

No. 7

A JOINT RESOLUTION

SB 438

Proposing an amendment to article one, section ten of the Constitution of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania authorizing courts of common pleas to provide for the initiation of criminal charges by information.

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

Section 1. The following amendment to the Constitution of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania is proposed in accordance with the provisions of the eleventh article thereof:

That section ten, article one of the Constitution of the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania be amended to read:

Section 10. **[Criminal Information] *Initiation of Criminal Proceedings***; Twice in Jeopardy; Eminent Domain.—**[No] *Except as hereinafter provided no*** person shall, for any indictable offense, be proceeded against criminally by information, except in cases arising in the land or naval forces, or in the militia, when in actual service, in time of war or public danger, or by leave of the court for oppression or misdemeanor in office. ***Each of the several courts of common pleas may, with the approval of the Supreme Court, provide for the initiation of criminal proceedings therein by information filed in the manner provided by law.*** No person shall, for the same offense, be twice put in jeopardy of life or limb; nor shall private property be taken or applied to public use, without authority of law and without just compensation being first made or secured.

(This Joint Resolution No. 7 was passed for the first time at the Legislative Session of 1971.)