

MAINE STATE LEGISLATURE

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Date: 6/8/07

Majority

L.D. 1550
(Filing No. H-506)

STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENT

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STATE OF MAINE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
123RD LEGISLATURE
FIRST REGULAR SESSION

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT "A" to H.P. 1075, L.D. 1550, Bill, "An Act To Amend the Term Limitation Laws for State Legislators"

Amend the bill by striking out all of sections 1 and 2 and inserting the following:

'Sec. 1. 3 MRSA §21-A, as enacted by PL 1993, c. 403, §1 and affected by §3, is amended to read:

§21-A. President of Senate; term limitation

A person may not serve as President of the Senate for more than ~~3~~ 8 consecutive legislative ~~bienniums~~ years. Service in that capacity before December 2, ~~1992~~ 2014 is not included in the calculation of years served. The President of the Senate is determined at the beginning of the first regular session and again at the beginning of the next odd-numbered regular session of the Legislature.

Sec. 2. 3 MRSA §41-A, as enacted by PL 1993, c. 403, §2 and affected by §3, is amended to read:

§41-A. Speaker of House of Representatives; term limitation

A person may not serve as Speaker of the House of Representatives for more than ~~3~~ 8 consecutive legislative ~~bienniums~~ years. Service in that capacity before December 2, ~~1992~~ 2014 is not included in the calculation of years served. The Speaker of the House of Representatives is determined at the beginning of the first regular session and again at the beginning of the next odd-numbered regular session of the Legislature.

Amend the bill by striking out all of sections 5 and 6 and inserting the following:

'Sec. 5. 21-A MRSA §553, sub-§2-A is enacted to read:

2-A. State Legislators. Beginning with terms of office that begin on or after December 2, 2014, a person may not serve:

A. More than 2 consecutive terms as a State Senator; or

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1 B. More than 2 consecutive terms as a member of the House of Representatives.

2 **Sec. 6. Contingent effective date.** This Act takes effect only if a resolution
3 proposing an amendment to the Constitution of Maine takes effect to increase terms for
4 Senators and members of the House of Representatives from 2 years to 4 years beginning
5 with the general election held in 2014.'

6 **SUMMARY**

7 This amendment amends the term limit laws to maintain the current maximum of 8
8 years in each chamber rather than the 16 years proposed by the bill. Like the bill, this
9 amendment is contingent upon a constitutional amendment's being adopted and ratified at
10 referendum to increase the number of years for a legislative term from 2 years to 4 years
11 and would not take effect until the 2014 general election. The amendment also requires
12 the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the House to be reelected by their
13 respective chambers at the beginning of the next odd-numbered regular session of the
14 Legislature, which, if the constitutional amendment increasing the length of a legislative
15 term is ratified, would be the third regular session.