

# Senate Joint Resolution 11 - Introduced

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 11  
BY WHITING

## SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION

1 A Joint Resolution requesting the call of a constitutional  
2 convention for the purpose of proposing an amendment to the  
3 Constitution of the United States relating to term limits  
4 for federal legislators.

5 WHEREAS, Article V of the Constitution of the United States  
6 provides that Congress must call a convention for the purpose  
7 of proposing amendments to the Constitution upon application by  
8 two-thirds of the states demanding such action; and

9 WHEREAS, the general assembly of Iowa is hereby joining with  
10 other states in asserting rights and responsibilities under  
11 Article V of the Constitution of the United States with regard  
12 to proposing a congressional term limits amendment; and

13 WHEREAS, the average length of service in Congress continues  
14 to rise which creates a detachment between the members and  
15 their constituents, making the American people feel they are no  
16 longer being listened to; and

17 WHEREAS, open-seat elections will allow for more people to  
18 participate in the government from a variety of backgrounds  
19 providing better representation and more options for the voters  
20 on the ballots; and

21 WHEREAS, the general assembly of Iowa, a body of citizen  
22 legislators, desires to restore rotation in office for members  
23 serving in the Congress of the United States; NOW THEREFORE,

## Senate Joint Resolution 11 - Introduced

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

25 That the general assembly, as the legislature of the state of  
26 Iowa, pursuant to Article V of the Constitution of the United  
27 States, hereby applies to the Congress of the United States  
28 to call a convention for the exclusive purpose of proposing an  
29 amendment to the Constitution of the United States to limit the  
30 number of terms that a person may be elected as a member of the  
31 United States house of representatives and to set a limit on  
32 the number of terms that a person may be elected as a member of  
33 the United States senate.

34 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That the secretary of the Iowa  
35 senate transmit copies of this resolution to the president and  
36 secretary of the United States senate, the speaker, clerk, and  
37 judiciary committee chairperson of the United States house of  
38 representatives, to each senator and representative from Iowa  
39 in the Congress of the United States, and to the presiding  
40 officers of each legislative body of each of the several  
41 states, requesting the cooperation of the states in issuing  
42 an application compelling Congress to call a convention for  
43 proposing amendments pursuant to Article V of the Constitution  
44 of the United States.

45 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That this application shall  
46 be considered as covering the same subject matter as the  
47 applications from other states to Congress to call a convention  
48 to set a limit on the number of terms that a person may be  
49 elected to the United States house of representatives and the  
50 United States senate; and this application shall be aggregated  
51 with the same for the purpose of attaining the two-thirds  
52 of states necessary to require Congress to call a limited  
53 convention on this subject, but shall not be aggregated with  
54 any other applications on any other subject.

55 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That this application constitutes  
56 a continuing application in accordance with Article V of the  
57 Constitution of the United States until the legislatures of at  
58 least two-thirds of the several states have made applications  
59 on the same subject.

1

EXPLANATION

2

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

3

4

This resolution constitutes a petition requesting the United  
States Congress to call a constitutional convention for the  
exclusive purpose of proposing an amendment to the Constitution  
of the United States proposing term limits for members of the  
United States senate and house of representatives.

9

The resolution also provides that it shall serve as a  
continuing application to call a constitutional convention,  
until at least two-thirds of the legislatures of the several  
states have made application for a similar convention and the  
convention is convened by Congress. The resolution provides  
that it shall not be aggregated with applications requesting  
that constitutional conventions be called for other reasons.

16

The resolution also requires that the secretary of the Iowa  
senate transmit copies of the resolution to the president and  
secretary of the United States senate, to the speaker, clerk,  
and judiciary committee chairperson of the United States house  
of representatives, to each senator and representative from  
Iowa in the Congress of the United States, and to the presiding  
officers of each legislative body of each of the several  
states, requesting the cooperation of the states in issuing  
an application compelling Congress to call a convention for  
proposing amendments pursuant to Article V of the Constitution  
of the United States.