

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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2003

L.D. 1273

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DATE: 6-13-03

(Filing No. S-314)

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**STATE OF MAINE
SENATE
121ST LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION**

SENATE AMENDMENT "B" 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:

SENATE AMENDMENT

2 "Do you support revising Maine's term limits law to provide
4 a balance of new and experienced members by extending the
limit of legislative service from 4 2-year terms to 6 2-year
terms, beginning with the 122nd Legislature?"

6
8 The legal voters of each city, town and plantation shall
vote by ballot on this question and designate their choice by a
cross or check mark placed within a corresponding square below
10 the word "Yes" or "No." The ballots must be received, sorted,
counted and declared in open ward, town and plantation meetings
12 and returns made to the Secretary of State in the same manner as
votes for members of the Legislature. The Governor shall review
14 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
16 fact without delay, and the Act takes effect 30 days after the
date of the proclamation.

18
20 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 purposes of this referendum.

22
24 **Sec. 3. Application.** The 6-consecutive-term limit imposed by
this Act for Legislators applies to any person elected or
reelected to office beginning with the 122nd Legislature.'

26
28 **SUMMARY**

30 This amendment clarifies the referendum question and
specifies that the extension of term limits applies only to
32 Legislators. Under this amendment, the term limits in current
law do not change for the Secretary of State, Treasurer of State,
34 Attorney General and State Auditor elected or reelected to office
beginning with the 122nd Legislature.

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42 SPONSORED BY: 
(Senator GAGNON)

44 COUNTY: Kennebec
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