is less?

Result: Approved

Vote: Yes: 1,000,662 No: 192,059

Percentage of total voter registration: 17.9% 3.4%

Voter registration:	Democrat	3,101,172	55.5%
	Republican	2,276,892	40.7
	Other	<u>212,064</u>	<u>3.8</u>
	Total	5,590,128	100.0%

NOVEMBER 6, 1979

Question 1: Shall Article V, section 3, and section 13, subsection b, and the Schedule to Article V, section 11 of the Pennsylvania Constitution be amended to permit an increase in the number of judges of the Superior Court from its present number of seven, make changes relating to initial terms of additional judges and further provide for the selection of the president judge of the Superior Court?

Result: Approved

Vote: Yes: 793,474 No: 703,736

Percentage of total voter registration: 14.6% 13.0%

Question 2

Summary: Provides for the procedures for retention elections to be extended to apply to justices of the peace.

Result: Defeated

Vote: Yes: 730,122 No: 754,755

Percentage of total voter registration: 13.4% 13.9%

Voter registration:	Democrat	2,997,490	55.2%
	Republican	2,209,798	40.7
	Other	<u>222,372</u>	<u>4.1</u>
	Total	5,429,660	100.0%

NOVEMBER 3, 1981

Question 1: Do you favor the incurring of indebtedness by the Commonwealth of \$300,000,000 for use as loans to repair, construct, reconstruct, rehabilitate, extend and improve water supply systems, or to repair, reconstruct or rehabilitate flood control facilities, dams and port facilities in order to improve the health, safety and economic well-being of the people of the Commonwealth?

Result: Approved

Vote: Yes: 1,054,329 No: 588,669

Percentage of total voter registration: 18.5% 10.3%

Question 2: Do you favor the incurring of indebtedness of \$15,000,000 for loans to volunteer fire companies, volunteer ambulance services and volunteer rescue squads for the purpose of establishing or modernizing facilities to house firefighting apparatus equipment, ambulances, and rescue vehicles, and for purchasing firefighting apparatus equipment, ambulances, and rescue vehicles, protective and communications equipment, and any other accessory equipment necessary for the proper performance of such organizations' duties?

Result: Approved

Vote: Yes: 1,188,191 No: 462,950

Percentage of total voter registration: 20.9% 8.1%

NOVEMBER 3, 1981—(continued)

Question 3: Shall Article II, section 17 of the Pennsylvania Constitution be amended to provide that a Legislative Reapportionment Commission be constituted in each year following the year of the Federal Decennial Census; and that the majority and minority leaders of the General Assembly, who constitute four of the five members, be certified to the elections officer of the Commonwealth no later than 60 days following the official reporting of the Federal Census as required by Federal law?

Result: Approved

Vote: Yes: 823,948 No: 625,700

Percentage of total voter registration: 14.5% 11.0%

Question 4: Shall Article III, section 26 of the Pennsylvania Constitution be amended to permit the General Assembly to legislate that increases in retirement benefits or pensions payable to members of a retirement or pension system of the Commonwealth, its political subdivisions, agencies or instrumentalities, be extended to beneficiaries who are spouses of members of such system, provided that such increases are certified to be actuarially sound?

Result: Defeated

Vote: Yes: 618,857 No: 928,699

Percentage of total voter registration: 10.9% 16.3%

NOVEMBER 3, 1981--(continued)

Question 5: Shall Article VIII, section 11 of the Pennsylvania Constitution be amended to provide that net proceeds from aviation fuel excise taxes be appropriated by the General Assembly to State agencies or political subdivisions to be used solely for purposes related to air navigation including, but not limited to, construction, operation and maintenance of air navigational facilities; property tax reimbursement; and further providing that these proceeds shall not be diverted by transfer or otherwise to any other purpose?

Result: Approved

Vote: Yes: 762,491 No: 714,434

Percentage of total voter registration: 13.4% 12.6%

Voter registration:	Democrat	3,023,334	53.1%
	Republican	2,364,713	41.6
	Other	<u>301,137</u>	<u>5.3</u>
	Total	5,689,184	100.0%

NOVEMBER 2, 1982

Question: Do you favor the use of up to \$50,000,000 previously authorized for nursing homes to also be used for loans to repair, reconstruct and rehabilitate personal care boarding homes?

