

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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STATE OF MAINE  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
118TH LEGISLATURE  
FIRST SPECIAL SESSION

HOUSE AMENDMENT "A" to COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to S.P. 89, L.D. 269, "RESOLUTION, Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution of Maine to Provide 4-year Terms for Senators and Members of the House of Representatives"

Amend the amendment by striking out the substitute title and replacing it with the following:

'RESOLUTION, Proposing an Amendment to the Constitution of Maine to Provide 4-year Terms for Members of the House of Representatives and Proposing to Limit the Number of Consecutive Terms a Senator or a Member of the House of Representatives May Serve'

Further amend the amendment by striking out all of section 4 (page 1, lines 42 to 48 and page 2, lines 1 to 4 in amendment) and inserting in its place the following:

'Section 4. Time of state election; absentee voting. The election of Senators and Representatives shall be on the Tuesday following the first Monday of November biennially forever and the election of Governor and members of the House of Representatives shall be on the Tuesday following the first Monday of November every 4 years. The Legislature under proper enactment shall authorize and provide for voting by citizens of the State absent therefrom in the Armed Forces of the United States or of this State and for voting by other citizens absent or physically incapacitated for reasons deemed sufficient.'

Further amend the amendment by striking out all of section 4-A (page 2, lines 8 to 14 in amendment) and inserting in its place the following:

HOUSE AMENDMENT

2        'Section 4-A. Term limits. A person who has served 2  
 4        consecutive 4-year terms as a member of the House of  
 6        Representatives is not eligible to serve a 3rd consecutive term  
 8        as a member of that body. A person who has served 2 years or  
        more of a 4-year term in the House of Representatives is  
        considered to have served a full term for purposes of this  
        section.

10        A person who has served 4 consecutive terms as a member of  
 12        the House of Representatives as of the end of the 119th  
 14        Legislature is not eligible to serve in the House of  
 16        Representatives in the 120th Legislature. A person who has  
        served 2 or 3 consecutive terms as a member of the House of  
        Representatives as of the end of the 119th Legislature is  
        eligible to serve only one additional consecutive term in the  
        House of Representatives.'

18        Further amend the amendment on page 2 by striking out all of  
 20        the 3rd and 4th indented paragraphs (page 2, lines 16 to 28 in  
 22        amendment) and inserting in their place the following:

24        'Constitution, Art. IV, Part First, §5, as amended by CR 1987, c.  
        4, is further amended to read:

26        Section 5. Election of Representatives; lists of votes  
 28        delivered forthwith; lists of votes examined by Governor; summons  
 30        of persons who appear to be elected; lists shall be laid before  
 32        the House. The meetings within this State for the choice of  
 34        Representatives shall be warned in due course of law by qualified  
 36        officials of the several towns and cities 7 days at least before  
 38        the election, and the election officials of the various towns and  
 40        cities shall preside impartially at such meetings, receive the  
 42        votes of all the qualified electors, sort, count and declare them  
 44        in open meeting; and a list of the persons voted for shall be  
 46        formed, with the number of votes for each person against that  
 48        person's name. Cities and towns belonging to any Representative  
 50        District shall hold their meetings at the same time in the  
        respective cities and towns; and such meetings shall be notified,  
        held and regulated, the votes received, sorted, counted and  
        declared in the same manner. Fair copies of the lists of votes  
        shall be attested by the municipal officers and the clerks of the  
        cities and towns and the city and town clerks respectively shall  
        cause the same to be delivered into the office of the Secretary  
        of State forthwith. The Governor shall examine the returned  
        copies of such lists and 7 days before the first Wednesday of  
        December ~~biennially~~ quadrennially, shall issue a summons to such  
        persons as shall appear to have been elected by a plurality of  
        all votes returned, to attend and take their seats. All such  
        lists shall be laid before the House of Representatives on the

2 first Wednesday of December ~~biennially~~ quadrennially, and they shall finally determine who are elected.'

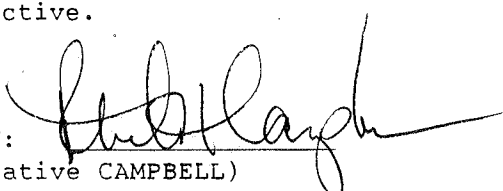
4 Further amend the amendment by striking out all of section  
6 6-A (page 2, lines 32 to 44 in amendment) and inserting in its place the following:

8 'Section 6-A. Term limit. A person who has served 4  
10 consecutive terms as a member of the Senate is not eligible to  
12 serve a 5th consecutive term as a member of that body. A person  
14 who has served one year or more as a member of the Senate is  
considered to have served a full term for purposes of this  
section. Terms served prior to the effective date of this  
section are included in the 4-term limit under this section.'

16 Further amend the amendment in the question in the 3rd line  
18 (page 3, line 10 in amendment) by striking out the following:  
20 "State Senators" and inserting in its place the following:  
'members of the State House of Representatives'

22 **SUMMARY**

24 This amendment replaces the constitutional resolution. It  
26 provides 4-year terms for members of the House of  
Representatives, beginning in 1998. It retains the portion of the  
committee amendment that adds term limits to the Constitution of  
28 Maine for both Senators and members of the House of  
Representatives. Members of the House of Representatives are  
30 limited to 2 consecutive 4-year terms; Senators are limited to 4  
consecutive 2-year terms. Members of the House of  
32 Representatives who serve 2 years or more are considered to have  
served a full term. Senators are considered to have served a  
34 full term if they serve one year or more. It adds transition  
language that explains the application of the new constitutional  
36 term limits for persons who have served in the Senate or House  
prior to the legislative year in which the constitutional change  
38 becomes effective.

40  
42 SPONSORED BY:   
44 (Representative CAMPBELL)

46 TOWN: Holden