

By Senator Sebesta

16-44-05

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Senate Joint Resolution No. _____

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 qualifications of candidates for public office, to increase the time a person may serve as state senator or state representative before being disqualified from a consecutive candidacy.

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

That the following amendment to Section 4 of Article VI and the creation of Section 26 of Article XII of the State Constitution are agreed to and shall be submitted to the electors of this state for approval or rejection at the next general election or at an earlier special election specifically authorized by law for that purpose:

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 reelection ~~re-election~~ to any of the following offices:

- ~~(1) Florida representative,~~
- ~~(2) Florida senator,~~
- ~~(1)(3)~~ Florida Lieutenant governor, or
- ~~(2)(4)~~ any office of the Florida cabinet,

1 ~~(5) U.S. Representative from Florida, or~~

2 ~~(6) U.S. Senator from Florida~~

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4 if, by the end of the current term of office, the person will
5 have served (or, but for resignation, would have served) in
6 that office for eight consecutive years.

7 (c) No person may appear on the ballot for reelection
8 to either of the following offices:

9 (1) Florida representative, or

10 (2) Florida senator

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12 if, by the end of the current term of office, the person will
13 have served (or, but for resignation, would have served) in
14 that office for twelve consecutive years.

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ARTICLE XII

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SCHEDULE

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18 SECTION 26. Term limits.--The amendment to Section 4
19 of Article VI denying ballot access for reelection to any
20 state legislator who will have served, or who but for
21 resignation would have served, in that office for twelve
22 consecutive years, rather than eight consecutive years, shall
23 take effect upon approval by the voters and shall apply only
24 to those officers whose consecutive years in office begin in
November 2006 or thereafter.

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26 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the following statement be
placed on the ballot:

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CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT

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ARTICLE VI, SECTION 4

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ARTICLE XII, SECTION 26

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TERM LIMITS; INCREASED ELIGIBILITY FOR STATE

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LEGISLATIVE OFFICE.--Proposing an amendment to the State

1 Constitution to increase from 8 consecutive years to 12
2 consecutive years the time a person may serve in the office of
3 state senator or state representative before becoming
4 disqualified to appear on the ballot for reelection, with such
5 increase applicable to persons whose consecutive years of
6 office begin in November 2006 or thereafter. The amendment
7 also deletes provisions relating to term limits for members of
8 Congress and U.S. Senators, which provisions have been
9 determined by the U.S. Supreme Court to violate the U.S.
10 Constitution.

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