

1 HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 9

2 **53RD LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2017**

3 INTRODUCED BY

4 Rod Montoya

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10 A JOINT RESOLUTION

11 PROPOSING TO AMEND ARTICLE 4, SECTION 4 OF THE CONSTITUTION OF
12 NEW MEXICO TO CHANGE THE INDIVIDUAL TERMS OF SERVICE FOR STATE
13 REPRESENTATIVES TO FOUR YEARS, TO PROVIDE FOR ELECTIONS OF
14 STATE REPRESENTATIVES TO COINCIDE WITH GUBERNATORIAL ELECTIONS
15 AND TO LIMIT STATE LEGISLATORS TO NO MORE THAN SIXTEEN YEARS OF
16 ELECTED SERVICE.

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18 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO:

19 SECTION 1. It is proposed to amend Article 4, Section 4
20 of the constitution of New Mexico to read:

21 "A. Members of the [~~legislature~~] senate shall be
22 elected [~~as follows: those senators from Bernalillo, Chaves,~~
23 ~~Curry, DeBaca, Grant, Lea, Lincoln, Luna, Sandoval, San Juan,~~
24 ~~San Miguel, Socorro, Taos, Torrance, Union and Valencia~~
25 ~~counties for a term of six years starting January 1, 1961, and~~

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1 ~~after serving such terms shall be elected]~~ for a term of four
2 years, ~~[thereafter; those senators from all other counties for~~
3 ~~the terms of four years]~~ and beginning with the general
4 election of 2022, members of the house of representatives shall
5 be elected for a term of [~~two~~] four years. [~~They~~]

6 B. Members of the legislature shall be elected on
7 the day provided by law for holding the general election of
8 state officers or representatives in congress. If a vacancy
9 occurs in the office of senator or member of the house of
10 representatives, for any reason, the county commissioners of
11 the county wherein the vacancy occurs shall fill such vacancy
12 by appointment. Such legislative appointments as provided in
13 this section shall be for a term ending on December 31,
14 subsequent to the next succeeding general election.

15 C. A person who has served as a member of the
16 legislature for a total of sixteen years shall not be eligible
17 for further election or appointment to the senate or the house
18 of representatives, and a person shall not be eligible for
19 election or appointment to the senate or the house of
20 representatives if the term of that office would result in
21 total years of service in the legislature for that person
22 exceeding sixteen years."

23 **SECTION 2.** The amendment proposed by this resolution
24 shall be submitted to the people for their approval or
25 rejection at the next general election or at any special

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election prior to that date that may be called for that
purpose.