

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA

SESSION 1995

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HOUSE BILL 12  
Committee Substitute Favorable 5/4/95  
Third Edition Engrossed 5/9/95

Short Title: Term Limits.

(Public)

Sponsors:

Referred to:

January 26, 1995

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT TO AMEND THE CONSTITUTION OF NORTH CAROLINA TO LIMIT MEMBERS OF THE LEGISLATURE TO SIX CONSECUTIVE TERMS IN A HOUSE.

The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

Section 1. Article II of the Constitution of North Carolina is amended by adding a new section to read:

"Sec. 25. Limitation of consecutive terms.

(1) No person shall be eligible for election to more than six consecutive terms as a member of the House of Representatives, nor be eligible for election to more than six consecutive terms as a member of the Senate. If a person fills a vacancy, it shall be considered as election to a term for the purpose of this section if the person takes office during the first calendar year of the term.

(2) Effectiveness. Terms of office commencing prior to January 1, 1996, shall be considered for the purpose of this section except that this section does not forbid any person in office on that date from either:

(a) Completing that term of office; or

(b) Being elected to the term of office beginning January 1, 1997,

1 or both.

2 (3) A person disqualified by this section from election to the next succeeding term  
3 as a member of the House of Representatives may not fill a vacancy in that body in the  
4 succeeding term. A person disqualified by this section from election to the next  
5 succeeding term as a member of the Senate may not fill a vacancy in that body in the  
6 succeeding term."

7 Sec. 2. The amendment set out in Section 1 of this act shall be submitted to the  
8 qualified voters of the State at the general election in November 1996, which election  
9 shall be conducted under the laws then governing elections in the State. Ballots, voting  
10 systems, or both may be used in accordance with Chapter 163 of the General Statutes.  
11 The question to be used in the voting systems and ballots shall be:

12 **"[ ] FOR [ ] AGAINST**

13 **Constitutional amendment limiting members to six consecutive terms in the**  
14 **Senate or House of Representatives."**

15 Sec. 3. If a majority of the votes cast on the question are in favor of the  
16 amendment set out in Section 1 of this act, the State Board of Elections shall certify the  
17 amendment to the Secretary of State. The amendment becomes effective January 1,  
18 1997. The Secretary of State shall enroll the amendment so certified among the  
19 permanent records of that office.

20 Sec. 4. This act is effective upon ratification.