Result: Approved

Vote: Yes: 1,371,930 No: 774,178

Percentage of total voter registration: 24.1% 13.6%

Voter registration:	Democrat	3,035,523	53.2%
	Republican	2,357,448	41.4
	Other	<u>309,586</u>	<u>5.4</u>
	Total	5,702,557	100.0%

APRIL 10, 1984

Question: Do you favor incurring indebtedness by the Commonwealth of \$190,000,000 to promote economic redevelopment throughout Pennsylvania through job producing programs; grants and loans for industrial and small business development; acquisition of equipment for vocational programs in secondary schools, community colleges and engineering degree-granting schools; agricultural development; and the acquisition, rehabilitation or development of facilities for community services and public recreation purposes subject to implementation by law?

Result: Approved

Vote: Yes: 726,742 No: 417,351

Percentage of total voter registration: 12.8% 7.4%

Voter registration:	Democrat	3,176,515	56.1%
	Republican	2,230,588	39.4
	Other	<u>254,341</u>	<u>4.5</u>
	Total	5,661,444	100.0%

NOVEMBER 6, 1984

Question 1: Shall Article VIII, section 2(b) of the Pennsylvania Constitution be amended to permit the General Assembly to establish standards and qualifications by which local taxing authorities in first and second class counties may make uniform special real property tax provisions applicable to taxpayers who are longtime owner-occupants of residences in areas where real property values have risen markedly due to the refurbishing or renovating of other deteriorating residences or the construction of new residences?

Result: Approved

Vote: Yes: 1,499,771 No: 1,132,296

Percentage of total voter registration: 24.2% 18.3%

Question 2: Shall Article I, section 9 of the Pennsylvania Constitution be amended to provide that the use of a suppressed voluntary admission or voluntary confession to impeach the credibility of a person may be permitted and shall not be construed as compelling a person to give evidence against himself?

Result: Approved

Vote: Yes: 1,542,142 No: 1,076,343

Percentage of total voter registration: 24.9% 17.4%

Voter registration:	Democrat	3,380,675	54.6%
	Republican	2,487,552	40.2
	Other	<u>325,475</u>	<u>5.2</u>
	Total	6,193,702	100.0%

NOVEMBER 5, 1985

Question 1: Shall Article VII, section 14 of the Pennsylvania Constitution relating to Absentee Voting be amended to require the General Assembly to provide by general law, a method of voting for those electors who will not attend a polling place because of the observance of a religious holiday or who, in the case of a county employee, cannot vote because of election day duties?

Result: Approved

Vote:	Yes: 912,845	No: 434,516
Percentage of total voter registration:	15.1%	7.2%

Question 2: Shall Article VIII, section 2(c) of the Pennsylvania Constitution be amended to provide that an unmarried surviving spouse upon the death of a veteran who as a result of military service was blind, paraplegic, a double or quadruple amputee or had a 100% permanent disability be exempt from the payment of all real property taxes upon their residence provided that the State Veteran's Commission determines that such spouse is in need of an exemption?

Result: Approved

Vote:	Yes: 1,075,121	No: 290,795
Percentage of total voter registration:	17.8%	4.8%

Voter registration:	Democrat	3,271,365	54.3%
	Republican	2,453,667	40.7
	Other	<u>304,358</u>	<u>5.0</u>
	Total	6,029,390	100.0%

NOVEMBER 3, 1987

Question: Do you favor the incurring of indebtedness by the Commonwealth of \$100,000,000 for the purchase of agricultural conservation easements for the preservation of agricultural land either for a period of 25 years or in perpetuity?

Result: Approved

Vote: Yes: 1,172,483 No: 575,330

Percentage of total voter registration: 21.8% 10.7%

Voter registration:	Democrat	2,861,251	53.1%
	Republican	2,297,088	42.6
	Other	<u>229,857</u>	<u>4.3</u>
	Total	5,388,196	100.0%

APRIL 26, 1988

Question: Do you favor the incurring of indebtedness by the Commonwealth of \$300,000,000 for use as loans to acquire, repair, construct, reconstruct, rehabilitate, extend, expand and improve water supply and sewage treatment systems?

