

House Joint Resolution 2002 - Introduced

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 2002
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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION

1 A Joint Resolution proposing an amendment to the Constitution
2 of the State of Iowa limiting terms 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4 of Iowa is repealed and the following adopted in lieu thereof: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 six terms 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, that portion of a term served shall not
17 be included in the terms of service for purposes of this
18 limitation if the representative did not serve for at least
19 one-half of the two-year term. This limitation on terms of
20 service applies to terms of office beginning on or after
21 January 1, 2019.

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23 of Iowa is repealed and the following adopted in lieu thereof:

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

1 one-half of the four-year term. This limitation on terms
2 of service applies to terms of office beginning on or after
3 January 1, 2019.

4 3. Section 6 of Article IV of the Constitution of the State
5 of Iowa is repealed and the following adopted in lieu thereof:

6 **Eligibility.** SEC. 6. No person shall be eligible to the
7 office of governor, or lieutenant governor, who shall not have
8 been a citizen of the United States, and a resident of the
9 state, two years next preceding the election, and attained
10 the age of thirty years at the time of said election. A
11 person shall not be elected for a term as governor if the term
12 would result in more than a total of three terms of service
13 as governor. A person shall not be elected for a term as
14 lieutenant governor if the term would result in more than a
15 total of three terms of service as lieutenant governor. If a
16 person is elevated or appointed to serve a portion of a term
17 to which some other person was elected but that person died in
18 office or resigned from office or was otherwise removed from
19 office, that portion of a term served shall not be included in
20 the terms of service for purposes of this limitation if the
21 person did not serve for at least one-half of the four-year
22 term. This limitation on terms of service applies to terms of
23 office beginning on or after January 1, 2019.

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

31 EXPLANATION

32 The inclusion of this explanation does not constitute agreement with
33 the explanation's substance by the members of the general assembly.

34 This joint resolution proposes an amendment to the
35 Constitution of the State of Iowa limiting terms of service

1 for persons elected to the offices of representative or
2 senator in the general assembly, lieutenant governor, and
3 governor. The amendment provides that a member of the house
4 of representatives shall not serve more than six terms as a
5 representative, and that a member of the senate shall not serve
6 more than three terms as a senator. The amendment provides
7 that a person elected as lieutenant governor shall not serve
8 more than three terms as lieutenant governor and that a person
9 elected as governor shall not serve more than three terms as
10 governor.

11 The amendment provides that if a person is elected,
12 elevated, or appointed to serve a portion of a term in these
13 respective offices, the term shall not be included in counting
14 terms of service if the person did not serve at least one-half
15 of the full term. The amendment applies to terms of office
16 beginning on or after January 1, 2019.

17 The resolution, if adopted, would be referred to the next
18 general assembly for adoption before being submitted to the
19 electorate for ratification.