86R12362 BEF-D

By:  Biedermann H.J.R. No. 98

A JOINT RESOLUTION

proposing a constitutional amendment to limit the time that a person may serve as a member of the Texas Legislature or as a statewide elected officer in the executive branch.

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

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

Sec. 7a. (a)  A person is not eligible to be elected to the house of representatives if, before the date of the election, the person has served as a member of the house during all or part of six regular sessions of the legislature.

(b)  A person is not eligible to be elected to the senate if, before the date of the election, the person has served as a member of the senate during all or part of six regular sessions of the legislature. This subsection does not prohibit a person who has served as a member of the senate during all or part of five regular sessions of the legislature from being elected to or serving a four-year term in the senate even though at the end of that term the person will have served during all or part of more than six regular sessions.

(c)  Legislative service before the legislature convenes in regular session in 2021 is not counted in determining whether a person is disqualified from election to office under this section.

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

Sec. 2a. (a)  A person is not eligible for election or appointment to an elective office listed in Section 1 of this article or to any other state office elected by the voters at a statewide election, other than a judicial office, if on the date of the election or appointment the person has served in that office during any part of each of 12 or more calendar years.

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

(c)  For purposes of this section, a calendar year begins January 1 and ends December 31.

(d)  Service in office before January 1, 2021, does not count for purposes of determining whether a person is disqualified from office under this section.

SECTION 3.   This proposed constitutional amendment shall be submitted to the voters at an election to be held November 5, 2019. The ballot shall be printed to provide for voting for or against the following proposition:  "The constitutional amendment to limit the time that a person may serve as a member of the Texas Legislature or as a statewide elected officer in the executive branch."