

1 H.246

2 Introduced by Representative Rosenquist of Georgia

3 Referred to Committee on

4 Date:

5 Subject: Elections; conduct of elections; legislative elections; term limits

6 Statement of purpose of bill as introduced: This bill proposes to require  
7 legislative canvassing committees to declare a vacancy if the person receiving  
8 the largest number of votes will exceed a term limit of five terms in the  
9 legislative chamber for which the person received the largest number of votes  
10 or a total of 16 years of combined service in both legislative chambers.

11 An act relating to imposing legislative term limits

12 It is hereby enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Vermont:

13 Sec. 1. 17 V.S.A. § 2592 is amended to read:

14 § 2592. CANVASSING COMMITTEES; CANVASS OF VOTES IN  
15 GENERAL OR SPECIAL ELECTIONS

16 \* \* \*

17 (c) For State Senator, the senatorial district clerk and the chair of the  
18 county committee of each major political party (or designee) in the county for  
19 which the senatorial district clerk is clerk shall constitute a canvassing  
20 committee to receive and tally returns and issue certificates.

1 (d) For State Representative, the representative district clerk and one other  
2 election official from the district shall serve as a canvassing committee to  
3 receive and, if necessary, tally returns and issue certificates.

4 \* \* \*

5 (h)(1) The Except as provided in subsection (k) of this section, the  
6 canvassing committee shall declare the person receiving the largest number of  
7 votes for each office to be elected, and it shall issue a certificate of election,  
8 signed by a majority of the canvassing committee, in substantially the  
9 following form:

10 \* \* \*

11 (j) The certificate shall be a sufficient credential of such person's election,  
12 unless superseded by a court order as provided by subchapter 9 of this chapter.

13 (k)(1)(A) In the case of the State offices, the canvassing committee shall  
14 prepare a certificate of election but shall not sign it.

15 ~~(2)(B)~~ The prepared certificate shall be presented to the official  
16 canvassing committee appointed by the General Assembly, pursuant to  
17 Chapter II, § 47 of the ~~Constitution of the State of Vermont~~ Constitution, for  
18 their use if they desire.

19 (2) In the case of the offices of State Representative and State Senator,  
20 the canvassing committee shall declare a vacancy if the person receiving the

1 largest number of votes will exceed either of the following term limits based  
2 on prior legislative service:

3 (A) five terms in the legislative chamber for which the person  
4 received the largest number of votes; or

5 (B) a total of 16 years of combined service in both legislative  
6 chambers.

7 \* \* \*

8 (m) Each canvassing committee shall file a report of its findings with the  
9 Secretary of State, who shall preserve the reports as permanent records.

10 Sec. 2. EFFECTIVE DATE

11 This act shall take effect on passage.