

1 ENGROSSED HOUSE AMENDMENT  
TO  
2 ENGROSSED SENATE BILL NO. 1987

By: Laughlin and Brogdon of  
the Senate

3  
4 and

Blackwell of the House  
5  
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8 ( proposed amendments - Constitution of the State of  
9 Oklahoma - limiting years of service - ballot  
10 title -  
11 filing )  
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14 AUTHORS: Remove Blackwell as principal House Author and substitute  
15 Worthen as principal House Author and show Blackwell as  
16 first Coauthor and add the following House Coauthors:  
Piatt, Johnson (Rob), Reynolds, Terrill, Kern, and Murphey

17 AMENDMENT NO. 1. Strike the stricken title, enacting clause and  
18 entire bill and insert

19 "An Act directing the Secretary of State to refer to  
20 the people for their approval or rejection proposed  
21 amendments to Sections 4 and 23 of Article VI and  
22 Section 15 of Article IX of the Constitution of the  
23 State of Oklahoma; limiting the term of office of  
24 certain elected officials; providing ballot title;  
and directing filing.

1 BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF OKLAHOMA:

2 SECTION 1. The Secretary of State shall refer to the people for  
3 their approval or rejection, as and in the manner provided by law,  
4 the following proposed amendment to Section 4 of Article VI of the  
5 Constitution of the State of Oklahoma, to read as follows:

6 Section 4. The term of office of the Governor, Lieutenant  
7 Governor, State Auditor and Inspector, Attorney General, State  
8 Treasurer, Commissioner of Labor and Superintendent of Public  
9 Instruction shall be four (4) years from the second Monday of  
10 January next after their election. The said officers shall be  
11 eligible to immediately succeed themselves. ~~No person shall be~~  
12 ~~elected Governor more than two times in succession;~~ provided, no  
13 person shall be eligible to serve as Governor for a period of time  
14 in excess of eight (8) years. Such years need not be consecutive.  
15 No person shall be eligible to serve as Lieutenant Governor, State  
16 Auditor and Inspector, Attorney General, State Treasurer,  
17 Commissioner of Labor or Superintendent of Public Instruction for a  
18 period of time in excess of twelve (12) years. Such years need not  
19 be consecutive. Any years served by a person elected or appointed  
20 to serve less than a full term to fill a vacancy in any such office  
21 shall not be included in the limitations set forth herein. Any  
22 person serving in such position at the time of passage of this  
23 amendment shall be eligible to complete the term for which he or she  
24 has been elected notwithstanding the provisions of this amendment.

1 SECTION 2. The Secretary of State shall refer to the people for  
2 their approval or rejection, as and in the manner provided by law,  
3 the following proposed amendment to Section 23 of Article VI of the  
4 Constitution of the State of Oklahoma, to read as follows:

5 Section 23. There shall be elected by the qualified electors of  
6 the State, at the first general election, a chief officer of said  
7 department, who shall be styled "The Insurance Commissioner," whose  
8 term of office shall be four years: Provided, That the first term  
9 of the Insurance Commissioner so elected, shall expire at the time  
10 of the expiration of the term of office of the first Governor  
11 elected. Said Insurance Commissioner shall be at least twenty-five  
12 years of age and well versed in insurance matters. No person shall  
13 be eligible to serve as Insurance Commissioner for a period of time  
14 in excess of twelve (12) years. Such years need not be consecutive.  
15 Any years served by a person elected or appointed to serve less than  
16 a full term to fill a vacancy in such office shall not be included  
17 in the limitation set forth herein. Any person serving in such  
18 position at the time of passage of this amendment shall be eligible  
19 to complete the term for which he or she has been elected  
20 notwithstanding the provisions of this amendment.

21 SECTION 3. The Secretary of State shall refer to the people for  
22 their approval or rejection, as and in the manner provided by law,  
23 the following proposed amendment to Section 15 of Article IX of the  
24 Constitution of the State of Oklahoma, to read as follows:

1 Section 15. A Corporation Commission is hereby created, to be  
2 composed of three persons, who shall be elected by the people at a  
3 general election for State officers, and their terms of office shall  
4 be six years: ~~Provided, Corporation Commissioners first elected~~  
5 ~~under this Constitution shall hold office as follows: One shall~~  
6 ~~serve until the second Monday in January, nineteen hundred and nine;~~  
7 ~~one until the second Monday in January, nineteen hundred and eleven;~~  
8 ~~and one until the second Monday in January nineteen hundred and~~  
9 ~~thirteen; their terms to be decided by lot immediately after they~~  
10 ~~shall have qualified.~~ In case of a vacancy in said office, the  
11 Governor of the State shall fill such vacancy by appointment until  
12 the next general election, when a successor shall be elected to fill  
13 out any unexpired term. No person shall be eligible to serve as  
14 Corporation Commissioner for a period of time in excess of twelve  
15 (12) years. Such years need not be consecutive. Any years served  
16 by a person elected or appointed to serve less than a full term to  
17 fill a vacancy in such office shall not be included in the  
18 limitation set forth herein. Any person serving in such position at  
19 the time of passage of this amendment shall be eligible to complete  
20 the term for which he or she has been elected notwithstanding the  
21 provisions of this amendment.

22 SECTION 4. The Ballot Title for the proposed Constitutional  
23 amendments as set forth in SECTIONS 1, 2 and 3 of this act shall be  
24 in the following form:

BALLOT TITLE

Legislative Referendum No. \_\_\_\_\_ State Question No. \_\_\_\_\_

THE GIST OF THE PROPOSITION IS AS FOLLOWS:

This measure amends Sections 4 and 23 of Article 6 of the State Constitution. It also amends Section 15 of Article 9 of the State Constitution. This measure would limit the Governor to eight years of service. Other statewide elected officials would be limited to twelve years of service. Years served for less than a full term would not be counted. Persons serving when this measure is passed could complete their terms. Under current law, the Governor is limited to two successive terms.

SHALL THE PROPOSAL BE APPROVED?

FOR THE PROPOSAL - YES \_\_\_\_\_

AGAINST THE PROPOSAL - NO \_\_\_\_\_

SECTION 5. The President Pro Tempore of the Senate shall, immediately after the passage of this act, prepare and file one copy thereof, including the Ballot Title set forth in SECTION 4 hereof, with the Secretary of State and one copy with the Attorney General."

1 Passed the House of Representatives the 17th day of April, 2008.

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4 Presiding Officer of the House of  
Representatives  
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6 Passed the Senate the \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 2008.

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