

**SENATE  
STATE OF MINNESOTA  
NINETY-THIRD SESSION**

**S.F. No. 2851**

(SENATE AUTHORS: NELSON and Rasmusson)

DATE  
03/13/2023

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Introduction and first reading  
Referred to Elections

OFFICIAL STATUS

1.1 A bill for an act  
1.2 proposing an amendment to the Minnesota Constitution, article IV, section 4;  
1.3 providing for staggered terms for senators.

1.4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MINNESOTA:

1.5 Section 1. **CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT PROPOSED.**

1.6 An amendment to the Minnesota Constitution is proposed to the people. If the amendment  
1.7 is adopted, article IV, section 4, will read:

1.8 Sec. 4. Representatives shall be chosen for a term of two years, except to fill a vacancy.  
1.9 Senators shall be chosen for a term of four years, except to fill a vacancy and except there  
1.10 shall be an entire new election of all the senators at the first election of representatives after  
1.11 each new legislative apportionment provided for in this article. At the first election after a  
1.12 new legislative apportionment, each senator elected from an even-numbered district must  
1.13 serve a two-year term. At the last election before a new legislative apportionment, each  
1.14 senator elected from an odd-numbered district must serve a two-year term. The governor  
1.15 shall call elections to fill vacancies in either house of the legislature.

1.16 Sec. 2. **SUBMISSION TO VOTERS.**

1.17 The proposed amendment shall be submitted to the people at the 2024 general election.  
1.18 The question submitted must be:

1.19 "Shall the Minnesota Constitution be amended to provide for staggered terms of office  
1.20 for state senators?"

2.1

Yes .....

2.2

No ....."