

# MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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L.D. 1273

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DATE: 6/13/03

(Filing No. H-597)

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**STATE OF MAINE  
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
121ST LEGISLATURE  
FIRST REGULAR SESSION**

HOUSE AMENDMENT "C" to H.P. 945, L.D. 1273, Bill, "An Act To Extend Term Limits"

Amend the bill in section 1 in that part designated "**§553.**" by striking out all of subsections 3 to 6 and the last indented paragraph (page 1, lines 18 to 31 in L.D.) and inserting in their place the following:

**'3. Secretary of State.** A person may not serve more than 4 consecutive terms as Secretary of State.

**4. Treasurer of State.** A person may not serve more than 4 consecutive terms as Treasurer of State.

**5. Attorney General.** A person may not serve more than 4 consecutive terms as Attorney General.

**6. State Auditor.** A person may not serve more than 2 consecutive terms as State Auditor.

~~This section applies~~ Subsections 3 to 6 apply to terms of office that begin on or after December 3, 1996 and subsections 1 and 2 apply to terms of office that begin on or after December 1, 2004.

Further amend the bill by striking out all of section 2 and inserting in its place the following:

**'Sec. 2. Statutory referendum procedure; submission at statewide election; form of question; effective date.** This Act takes effect when approved only for the purpose of permitting its submission to the legal voters of the State 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 general election, to vote on the acceptance or rejection of this Act by voting on the following question:

**HOUSE AMENDMENT**

2005

2 "Do you favor extending term limits for state Legislators  
4 from 8 years to 12 years, with the exception that this  
6 extension does not apply to those current officeholders who  
are precluded from running for that office in the 2004  
election?"

8 The legal voters of each city, town and plantation shall  
10 vote by ballot on this question and designate their choice by a  
cross or check mark placed within a corresponding square below  
12 the word "Yes" or "No." The ballots must be received, sorted,  
counted and declared in open ward, town and plantation meetings  
14 and returns made to the Secretary of State in the same manner as  
votes for members of the Legislature. The Governor shall review  
16 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  
18 fact without delay, and the Act takes effect 30 days after the  
date of the proclamation.

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

24 **Sec. 3. Application.** Any person who was elected to serve in  
26 the 118th Legislature and who is serving in that same elective  
office without a break during the 121st Legislature is ineligible  
28 to run for that same office in 2004. Any person who was elected  
to office after the 118th Legislature is subject to the  
30 6-consecutive-term limit imposed by this Act.'

32 **SUMMARY**

34 Under this amendment, the term limits in current law do not  
36 change for the Secretary of State, Treasurer of State, Attorney  
General and State Auditor elected or reelected to office  
38 beginning with the 122nd Legislature.

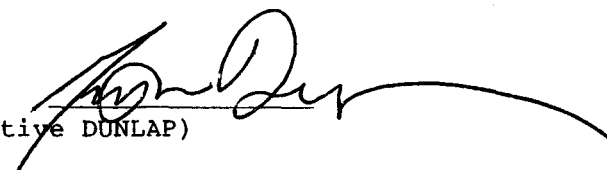
40 This amendment clarifies that the extension of term limits  
42 proposed in the bill, as amended, does not apply to those  
Legislators who were elected to their offices in the 118th  
44 Legislature and who are still serving in those offices. The  
effect of this is to continue the ineligibility of any Legislator

2018

HOUSE AMENDMENT "C" to H.P. 945, L.D. 1273

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who would be unable to run for that same office in 2004 under the current law. This amendment also changes the referendum question to reflect this limitation.

SPONSORED BY:   
(Representative DUNLAP)

TOWN: Old Town

# HOUSE AMENDMENT