



Constitutional Convention

Background

- PA has convened five Constitutional Conventions in its history
 - 1776, 1789, 1837, 1872-1873, and 1967-1968
- Additional calls for conventions were defeated by the electorate six times between 1870s and 1960s
- Amending the Constitution is a very time-consuming process because the amendment must be adopted by the General Assembly in two consecutive legislative sessions before being sent to voters for approval

Current Status

- There are six that have been introduced that propose holding a Constitutional Convention, including the following House proposals
 - HB 96 (Kortz) – provides for a limited convention on the structure and function of the General Assembly
 - HB 763 (Conklin) – provides for an open citizen's convention
 - HB 1040 (Swanger) – provides for a limited citizen's convention, all Articles except the Declaration of Rights
 - HB 1042 (Goodman) – provides for a limited citizen's convention on property taxes