

SHORT TITLE: State question; limiting congressional seats to a twelve-year period; ballot title; filing.

STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2nd Session of the 44th Legislature (1994)

SENATE JOINT
RESOLUTION NO. 29

By: Rubottom

AS INTRODUCED

A Joint Resolution directing the Secretary of State to refer to the people for their approval or rejection a proposed amendment to the Oklahoma Constitution by adding a new section to Article II to be designated as Section 12A; limiting congressional terms; providing exceptions to limitation on terms; providing ballot title; and directing filing.

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE AND THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
2ND SESSION OF THE 44TH OKLAHOMA LEGISLATURE:

SECTION 1. The Secretary of State shall refer to the people for their approval or rejection, as and in the manner provided by law, the following proposed amendment to Article II of the Constitution of the State of Oklahoma by adding a new Section 12A to read as follows:

Section 12A. Beginning January 1, 1995 persons wanting to become a candidate for election to the United States Congress from this state for a term beginning on or after January 1, 1995, shall be subject to the following provisions:

A. Any person seeking to have his or her name placed on the ballot for election to the United States House of Representatives shall be ineligible if, by the end of the then current term of office, that person has served in that office for three (3) two-year terms.

B. Any person seeking to have his or her name placed on the ballot for election to the United States Senate shall be ineligible

if, by the end of the then current term of office, that person has served in that office for two (2) six-year terms.

C. A person elected to serve as a member of the United States Congress shall be eligible to serve as a Representative for a total of six (6) years and as a Senator for a total of twelve (12) years for a maximum total of eighteen (18) years as a member of Congress from this state.

D. The provisions of this section shall not be applicable to or include:

1. The years served by any person as a member of the United States House of Representatives or as a member of the United States Senate which began prior to the election at which this measure was enacted.

2. The years served by a person who has been appointed to complete the remainder of a vacated term.

E. The provisions of this section shall not be construed so as to prevent casting a ballot for any person regardless of the number of years previously served in the United States Congress by writing the name of that person on the ballot, or from having such ballot counted or to prevent a person from campaigning by means of a "write-in" campaign if that procedure is otherwise authorized in this Constitution or by law.

SECTION 2. The Ballot Title for the proposed Constitutional amendment as set forth in SECTION 1 of this resolution shall be in the following form:

BALLOT TITLE

Legislative Referendum No. _____ State Question No. _____

THE GIST OF THE PROPOSITION IS AS FOLLOWS:

This measure amends Article 2 of the State Constitution. It adds a new Section 12A. The new section makes persons eligible as candidates for the United States Congress based on the number of years elected to serve. It makes a person not eligible to

appear on the ballot for election to Congress if that person has served as a Representative for three (3) two-year terms, or as a Senator for two (2) six-year terms, or both for a total of eighteen (18) years. The new section excludes the years served by a member of Congress prior to the election at which the measure was enacted. The measure also excludes the number of years served by a person appointed to complete a term. It does not prevent casting a write-in ballot. It does not prevent the write-in ballot from being counted in spite of the number of years that the person has been elected to serve. It does not prevent a person from campaigning on a write-in campaign if the write-in campaign is allowed in the Constitution or by law.

SHALL THIS AMENDMENT BE APPROVED BY THE PEOPLE?

 / YES, FOR THE AMENDMENT

 / NO, AGAINST THE AMENDMENT

SECTION 3. The President Pro Tempore of the Senate shall, immediately after the passage of this resolution, prepare and file one copy thereof, including the Ballot Title set forth in SECTION 2 hereof, with the Secretary of State and one copy with the Attorney General.

44-2-2090

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