Result: Approved

Vote: Yes: 888,120 No: 276,735

Percentage of total voter registration: 16.6% 5.2%

Voter registration:	Democrat	2,848,528	53.2%
	Republican	2,279,849	42.6
	Other	<u>225,933</u>	<u>4.2</u>
	Total	5,354,310	100.0%

MAY 16, 1989

Question: Shall Article VIII, section 2(b) of the Pennsylvania Constitution be amended to allow for legislation which would require or permit local government units to reduce residential real estate tax rates to the extent of additional revenues obtained from personal income taxes, while keeping all other changes in real estate tax rates uniform?

Result: Defeated

Vote: Yes: 514,317 No: 1,538,732

Percentage of total voter registration: 8.9% 26.5%

Voter registration:	Democrat	3,050,692	52.6%
	Republican	2,469,761	42.6
	Other	<u>275,744</u>	<u>4.8</u>
	Total	5,796,197	100.0%

NOVEMBER 6, 1990

Question 1: Do you favor the incurring of indebtedness by the Commonwealth of \$200,000,000 to repair, expand, construct, reconstruct and rehabilitate county prisons or multicounty regional prison facilities or fund capital needs to create or expand county alternative sentencing or treatment programs?

Result: Approved

Vote: Yes: 1,346,264 No: 955,384

Percentage of total voter registration: 23.8% 16.9%

Question 2: Do you favor the incurring of indebtedness of \$25,000,000 for loans to volunteer fire companies, volunteer ambulance services and volunteer rescue squads for the purpose of establishing or modernizing facilities to house firefighting apparatus equipment, ambulances and rescue vehicles, and for purchasing firefighting apparatus equipment, ambulances and rescue vehicles, protective and communications equipment, and any other accessory equipment necessary for the proper performance of such organizations' duties?

Result: Approved

Vote: Yes: 1,854,826 No: 486,896

Percentage of total voter registration: 32.8% 8.6%

Voter registration:	Democrat	2,907,156	51.4%
	Republican	2,476,222	43.7
	Other	<u>275,811</u>	<u>4.9</u>
	Total	5,659,189	100.0%

APRIL 28, 1992

Question: Do you favor the incurring of indebtedness by the Commonwealth of \$350,000,000 for use as loans to acquire, repair, construct, reconstruct, rehabilitate, extend, expand and improve water supply, storm water control and sewage treatment systems?

Result: Approved

Vote: Yes: 866,552 No: 457,881

Percentage of total voter registration: 16.3% 8.6%

Voter registration:	Democrat	2,710,389	50.9%
	Republican	2,362,748	44.4
	Other	<u>249,919</u>	<u>4.7</u>
	Total	5,323,056	100.0%

MAY 18, 1993

Question 1: Shall Article V of the Pennsylvania Constitution be amended to establish a judicial conduct board to investigate complaints of judicial misconduct, to establish a court of judicial discipline to adjudicate charges of judicial misconduct, to abolish the judicial inquiry and review board, and, except as provided by law, to bar payment of compensation, including retirement benefits, to justices, judges, and justices of the peace suspended, removed, or barred from judicial office for serious misconduct?

Result: Approved

Vote: Yes: 1,018,318 No: 208,187

Percentage of total voter registration: 17.3% 3.5%

Question 2: Do you favor the incurring of indebtedness by the Commonwealth of up to \$25,000,000 for payment of compensation for service in the Persian Gulf Conflict, including \$1,500,000 for the cost of designing and constructing a patriotic monument or memorial in appreciation of Pennsylvania's veterans?

Result: Defeated

Vote: Yes: 429,728 No: 821,415

Percentage of total voter registration: 7.3% 13.9%

Voter registration:	Democrat	3,010,606	51.0%
	Republican	2,515,836	42.6
	Other	<u>375,559</u>	<u>6.4</u>
	Total	5,902,001	100.0%

NOVEMBER 2, 1993

Question: Do you favor the incurring of indebtedness by the Commonwealth in the amount of \$50,000,000 to provide for the funding of nature preserves and wildlife habitats, and for improvements to and expansion of state parks, community parks and recreation facilities, historic sites, zoos and public libraries?

