



CS/HM 81, Engrossed 1

2014

## House Memorial

A memorial to the Congress of the United States,  
applying to Congress to call a convention for the sole  
purpose of proposing an amendment to the Constitution  
of the United States that would limit the consecutive  
terms of office which a member of the United States  
Senate or the United States House of Representatives  
may serve.

WHEREAS Article V of the Constitution of the United States  
requires Congress to call a convention for the sole purpose of  
proposing amendments to the Constitution upon application of  
two-thirds of the states, and

WHEREAS, a continuous and growing concern has been  
expressed that the best interests of this nation will be served  
by limiting the terms of members of Congress, a concern  
expressed by the Founding Fathers and incorporated into the  
Articles of Confederation, and

WHEREAS, the voters of the State of Florida, by the  
gathering of petition signatures, placed on the general election  
ballot of 1992 a measure to limit the consecutive years of  
service for several offices, including the offices of United  
States Senator and United States Representative, and

WHEREAS, the voters of Florida incorporated this limitation  
into the State Constitution as Section 4, Article VI, by an



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26 approval vote that exceeded 76 percent in the general election  
27 of 1992, and

28 WHEREAS, in 1995, the United States Supreme Court ruled in  
29 *U.S. Term Limits, Inc. v. Thornton*, 514 U.S. 779 (1995), a five-  
30 to-four decision, that the individual states did not possess the  
31 requisite authority to establish term limits, or additional  
32 qualifications, for persons elected to the United States Senate  
33 or United States House of Representatives, and

34 WHEREAS, upon reflecting on the intent of the voters of  
35 this state and their overwhelming support of congressional term  
36 limits, the Legislature, in its 114th Regular Session since  
37 Statehood in 1845, did express through a memorial to Congress  
38 the desire to receive an amendment to the Constitution of the  
39 United States to limit the number of consecutive terms that a  
40 person may serve in the United States Senate or the United  
41 States House of Representatives, and

42 WHEREAS, the Legislature, in its 116th Regular Session  
43 since statehood in 1845, does desire to see a convention called  
44 for the sole purpose of proposing such an amendment, NOW,  
45 THEREFORE,

46

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

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49 (1) That the Legislature of the State of Florida hereby  
50 applies to Congress, under the provisions of Article V of the



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51 | Constitution of the United States, to call a convention limited  
52 | to the sole purpose of proposing an amendment to the  
53 | Constitution limiting the number of consecutive terms which a  
54 | person may serve in the United States Senate or the United  
55 | States House of Representative.

56 |       (2) That this application constitutes a continuing  
57 | application in accordance with Article V until the Legislatures  
58 | of at least two-thirds of the states have made application on  
59 | the same subject.

60 |       BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this memorial be  
61 | dispatched to the President of the United States, to the  
62 | President of the United States Senate, to the Speaker of the  
63 | United States House of Representatives, to each member of the  
64 | Florida delegation to the United States Congress, and to the  
65 | presiding officer of each house of the legislature of each  
66 | state.