

State of Vermont Senate Chamber



Montpelier, Vermont

Joint Senate Resolution

By Senators Ingram, Balint, Collamore, and McNeil,

J.R.S. 42. Joint resolution relating to an application of the Vermont General Assembly for Congress to call a convention for proposing an amendment to the U.S. Constitution.

Whereas, in a bipartisan survey that the research firm McLaughlin & Associates conducted, 82 percent of the respondents indicated they strongly supported congressional term limits, while 73 percent were more likely to vote for a congressional candidate who supports term limits, and 42 percent were much more likely to do so, and

Whereas, congressional incumbents who remain in office for decades can become unrepresentative of their districts, the populations of which, over time, may become younger and more economically and racially diverse than their elected federal representatives, and

Whereas, allowing incumbents to remain in office indefinitely results in their becoming entrenched in powerful roles, and this is in direct opposition to the democratic ideal of providing legitimate opportunities for the election of new candidates who can bring fresh ideas to the halls of Congress, *now therefore be it*

Resolved by the Senate and House of Representatives:

That the General Assembly, pursuant to Article V of the U.S. Constitution, petitions the U.S. Congress to call a convention for the sole purpose of proposing an amendment to the Constitution of the United States of America that would place limitations on the number of terms that members of the U.S. House and Senate may serve, *and be it further*

Resolved: That this application shall not be considered by the U.S. Congress until 33 other states submit petitions for the same purpose as Vermont proposes and unless Congress determines that the scope of the amendment to the Constitution of the United States to be considered at the convention shall be limited to the same purpose that Vermont is proposing, *and be it further*

Resolved: That this application constitutes a continuing application in accordance with Article V of the U.S. Constitution until the legislatures of at least two-thirds of the states have made applications on the same subject, *and be it further*

Resolved: That the Secretary of State be directed to send a copy of this resolution to the Vice President of the United States, the President Pro Tempore and Secretary of the U.S. Senate, the Chair of the U.S. Senate Committee on the Judiciary, the Speaker of the U.S. House of Representatives, the Clerk of the U. S. House of Representatives, the Chair of the U.S. House Committee on the Judiciary, the Archivist of the United States, and the Vermont Congressional Delegation.