

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 45

By Richey

A RESOLUTION to propose an amendment to Article II, Section 3, Article III, Sections 4 and 17, Article VI, Sections 3, 4, 5, and 13, and Article VII, Sections 1, 3, and 4, of the Constitution of Tennessee, relative to term limits.

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED THIRTEENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that a majority of all the members of each house concurring, as shown by the yeas and nays entered on their journals, that it is proposed that Article II, Section 3, of the Constitution of Tennessee be amended by adding the following new paragraph after the existing language:

A member of the House of Representatives or the Senate shall not serve more than sixteen years in office, irrespective of whether the terms are consecutive. If a member is in office upon adoption of this amendment and, by the end of the member's current term will have served more than sixteen years, then the member may serve out the remainder of the member's term.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that it is proposed that Article III, Section 4, of the Constitution of Tennessee be amended by deleting the language "A person may be eligible" and substituting "Except as provided in this section, a person may be eligible"; and by adding the following new paragraph after the first paragraph:

The Governor shall not serve more than two terms in office, irrespective of whether the terms are consecutive. If the Governor is in office upon adoption of this amendment and, by the end of the Governor's current term will have served more than eight years, then the Governor may serve out the remainder of the term.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that it is proposed that Article III, Section 17, of the Constitution of Tennessee be amended by adding the following new paragraph after the existing language:

The Secretary of State shall not serve more than four terms in office, irrespective of whether the terms were served consecutively. If the Secretary of State is in office upon adoption of this amendment and, by the end of the Secretary's current term will have served more than sixteen years, then the Secretary may serve out the remainder of the term.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that it is proposed that Article VI, Section 3, of the Constitution of Tennessee be amended by adding the following new paragraph after the existing language:

A Judge of the Supreme Court or of an intermediate appellate court shall not serve more than two terms, irrespective of whether the terms are served consecutively. If a Judge is in office upon adoption of this amendment and, by the end of the Judge's current term will have served more than sixteen years, then the Judge may serve out the remainder of the term.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that it is proposed that Article VI, Section 4, of the Constitution of Tennessee be amended by adding the following new paragraph after the existing language:

A Judge of the Circuit, Chancery, or another inferior Court shall not serve more than two terms, irrespective of whether the terms are served consecutively. If a Judge is in office upon adoption of this amendment and, by the end of the Judge's current term will have served more than sixteen years, then the Judge may serve out the remainder of the term.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that it is proposed that Article VI, Section 5, of the Constitution of Tennessee be amended by adding the following new paragraph after the existing language:

The Attorney General and Reporter and an Attorney for the State shall not serve more than two terms, irrespective of whether the terms are served consecutively. If the Attorney General or an Attorney for the State is in office upon adoption of this amendment and, by the end of the Attorney's current term will have served more than sixteen years, then the Attorney may serve out the remainder of the term.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that it is proposed that Article VI, Section 13, of the Constitution of Tennessee be amended by deleting the language "six" wherever it may appear and substituting "four"; and by adding the following new paragraph after the existing language:

A Clerk of a Judge of the Supreme Court or of an inferior court shall not serve more than four terms in office, irrespective of whether the terms are served consecutively. If a Clerk is in office upon adoption of this amendment and, by the end of the Clerk's current term will have served more than sixteen years, then the Clerk may serve out the remainder of the term.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that it is proposed that Article VII, Section 1, of the Constitution of Tennessee be amended by adding the following new paragraph after the first paragraph:

A member of a county legislative body and a county officer shall not serve more than four terms in office, irrespective of whether the terms are served consecutively. If a member of a county legislative body or a county officer is in office upon adoption of this amendment and, by the end of the member's or officer's current term will have served more than sixteen years, then the member of the county legislative body or county officer may serve out the remainder of the term.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that it is proposed that Article VII, Section 3, of the Constitution of Tennessee be amended by adding the following new paragraph after the existing language:

A Treasurer and the Comptroller of the Treasury shall not serve more than eight terms, irrespective of whether the terms are served consecutively. If a Treasurer or the Comptroller is in office upon adoption of this amendment and, by the end of the Treasurer's or Comptroller's current term will have served more than sixteen years, then the Treasurer or Comptroller may serve out the remainder of the term.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that it is proposed that Article VII, Section 4, of the Constitution of Tennessee be amended by adding the following new paragraph after the existing language:

All other elected state, county, and municipal officers not otherwise directed or provided by this Constitution shall not hold office for more than sixteen years, irrespective of whether the terms are served consecutively. If such an officer is in office upon adoption of this amendment and, by the end of the officer's current term will have served more than sixteen years, the officer may serve out the remainder of the term.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the foregoing amendment be referred to the One Hundred Fourteenth General Assembly and that this resolution proposing such amendment be published by the Secretary of State in accordance with Article XI, Section 3, of the Constitution of Tennessee.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Clerk of the House of Representatives is directed to deliver a copy of this resolution to the Secretary of State.