

**Senate Joint Resolution 10 - Introduced**

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 10  
BY FEENSTRA

**SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION**

1 A Joint Resolution proposing an amendment to the Constitution  
2 of the State of Iowa limiting years of service for members  
3 of the general assembly, the lieutenant governor, and the  
4 governor.

5 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

1 Section 1. The following amendment to the Constitution of  
2 the State of Iowa is proposed:

3 1. Section 3 of Article III of the Constitution of the State  
4 of Iowa is repealed and the following adopted in lieu thereof:

5 **Representatives.** SEC. 3. The members of the house of  
6 representatives shall be chosen every second year, by the  
7 qualified electors of their respective districts, and their  
8 term of office shall commence on the first day of January  
9 next after their election, and continue two years, and until  
10 their successors are elected and qualified. A person shall  
11 not be elected for a term as representative if the term would  
12 result in more than a total of twelve years of service as a  
13 representative. If a person is elected to serve a portion  
14 of a term to which some other person was elected but that  
15 person died in office or resigned from office or was otherwise  
16 removed from office, those years served shall not be included  
17 in the years of service for purposes of this limitation. This  
18 limitation on the years of service shall only apply to terms of  
19 office beginning on or after January 1, 2017.

20 2. Section 5 of Article III of the Constitution of the State  
21 of Iowa is repealed and the following adopted in lieu thereof:

22 **Senators — qualifications.** SEC. 5. Senators shall be  
23 chosen for the term of four years, at the same time and place as  
24 representatives; they shall be twenty-five years of age, and  
25 possess the qualifications of representatives as to residence  
26 and citizenship. A person shall not be elected for a term  
27 as senator if the term would result in more than a total of  
28 twelve years of service as a senator. If a person is elected  
29 to serve a portion of a term to which some other person was  
30 elected but that person died in office or resigned from office  
31 or was otherwise removed from office, those years served shall  
32 not be included in the years of service for purposes of this  
33 limitation. This limitation on the years of service shall only  
34 apply to terms of office beginning on or after January 1, 2017.

35 3. Section 6 of Article IV of the Constitution of the State

1 of Iowa is repealed and the following adopted in lieu thereof:  
2 **Eligibility.** SEC. 6. No person shall be eligible to the  
3 office of governor, or lieutenant governor, who shall not have  
4 been a citizen of the United States, and a resident of the  
5 state, two years next preceding the election, and attained  
6 the age of thirty years at the time of said election. A  
7 person shall not be elected for a term as governor if the term  
8 would result in more than a total of twelve years of service  
9 as governor. A person shall not be elected for a term as  
10 lieutenant governor if the term would result in more than a  
11 total of twelve years of service as lieutenant governor. If  
12 a person is elevated or appointed to serve a portion of a term  
13 to which some other person was elected but that person died in  
14 office or resigned from office or was otherwise removed from  
15 office, those years served shall not be included in the years  
16 of service for purposes of this limitation. This limitation  
17 on the years of service shall only apply to terms of office  
18 beginning on or after January 1, 2019.

19 **Sec. 2. REFERRAL AND PUBLICATION.** The foregoing amendment  
20 to the Constitution of the State of Iowa is referred to the  
21 general assembly to be chosen at the next general election  
22 for members of the general assembly, and the secretary of  
23 state is directed to cause the same to be published for three  
24 consecutive months previous to the date of that election as  
25 provided by law.

26 **EXPLANATION**

27 This joint resolution proposes an amendment to the  
28 Constitution of the State of Iowa limiting years of service  
29 for persons elected to the offices of representative or  
30 senator in the general assembly, lieutenant governor, and  
31 governor. The amendment provides that a member of the house  
32 of representatives shall not serve more than 12 years as a  
33 representative for terms of office beginning on or after  
34 January 1, 2017, and that a member of the senate shall not  
35 serve more than 12 years as a senator for terms of office

1 beginning on or after January 1, 2017. The amendment provides  
2 that a person elected as lieutenant governor shall not serve  
3 more than 12 years as lieutenant governor and that a person  
4 elected as governor shall not serve more than 12 years as  
5 governor, both applicable to terms of office beginning on or  
6 after January 1, 2019.

7 The resolution, if adopted, would be referred to the next  
8 general assembly for adoption before being submitted to the  
9 electorate for ratification.