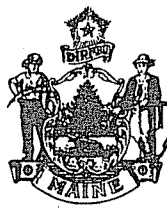


MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

The following document is provided by the
LAW AND LEGISLATIVE DIGITAL LIBRARY
at the Maine State Law and Legislative Reference Library
<http://legislature.maine.gov/lawlib>



Reproduced from scanned originals with text recognition applied
(searchable text may contain some errors and/or omissions)



116th MAINE LEGISLATURE

SECOND REGULAR SESSION-1994

Legislative Document

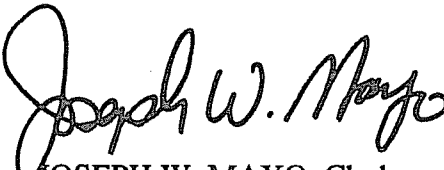
No. 1983

Initiated Bill 2

House of Representatives, March 25, 1994

An Act to Impose Term Limits on Members of the United States Congress.

Transmitted to the Clerk of the House of the 116th Maine Legislature by the Secretary of State on March 17, 1994 and 1,200 ordered printed.


JOSEPH W. MAYO, Clerk

2 Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine as follows:

4 Sec. 1. 21-A MRSA c. 5, sub-c. VI is enacted to read:

6 SUBCHAPTER VI

8 CANDIDATES FOR THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS:
THE UNITED STATES HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
AND THE UNITED STATES SENATE

10 §421. Limitations on candidates for Congress: the United States
House of Representatives and the United States Senate

14 1. Short title. This Act may be known and cited as the
"Maine Congressional Term Limitations Act of 1994."

18 2. Purpose and intent. The People of the State of Maine
declare their purpose and intent in enacting this legislation to
be as follows.

22 A. To prevent potential corruption in office by limiting
the number of terms Representatives and Senators may hold
the same office.

26 B. To preserve the integrity of the ballot by limiting the
corrupting influence and dominance of special interests upon
entrenched incumbents.

30 C. To defend their right to stand for and hold public
office by encouraging a larger selection of candidates, and
by curtailing the effects of entrenched incumbency, which
discourages competitive elections, particularly in primaries.

34 D. To protect and defend their right to equal protection of
the laws by giving more citizens of this state the
opportunity to stand for and hold public office.

38 E. To ensure that those who are elected to Congress will
return to private life to live in this state under the laws
they have made while serving in Congress.

42 3. Ballot access. Notwithstanding any other provision of
law, the Secretary of State, or other election official
authorized by law, may not accept or verify the signatures on any
nomination paper for any person or certify, place on the list of
certified candidates or print or cause to be printed on any
ballot, ballot pamphlet, sample ballot or ballot label the name
of any person who:

50 A. Seeks to become a candidate for a seat in the United
States House of Representatives and who has served, or but

2 for resignation would have served, as a member of the United
4 States House of Representatives representing any portion or
district of this State during 6 or more of the previous 11
years; or

6 B. Seeks to become a candidate for a seat in the United
8 States Senate and who has served, or but for resignation
10 would have served, as a member of the United States Senate
representing the State during 12 or more of the previous 17
years.

12 4. Construction. The provisions of this section must be
14 construed as follows:

16 A. This section may not be construed to prevent or prohibit
18 a qualified voter of this State from casting a ballot for
any person by writing the name of that person on the ballot
or from having such a ballot counted or tabulated.

20 B. This section may not be construed to prevent or prohibit
22 a person from standing or campaigning for any elective
office by means of a write-in campaign.

24 C. This section may not be construed to prevent or prohibit
26 the name of any person from appearing on the ballot at any
28 direct primary or general election unless that person's name
is specifically prohibited from appearing on that ballot by
the provisions of subsection 3 and to that end subsection 3
must be strictly construed.

30 **Sec. 2. Application.** This Act applies to federal
32 congressional candidates whose terms of office begin on or after
34 January 1, 1995. Service in the United States Congress prior to
January 1, 1994 may not be counted for the purposes of this Act.

36 This section does not preclude or prohibit a person from
38 seeking nomination or election to any other office for which a
term limit or ballot access restriction is not applicable.

40
42 **STATEMENT OF FACT**

44 This bill prohibits a person from becoming a candidate for
46 the United States House of Representatives if that person served
48 in that body during 6 or more of the previous 11 years or for the
United States Senate if that person served in that body during 12
or more of the previous 17 years. The bill applies only to
federal congressional candidates whose terms begin on or after
January 1, 1995.