

COMMITTEE/SUBCOMMITTEE AMENDMENT

Bill No. HJR 679 (2025)

Amendment No.

COMMITTEE/SUBCOMMITTEE ACTION

ADOPTED _____ (Y/N)

ADOPTED AS AMENDED _____ (Y/N)

ADOPTED W/O OBJECTION _____ (Y/N)

FAILED TO ADOPT _____ (Y/N)

WITHDRAWN _____ (Y/N)

OTHER _____

Committee/Subcommittee hearing bill: State Affairs Committee
Representative Salzman offered the following:

Amendment (with title amendment)

Remove everything after the resolving clause and insert:

That the following amendments to Section 1 of Article VIII
and Section 4 of Article IX 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 VIII

LOCAL GOVERNMENT

SECTION 1. Counties.—

(a) POLITICAL SUBDIVISIONS. The state shall be divided by
law into political subdivisions called counties. Counties may be

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17 created, abolished or changed by law, with provision for payment
18 or apportionment of the public debt.

19 (b) COUNTY FUNDS. The care, custody and method of
20 disbursing county funds shall be provided by general law.

21 (c) GOVERNMENT. Pursuant to general or special law, a
22 county government may be established by charter which shall be
23 adopted, amended or repealed only upon vote of the electors of
24 the county in a special election called for that purpose.

25 (d) COUNTY OFFICERS. There shall be elected by the
26 electors of each county, for terms of four years, a sheriff, a
27 tax collector, a property appraiser, a supervisor of elections,
28 and a clerk of the circuit court. Unless otherwise provided by
29 special law approved by vote of the electors or pursuant to
30 Article V, section 16, the clerk of the circuit court shall be
31 ex officio clerk of the board of county commissioners, auditor,
32 recorder and custodian of all county funds. Notwithstanding
33 subsection 6(e) of this article, a county charter may not
34 abolish the office of a sheriff, a tax collector, a property
35 appraiser, a supervisor of elections, or a clerk of the circuit
36 court; transfer the duties of those officers to another officer
37 or office; change the length of the four-year term of office; or
38 establish any manner of selection other than by election by the
39 electors of the county.

40 (e) COMMISSIONERS. Except when otherwise provided by
41 county charter, the governing body of each county shall be a

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board of county commissioners composed of five or seven members serving staggered terms of four years. After each decennial census the board of county commissioners shall divide the county into districts of contiguous territory as nearly equal in population as practicable. One commissioner residing in each district shall be elected as provided by law. Except as may be provided by general law relating to single-member districts after decennial redistricting, a person may not appear on the ballot for re-election as a member of a board of county commissioners if, by the end of his or her current term of office, such person will have served, or, but for resignation, would have served, as a member of the board for eight consecutive years. Service in a term of office which commences on or before November 3, 2026, does not count toward the limitation imposed by this subsection. If a county charter provides that a chairperson or county mayor is elected county-wide, the limitation imposed by this subsection this does not prohibit a term-limited commissioner elected from a single-member district from appearing on the ballot for election as chairperson or county mayor.

(f) NON-CHARTER GOVERNMENT. Counties not operating under county charters shall have such power of self-government as is provided by general or special law. The board of county commissioners of a county not operating under a charter may enact, in a manner prescribed by general law, county ordinances

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not inconsistent with general or special law, but an ordinance in conflict with a municipal ordinance shall not be effective within the municipality to the extent of such conflict.

(g) CHARTER GOVERNMENT. Counties operating under county charters shall have all powers of local self-government not inconsistent with general law, or with special law approved by vote of the electors. The governing body of a county operating under a charter may enact county ordinances not inconsistent with general law. The charter shall provide which shall prevail in the event of conflict between county and municipal ordinances.

(h) TAXES; LIMITATION. Property situate within municipalities shall not be subject to taxation for services rendered by the county exclusively for the benefit of the property or residents in unincorporated areas.

(i) COUNTY ORDINANCES. Each county ordinance shall be filed with the custodian of state records and shall become effective at such time thereafter as is provided by general law.

(j) VIOLATION OF ORDINANCES. Persons violating county ordinances shall be prosecuted and punished as provided by law.

(k) COUNTY SEAT. In every county there shall be a county seat at which shall be located the principal offices and permanent records of all county officers. The county seat may not be moved except as provided by general law. Branch offices for the conduct of county business may be established elsewhere

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92 in the county by resolution of the governing body of the county
93 in the manner prescribed by law. No instrument shall be deemed
94 recorded until filed at the county seat, or a branch office
95 designated by the governing body of the county for the recording
96 of instruments, according to law.

ARTICLE IX

EDUCATION

SECTION 4. School districts; school boards.—

100 (a) Each county shall constitute a school district;
101 provided, two or more contiguous counties, upon vote of the
102 electors of each county pursuant to law, may be combined into
103 one school district. In each school district there shall be a
104 school board composed of five or more members chosen by vote of
105 the electors in a nonpartisan election for appropriately
106 staggered terms of four years, as provided by law. A person may
107 not appear on the ballot for re-election to the office of school
108 board member, if by the end of the current term of office, that
109 person will have served, or, but for resignation, would have
110 served, as a member of the school board for eight consecutive
111 years. Service of a term of office which commenced before
112 November 8, 2022, does not count toward the limitation imposed
113 by this subsection.

114 (b) The school board shall operate, control and supervise
115 all free public schools within the school district and determine
116 the rate of school district taxes within the limits prescribed

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herein. Two or more school districts may operate and finance joint educational programs.

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

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT

ARTICLE VIII, SECTION 1

ARTICLE IX, SECTION 4

TERM LIMITS FOR MEMBERS OF COUNTY COMMISSIONS AND DISTRICT SCHOOL BOARDS.—Proposing amendments to the State Constitution to provide term limits of eight consecutive years for county commissioners for terms that commence after November 3, 2026, and to provide term limits of eight consecutive years for district school board members for terms that begin on or after November 8, 2022, as provided by general law. The amendments provide additional applicability.

T I T L E A M E N D M E N T

Remove everything before the resolving clause and insert:
A joint resolution proposing amendments to Section 1 of Article VIII and Section 4 of Article IX of the State Constitution to provide term limits for members of boards of county commissioners and district school boards; providing applicability.