

THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES
Wednesday, March 5, 2008

House Joint
Resolution No. 1078

HJR 1078

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 1078 - By: WORTHEN AND TERRILL of the House.

A Joint Resolution directing the Secretary of State to refer to the people for their approval or rejection a proposed amendment to Sections 4 and 23 of Article VI and Section 15 of Article IX of the Constitution of the State of Oklahoma; limiting the term of office of certain elected officials; providing ballot title; and directing filing.

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES AND THE SENATE OF
THE 2ND SESSION OF THE 51ST OKLAHOMA LEGISLATURE:

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

4 Section 4. The term of office of the Governor, Lieutenant Governor, State Auditor
5 and Inspector, Attorney General, State Treasurer, Commissioner of Labor and
6 Superintendent of Public Instruction shall be four (4) years from the second Monday of
7 January next after their election. The said officers shall be eligible to immediately
8 succeed themselves. No person shall be elected Governor, Lieutenant Governor, State
9 Auditor and Inspector, Attorney General, State Treasurer, Commissioner of Labor, or
10 Superintendent of Public Instruction more than two times in succession.

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

4 Section 23. There shall be elected by the qualified electors of the State, at the first
5 general election, a chief officer of said department, who shall be styled "The Insurance
6 Commissioner," whose term of office shall be four years: Provided, That the first term of
7 the Insurance Commissioner so elected, shall expire at the time of the expiration of the
8 term of office of the first Governor elected. No person shall be elected Insurance
9 Commissioner more than two times in succession. Said Insurance Commissioner shall be
10 at least twenty-five years of age and well versed in insurance matters.

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

14 Section 15. A Corporation Commission is hereby created, to be composed of three
15 persons, who shall be elected by the people at a general election for State officers, and
16 their terms of office shall be six years: Provided, Corporation Commissioners first
17 elected under this Constitution shall hold office as follows: One shall serve until the
18 second Monday in January, nineteen hundred and nine; one until the second Monday in
19 January, nineteen hundred and eleven; and one until the second Monday in January
20 nineteen hundred and thirteen; their terms to be decided by lot immediately after they
21 shall have qualified. No person shall be elected Corporation Commissioner more than
22 two times in succession, after the effective date of this amendment. In case of a vacancy

1 in said office, the Governor of the State shall fill such vacancy by appointment until the
2 next general election, when a successor shall be elected to fill out any unexpired term.

3 SECTION 4. The Ballot Title for the proposed Constitutional amendment as set
4 forth in SECTIONS 1, 2, and 3 of this resolution shall be in the following form:

5 BALLOT TITLE

6 Legislative Referendum No. ____ State Question No. ____

7 THE GIST OF THE PROPOSITION IS AS FOLLOWS:

8 This measure amends the Oklahoma Constitution. It amends Sections 4 and 23 of
9 Article 6. It also amends Section 15 of Article 9. This measure limits the number of
10 terms of office in a row a person can serve for certain offices. It limits a person to
11 two terms in a row. This measure affects several different state elected offices. It
12 affects the office of Lieutenant Governor. It affects the office of State Auditor and
13 Inspector. It affects the office of Attorney General. It affects the office of State
14 Treasurer. It affects the office of Commissioner of Labor. It affects the office of
15 Superintendent of Public Instruction. It affects the office of Insurance
16 Commissioner. It affects the office of Corporation Commissioner.

17 SHALL THE PROPOSAL BE APPROVED?

18 FOR THE PROPOSAL — YES _____

19 AGAINST THE PROPOSAL — NO _____

20 SECTION 5. The Chief Clerk of the House of Representatives, immediately after
21 the passage of this resolution, shall prepare and file one copy thereof, including the

UNDERLINED language denotes Amendments to present Statutes.
BOLD FACE CAPITALIZED language denotes Committee Amendments.
~~Strike thru~~ language denotes deletion from present Statutes.

1 Ballot Title set forth in SECTION 4 hereof, with the Secretary of State and one copy with
2 the Attorney General.
3 COMMITTEE REPORT BY: COMMITTEE ON RULES, dated 03-04-08 - DO PASS, As
4 Coauthored.