

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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M
R. O. S.

L.D. 901

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DATE: 6-4-01

(Filing No. H-677)

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8 the House.

10 **STATE OF MAINE**
12 **HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**
14 **120TH LEGISLATURE**
16 **FIRST REGULAR SESSION**

18 HOUSE AMENDMENT "B" to H.P. 697, L.D. 901, Bill, "An Act to
20 Amend the Laws Governing Term Limits"

22 Amend the bill by striking out everything after the enacting
24 clause and before the summary and inserting in its place the
26 following:

28 **Sec. 1. 21-A MRSA §553, sub-§§1 and 2,** as enacted by I.B.
30 1993, c. 1, §1 and affected by §2, are amended to read:

32 **1. State Senate.** A person may not serve more than 4
34 consecutive terms as a state Senator, except that, beginning with
36 consecutive terms of office the first term of which starts on or
after December 4, 2002, a person may not serve more than 6
consecutive terms as a state Senator.

38 **2. State Representative.** A person may not serve more than
40 4 consecutive terms as a member of the state House of
42 Representatives, except that, beginning with consecutive terms of
44 office the first term of which starts on or after December 4,
46 2002, a person may not serve more than 6 consecutive terms as a
member of the House of Representatives.

**Sec. 2. Statutory referendum procedure; submission at statewide
election; form of question; effective date.** This Act must be submitted
to the legal voters of the State of Maine at a statewide election
held on the Tuesday following the first Monday of November
following passage of this Act. The municipal officers of this
State shall notify the inhabitants of their respective cities,
towns and plantations to meet, in the manner prescribed by law
for holding a statewide election, to vote on the acceptance or
rejection of this Act by voting on the following question:

"Do you want to increase the number of consecutive terms for state Legislators from 4 to 6 terms?"

The legal voters of each city, town and plantation shall vote by ballot on this question, and shall designate their choice by a cross or check mark placed within a corresponding square below the word "Yes" or "No." The ballots must be received, sorted, counted and declared in open ward, town and plantation meetings and returns made to the Secretary of State in the same manner as votes for members of the Legislature. The Governor shall review the returns and, if it appears that a majority of the legal votes are cast in favor of the Act, the Governor shall proclaim that fact without delay, and the Act takes effect 30 days after the date of the proclamation.

The Secretary of State shall prepare and furnish to each city, town and plantation all ballots, returns and copies of this Act necessary to carry out the purpose of this referendum.'

FISCAL NOTE

The estimated cost of sending this measure out to referendum will vary according to the total number of referenda enacted during the First Regular Session of the 120th Legislature to be submitted to the voters in November. The estimated cost to the Secretary of State if one to 6 referenda are enacted is \$121,392. Each additional referendum costs an additional \$8,000.

SUMMARY

This amendment replaces the bill. Under this amendment:

1. The provisions of the bill extending the limit on terms for state Legislators are retained, except this amendment clarifies that the increase in term limits from 4 to 6 terms applies only to consecutive terms for state Senators and members of the state House of Representatives that begin in the 121st Legislature;

2. The provisions of the bill increasing the length of term limits for constitutional officers and the State Auditor are eliminated; and

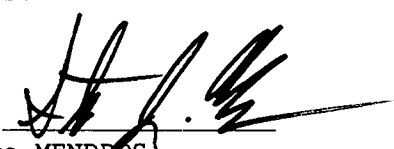
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HOUSE AMENDMENT "B" to H.P. 697, L.D. 901

2 3. The referendum question is amended to apply only to
state Legislators.

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SPONSORED BY: 
(Representative MENDEROS)

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10 TOWN: Lewiston

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HOUSE AMENDMENT