Result: Approved

Vote: Yes: 1,023,834 No: 576,169

Percentage of total voter registration: 17.3% 9.7%

Voter registration:	Democrat	3,007,927	50.8%
	Republican	2,527,456	42.7
	Other	<u>383,488</u>	<u>6.5</u>
	Total	5,918,871	100.0%

NOVEMBER 7, 1995

Question: Shall [Article I, section 9 of]* the Pennsylvania Constitution be amended to provide (1) that a person accused of a crime has the right to be "confronted with the witnesses against him," instead of the right to "meet the witnesses face to face," and (2) that the General Assembly may enact laws regarding the manner by which children may testify in criminal proceedings, including the use of videotaped depositions or testimony by closed-circuit television?

Result: Approved. However, because the ballot question contained two amendments, the Pennsylvania Supreme Court later determined this question to be unconstitutional.¹ Article XI, Section 1 provides that "[w]hen two or more amendments shall be submitted they shall be voted upon separately." These issues reached the voters again on November 4, 2003 in the proper form of two separate ballot questions. See page 55.

Vote:	Yes: 1,176,652	No: 400,727
Percentage of total voter registration:	19.1%	6.5%
Voter registration:	Democrat 3,070,170	49.8%
	Republican 2,660,447	43.1
	Other <u>436,099</u>	<u>7.1</u>
	Total 6,166,716	100.0%

* The bracketed language is included for clarity and was not part of the ballot question.

¹ *Bergdoll v. Kane*, 731 A.2d 1261 (Pa. 1999) (*aff'g* the opinion of the Commonwealth Court at 694 A.2d 1155 (Pa. Commw. Ct. 1997)).

NOVEMBER 4, 1997

Question 1: Shall [Article VIII, section 2 of]* the Pennsylvania Constitution be amended to permit the enactment of legislation authorizing local taxing authorities to exclude from taxation an amount based on the assessed value of homestead property, with the limitations that the exclusions shall not exceed one-half of the of the median assessed value of all homestead property within the taxing jurisdiction and that the taxing authority may not increase the millage rate of its tax on real property to pay for these exclusions?

Result: Approved

Vote: Yes: 1,240,406 No: 778,105

Percentage of total voter registration: 17.6% 11.0%

Question 2: Shall [Article IV, section 9 of]* the Pennsylvania Constitution be amended to require a unanimous recommendation of the board of pardons before the Governor can pardon or commute the sentence of an individual sentenced in a criminal case to death or life imprisonment, to require only a majority vote of the Senate to approve the Governor's appointments to the board, and to substitute a crime victim for an attorney and a corrections expert for a penologist as board members?

Result: Approved

Vote: Yes: 1,182,067 No: 811,701

Percentage of total voter registration: 16.8% 11.5%

* The bracketed language is included for clarity and was not part of the ballot question.

NOVEMBER 4,1997 --(continued)

Question 3: Shall [Article VII, section 14 of]* the Pennsylvania Constitution be amended to require the enactment of legislation permitting absentee voting by qualified electors who at the time of an election may be absent from the municipality where they reside because their duties, occupation or business require them to be elsewhere, which would change the current law permitting absentee voting by such qualified electors only when they are absent from the entire county where they reside?

Result: Approved

Vote: Yes: 1,301,638 No: 686,518

Percentage of total voter registration: 18.4% 9.7%

Voter registration:	Democrat	3,441,798	48.8%
	Republican	2,998,083	42.5
	Other	<u>617,188</u>	<u>8.7</u>
	Total	7,057,069	100.0%

* The bracketed language is included for clarity and was not part of the ballot question.

NOVEMBER 3, 1998

Question 1: Shall {Article I, section 14 of}* the Pennsylvania Constitution be amended to disallow bail when the proof is evident or presumption great that the accused committed an offense for which the maximum penalty is life imprisonment or that no condition or combination of conditions other than imprisonment of the accused will reasonably assure the safety of any person and the community?

Result: Approved

Vote: Yes: 1,620,567 No: 601,463

Percentage of total voter registration: 22.3% 8.3%

Question 2: Shall {Article I, section 6 of}* the Pennsylvania Constitution be amended to provide that the Commonwealth shall have the same right to trial by jury in criminal cases as does the accused?

