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**Gaydos Supports Constitutional Amendments,
Returning Power to the People**

HARRISBURG – Rep. Valerie Gaydos (R-Allegheny) today voted with a majority of her House and Senate colleagues to advance the constitutional amendments outlined in Senate Bill 106, which include restoring the balance of elections in the Commonwealth.

“I remain committed to ensuring the integrity of our elections,” said Gaydos. “It is imperative that power must be restored back to the people to make the decision on how elections should be conducted in Pennsylvania. It is of the utmost importance to me to ensure fairness and transparency in the election and voting processes, regardless of the outcome.”

The first measure in Senate Bill 106 would seek to amend the Constitution to expand the state’s current voter ID rules by requiring all voters to present valid identification each time they cast their ballot regardless of whether they are voting by mail or in person. Surveys have demonstrated that requiring voter identification is supported across party lines and by most Pennsylvanians.

Another constitutional amendment would allow the governor to select his running mate for lieutenant governor. This would establish unity between the governor and lieutenant governor, thereby strengthening the ticket for both parties. It would instill public trust for the executive branch and avoids ideological division and friction.

In addition, a constitutional amendment would require comprehensive auditing of elections, including the administration of elections, certification of election machines, the accuracy of the list of registered voters, the administration of voter registration and election results. Another proposed amendment aims to better restore the balance of power between the legislative and executive branches of state government by stating the General Assembly’s disapproval of a regulation need not be presented to the governor for his approval.

The final proposed constitutional amendment would place the decision of how to prohibit or regulate abortion squarely in the hands of the people and their elected Legislature. The proposal would not change current law whatsoever. Neither the United States nor Pennsylvania

constitutions provide a right to an abortion or require that taxpayer funds be used toward abortion.

In order to amend the Constitution, the proposals must be passed in identical form in two consecutive legislative sessions prior to being placed on the ballot for voters to have the final say. This is the first time each of the proposals has been approved by both the House and Senate.

“These amendments spell out the people’s rights in relation to their government,” said Gaydos. “It guarantees civil rights and liberties. It sets rules for due process of law and reserves all powers not delegated to the federal government to the people.”

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