

BERKS COUNTY INTERMEDIATE UNIT HOUSE BILL 1285 INFORMATION SHEET

PROPOSED CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT AMENDING THE HOMESTEAD PROPERTY TAX ASSESSMENT EXCLUSION

- Primary Sponsor: Representative David Maloney (R-Berks)
- Currently the exclusion is capped at 50% of the median assessed value of all homestead properties
- Proposed exclusion would be up to 100% of the assessed value of an individual property
- Referendum question on November 7 ballot
- If passed it provides a future mechanism to allow further reduction or elimination of residential property taxes
- Must have significant additional revenue to actually fund the increased homestead/farmstead exclusion, if not no impact
- Would maintain the current homestead/farmstead program
- Homeowners would be the sole priority of reduced/eliminated property taxes
- Difference-Senate Bill 76 would give businesses a tax break at expense of everyone who would be paying increased PIT and SUT
- Maintains local control in the establishment of millage rates

BALLOT QUESTION

Shall the Pennsylvania Constitution be amended to permit the General Assembly to enact legislation authorizing local taxing authorities to exclude from taxation up to 100 percent of the assessed value of each homestead property within a local taxing jurisdiction, rather than limit the exclusion to one-half of the median assessed value of all homestead property, which is the existing law?