

HJR 0659

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House Joint Resolution

A joint resolution proposing an amendment to Section 4 of Article VI and the creation of Section 26 of Article XII of the State Constitution, relating to limitations on the number of consecutive years during which certain elected constitutional officers may hold office before being denied the right to have their names appear on the ballot.

Be It Resolved by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

That the amendment to Section 4 of Article VI and the creation of Section 26 of Article XII of the State Constitution set forth below are agreed to and shall be submitted to the electors of Florida for approval or rejection at the general election to be held in November 2004:

ARTICLE VI

SUFFRAGE AND ELECTIONS

SECTION 4. Disqualifications.--

(a) No person convicted of a felony, or adjudicated in this or any other state to be mentally incompetent, shall be qualified to vote or hold office until restoration of civil rights or removal of disability.

(b) No person may appear on the ballot for re-election to any of the following offices:

- (1) Florida representative,
- (2) Florida senator, or
- (3) ~~Florida Lieutenant governor,~~
- ~~(4) any office of the Florida cabinet,~~
- ~~(5) U.S. Representative from Florida, or~~
- ~~(6) U.S. Senator from Florida~~

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31 if, by the end of the current term of office, the person will
 32 have served (or, but for resignation, would have served) in that
 33 office for twelve ~~eight~~ consecutive years.

34 (c) No person may appear on the ballot for re-election to
 35 the office of Florida lieutenant governor if, by the end of the
 36 current term of office, the person will have served (or, but for
 37 resignation, would have served) in that office for eight
 38 consecutive years.

39 ARTICLE XII

40 SCHEDULE

41 SECTION 26.--The amendment to Section 4 of Article VI
 42 denying ballot access for re-election to any state legislator or
 43 cabinet officer who will have served (or, but for resignation,
 44 would have served) in that office for 12 consecutive years,
 45 rather than 8 consecutive years, shall take effect upon approval
 46 by the voters and shall apply only to those officers whose
 47 consecutive years in office begin in November 2004 or
 48 thereafter.

49 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the title and substance of the
 50 amendment proposed herein shall appear on the ballot as follows:

51 TERM LIMITS

52 Proposes an amendment to Section 4 of Article VI and the
 53 creation of Section 26 of Article XII of the State Constitution
 54 to increase, from 8 to 12, the number of consecutive years a
 55 state legislator or any Cabinet officer may serve in that office
 56 before being denied the right to have his or her name appear on
 57 the ballot for re-election to that office; applies to those
 58 officers whose consecutive years in office begin in November
 59 2004 or thereafter; removes provisions that apply term limits by
 60 means of ballot access to members of Congress, which the United

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61 States Supreme Court has determined violate the Federal
62 Constitution.