

Senate Joint Resolution 3 - Introduced

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 3
BY DAWSON

SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION

1 A Joint Resolution proposing amendments to the Constitution of
2 the State of Iowa limiting years of service for members of
3 the general assembly and the governor.

4 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4 of Iowa is repealed and the following adopted in lieu thereof: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 **Sec. 3. Representatives — term limitation.** The members of
6 the house of representatives shall be chosen every second year,
7 by the qualified electors of their respective districts, and
8 their 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 the person serving more than a total of sixteen years
13 in the general assembly. This limitation on years of service
14 applies to terms of office beginning on or after January 1,
15 2024, and for years of service occurring on or after January
16 1, 2024.

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18 of Iowa is repealed and the following adopted in lieu thereof:

19 **Sec. 5. Senators — qualifications — term limitation.**
20 Senators shall be chosen for the term of four years, at
21 the same time and place as representatives; they shall be
22 twenty-five years of age, and possess the qualifications of
23 representatives as to residence and citizenship. A person
24 shall not be elected for a term as senator if the term would
25 result in the person serving more than a total of sixteen years
26 in the general assembly. This limitation on terms of service
27 applies to terms of office beginning on or after January 1,
28 2024, and for years of service occurring on or after January
29 1, 2024.

30 **Sec. 2.** The following amendment to the Constitution of the
31 State of Iowa is proposed:

32 Section 6 of Article IV of the Constitution of the State of
33 Iowa is repealed and the following adopted in lieu thereof:

34 **Sec. 6. Eligibility — term limitation.**

35 No person shall be eligible to the office of governor, or

1 lieutenant governor, who shall not have been a citizen of the
2 United States, and a resident of the state, two years next
3 preceding the election, and attained the age of thirty years
4 at the time of said election.

5 A person shall not be elected for a term as governor if
6 the term would result in the person serving more than a total
7 of two terms as governor. If a person is elevated to serve
8 a portion of a term to which some other person was elected
9 but that person died in office or resigned from office or was
10 otherwise removed from office, that portion of a term served
11 shall not be included in the terms of service for purposes
12 of this limitation if the person did not serve for at least
13 one-half of the four-year term. This limitation on terms
14 of service applies to terms of office beginning on or after
15 January 1, 2024.

16 Sec. 3. REFERRAL AND PUBLICATION. The foregoing amendments
17 to the Constitution of the State of Iowa are referred to the
18 general assembly to be chosen at the next general election
19 for members of the general assembly, and the secretary of
20 state is directed to cause the same to be published for three
21 consecutive months previous to the date of that election as
22 provided by law.

23 EXPLANATION

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

26 This joint resolution proposes two amendments to the
27 Constitution of the State of Iowa limiting years of service for
28 persons elected to the general assembly or the office of the
29 governor.

30 The first amendment provides that a person shall not be
31 elected for a term as a representative or senator if the term
32 would result in the person serving more than 16 years in the
33 general assembly.

34 The second proposed amendment provides that a person shall
35 not be elected for a term as governor if the term would result

1 in the person serving more than two terms as governor. For the
2 purposes of this limitation, a person shall not be considered
3 to have served a term if that person was elevated to serve a
4 portion of a term as governor if that person did not serve at
5 least one-half of the full term.

6 The amendments apply to terms of office beginning on or after
7 January 1, 2024, and for years of service occurring on or after
8 January 1, 2024.

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