

By: Slawson

H.J.R. No. 127

A JOINT RESOLUTION

1 proposing a constitutional amendment to limit the time that a
2 person may serve as a member of the Texas Legislature or as a
3 statewide elected officer in the executive branch to 12 consecutive
4 years.

5 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF TEXAS:

6 SECTION 1. Article III, Texas Constitution, is amended by
7 adding Section 7a to read as follows:

8 Sec. 7a. (a) A person may not serve more than 12
9 consecutive years as a member of the house of representatives.

10 (b) A person may not serve more than 12 consecutive years as
11 a member of the senate.

12 (c) A person is not eligible to be elected to office if the
13 person's service during the term of office would violate Subsection
14 (a) or (b) of this section.

15 (d) The limitations provided by Subsections (a) and (b) of
16 this section apply to consecutive service in the same elective
17 office. Service in more than one elective office is not added
18 together for purposes of Subsection (a) or (b) of this section.

19 (e) Nothing in this section prohibits a person from
20 continuing to serve in an office covered by this section after the
21 end of a term as a holdover under Section 17, Article XVI, of this
22 constitution until a successor is qualified.

23 (f) Legislative service before the legislature convenes in
24 regular session in 2025 is not counted in determining whether a

1 person is disqualified from office under this section. This
2 subsection expires January 1, 2038.

3 SECTION 2. Article IV, Texas Constitution, is amended by
4 adding Section 2a to read as follows:

5 Sec. 2a. (a) A person may not serve more than 12
6 consecutive years in an elective office listed in Section 1 of this
7 article or any other state office elected by the voters at a
8 statewide election, other than a judicial office.

9 (b) A person is not eligible to be elected to office if the
10 person's service during the term of office would violate Subsection
11 (a) of this section.

12 (c) The limitation provided by Subsection (a) of this
13 section applies to consecutive service in the same elective office.
14 Service in more than one elective office is not added together for
15 purposes of Subsection (a) of this section.

16 (d) Nothing in this section prohibits a person from
17 continuing to serve in an office covered by this section after the
18 end of a term as a holdover under Section 17, Article XVI, of this
19 constitution until a successor is qualified.

20 (e) Service in office before January 19, 2027, does not
21 count for purposes of determining whether a person is disqualified
22 from office under this section. This subsection expires January 1,
23 2036.

24 SECTION 3. This proposed constitutional amendment shall be
25 submitted to the voters at an election to be held November 7, 2023.
26 The ballot shall be printed to provide for voting for or against the
27 following proposition: "The constitutional amendment to limit the

1 time that a person may serve as a member of the Texas Legislature or
2 as a statewide elected officer in the executive branch to 12
3 consecutive years."