Result: Approved

Vote: Yes: 1,496,894 No: 684,204

Percentage of total voter registration: 20.6% 9.4%

Voter registration:	Democrat	3,514,970	48.4%
	Republican	3,072,299	42.3
	Other	<u>671,553</u>	<u>9.3</u>
	Total	7,258,822	100.0%

* The bracketed language is included for clarity and was not part of the ballot question.

MAY 15, 2001

Question 1: Shall {Article II, section 17 of}* the Constitution of Pennsylvania be amended with regard to legislative reapportionment to provide that when a reapportionment plan, upon attaining the force of law, contains a state Senate district which does not include the residence from which an incumbent Senator was elected, an election for the office of Senator for that district shall be held at the next general election irrespective of when an election for the district is otherwise scheduled?

Result: Approved

Vote:	Yes: 556,964	No: 362,210
Percentage of total voter registration:	7.2%	4.7%

Question 2: Shall {Article V, section 16 of}* the Constitution of Pennsylvania be amended to provide that justices of the Supreme Court, judges and justices of the peace shall be retired on the last day of the calendar year in which they attain the age of 70 years, rather than on the day they attain the age of 70?

Result: Approved

Vote:	Yes: 656,270	No: 314,978
Percentage of total voter registration:	8.5%	4.1%

Voter registration:	Democrat	3,701,242	48.1%
	Republican	3,208,297	41.7
	Other	<u>788,932</u>	<u>10.2</u>
	Total	7,698,471	100.0%

* The bracketed language is included for clarity and was not part of the ballot question.

NOVEMBER 5, 2002

Question: Do you favor the incurring of indebtedness of up to \$100,000,000 for the purpose of establishing a program that utilizes capital and other related methods to enhance and improve the delivery of volunteer fire and volunteer emergency services in this Commonwealth as hereafter authorized by statute?

Result: Approved

Vote: Yes: 1,833,795 No: 691,319

Percentage of total voter registration: 23.4% 8.8%

Voter registration:	Democrat	3,768,316	48.1%
	Republican	3,235,172	41.3
	Other	<u>832,287</u>	10.6
	Total	7,835,775	100.0%

NOVEMBER 4, 2003

Question 1: Shall {Article I, section 9 of}* the Pennsylvania Constitution be amended to provide that a person accused of a crime has the right to be "confronted with the witnesses against him," instead of the right to "meet the witnesses face to face"?

Result: Approved

Vote: Yes: 1,239,356 No: 578,031

Percentage of total voter registration: 16.1% 7.5%

Question 2: Shall {Article V, section 10(c) of}* the Pennsylvania Constitution be amended to provide that the General Assembly may enact laws regarding the manner by which children may testify in criminal proceedings, including the use of videotaped depositions or testimony by closed-circuit television?

Result: Approved

Vote: Yes: 1,494,261 No: 360,283

Percentage of total voter registration: 19.4% 4.7%

Voter registration:	Democrat	3,628,043	47.2%
	Republican	3,239,104	42.1
	Other	<u>821,148</u>	<u>10.7</u>
	Total	7,688,295	100.0%

* The bracketed language is included for clarity and was not part of the ballot question.

APRIL 27, 2004

Question: Do you favor the incurring of indebtedness by the Commonwealth in the amount of \$250,000,000 for use as grants and loans for construction, expansion or improvement of water and wastewater infrastructure, including water supply and sewage treatment systems?

Result: Approved

Vote: Yes: 725,970 No: 426,043

Percentage of total voter registration: 9.3% 5.5%

Voter registration:	Democrat	3,706,122	47.6%
	Republican	3,230,496	41.6
	Other	<u>843,964</u>	<u>10.8</u>
	Total	7,780,582	100.0%

MAY 17, 2005

Question: Do you favor authorizing the Commonwealth to borrow up to \$625,000,000, for the maintenance and protection of the environment, open space and farmland preservation, watershed protection, abandoned mine reclamation, acid mine drainage remediation and other environmental initiatives?

Result: Approved

Vote:	Yes: 725,308	No: 472,290
Percentage of total voter registration:	9.0%	5.9%

Voter registration:	Democrat	3,836,701	47.6%
	Republican	3,294,568	40.8
	Other	<u>934,267</u>	<u>11.6</u>
	Total	8,065,536	100.0%