

Reference:

Article IV, Section 4

Ballot Title:

LIMITED POLITICAL TERMS IN CERTAIN ELECTIVE OFFICES

Ballot Summary:

Limits terms by prohibiting incumbents who have held the same elective office for the preceding eight years from appearing on the ballot for re-election to that office. Offices covered are: Florida Representative and Senator, Lieutenant Governor, Florida Cabinet, and U.S. Senator and Representative. Terms of office beginning before amendment approval are not counted.

Full Text:

The people of Florida believe that politicians who remain in elective office too long may become preoccupied with re-election and beholden to special interests and bureaucrats, and that present limitations on the President of the United States and Governor of Florida show that term limitations can increase voter participation, citizen involvement in government, and the number of persons who will run for elective office.

Therefore, to the extent permitted by the Constitution of the United States, the people of Florida, exercising their reserved powers, hereby declare that:

1) Article VI, section 4 of the Constitution of the State of Florida is hereby amended by:

a) inserting "(a)" before the first word thereof and,

b. adding a new sub-section "(b)" at the end thereof to read:

"(b)" No person may appear on the ballot for re-election to any of the following offices:

"(1) Florida representative, "(4) any office of the Florida cabinet,

"(2) Florida senator, "(5) U.S. Representative from Florida, or

"(3) Florida Lieutenant governor, "(6) U.S. Senator from Florida

"If, by the end of the current term of office, the person will have served (or, but for resignation, would have served) in that office for eight consecutive years."

2) This amendment shall take effect on the date it is approved by the electorate, but no service in a term of office which commenced prior to the effective date of this amendment will be counted against the limit in the prior sentence.

If any portion of this measure is held invalid for any reason, the remaining portion of this measure, to the fullest extent possible, shall be severed from the void portion and given the fullest possible force

and application. The people of Florida declare their intention that persons elected to offices of public trust will continue voluntarily to observe the wishes of the people as stated in this initiative in the event any provision of this initiative is held invalid.