

1 STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2 1st Session of the 55th Legislature (2015)

3 HOUSE BILL 1905

By: Johnson

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5
6 AS INTRODUCED

7 An Act relating to counties and county officers;
8 ordering a legislative referendum pursuant to the
9 Oklahoma Constitution; amending 19 O.S. 2011, Section
10 131, as amended by Section 1, Chapter 300, O.S.L.
11 2013 (19 O.S. Supp. 2014, Section 131), which relates
12 to county officers; providing term limits for certain
13 county officers; providing ballot title; and
14 directing filing.

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

16 SECTION 1. Pursuant to Section 3 of Article V of the Oklahoma
17 Constitution, there is hereby ordered the following legislative
18 referendum which shall be filed with the Secretary of State and
19 addressed to the Governor of the state, who shall submit the same to
20 the people for their approval or rejection at the next General
Election.

21 SECTION 2. AMENDATORY 19 O.S. 2011, Section 131, as
22 amended by Section 1, Chapter 300, O.S.L. 2013 (19 O.S. Supp. 2014,
23 Section 131), is amended to read as follows:
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1 Section 131. A. At the general election to be held in November
2 1974, there shall be elected in each county of the state, a court
3 clerk, a county sheriff, and a county clerk who shall hold office
4 for a term of two (2) years, the terms of the court clerk, county
5 sheriff and county clerk beginning on the first Monday in January
6 following their election, and until their successors are elected and
7 qualified. At the general election to be held in November 1976, and
8 each four (4) years thereafter, there shall be elected in each
9 county of the state, a court clerk, a county sheriff, and a county
10 clerk who shall hold office for a term of four (4) years; the terms
11 of the court clerk, the county sheriff and the county clerk,
12 beginning on the first business day in January following their
13 election, and until their successors are elected and qualified.

14 B. At the general election to be held in November 1974, and
15 each four (4) years thereafter, there shall be elected in each
16 county of the state, a county assessor and a county treasurer, who
17 shall hold office for a term of four (4) years. The term of the
18 county assessor shall begin on the first business day in January
19 following the election, and shall terminate when a successor is
20 elected and qualified. The term of the county treasurer shall begin
21 on the first Monday in July following the election and shall
22 terminate when the successor is duly elected and qualified.

23 C. At the general election to be held in November 1990, and
24 each four (4) years thereafter, there shall be elected in each

1 county of the state two county commissioners, one from the first
2 county commissioner district and one from the third county
3 commissioner district, who shall hold office for a term of four (4)
4 years. At the general election to be held in November 1990, there
5 shall be elected in each county of the state one county commissioner
6 from the second county commissioner district who shall hold office
7 for a term of six (6) years. At the general election to be held in
8 November 1996, and each four (4) years thereafter, there shall be
9 elected in each county of the state, one county commissioner from
10 the second county commissioner district, who shall hold office for a
11 term of four (4) years. The terms of the county commissioners shall
12 begin on the first business day in January following their election,
13 and shall terminate when their successors are elected and qualified.

14 D. A county officer shall be eligible to become a candidate for
15 another county office or state office.

16 E. In order to file as a candidate for county commissioner in a
17 county commissioner's district, the candidate must have been a
18 qualified registered elector and have maintained a current principal
19 residence in that district for at least six (6) months immediately
20 preceding the first day of the filing period prescribed by law.

21 Evidence of a "principal residence" may include, but not be limited
22 to, the address listed on:

- 23 1. A federal or state tax return;
- 24 2. A driver license; or

1 3. An automobile registration.

2 F. Any officer listed in this section who is elected to office
3 after the effective date of this act shall be eligible to serve no
4 more than sixteen (16) years in office. Years in office need not be
5 consecutive and years of service in multiple offices listed in this
6 section shall be added together and included in determining the
7 total number of years in office. The years served by an official in
8 this section elected or appointed to serve less than a full term to
9 fill a vacancy in office shall not be included in the sixteen-year
10 limitation set forth herein; but no official who has completed
11 sixteen (16) years in office shall thereafter be eligible to serve a
12 partial term. Any official in this section who is serving a term in
13 office or who has been elected or appointed to serve a term in
14 office on the effective date hereof shall be entitled to complete
15 his or her term and shall be eligible to serve an additional sixteen
16 (16) years thereafter.

17 SECTION 3. The Ballot Title for the proposed act shall be in
18 the following form:

19 BALLOT TITLE

20 Legislative Referendum No. _____ State Question No. _____

21 THE GIST OF THE PROPOSITION IS AS FOLLOWS:

22 This measure amends the Oklahoma Statutes. It creates term
23 limits for county officers. A court clerk, county sheriff,
24 county clerk, county assessor, county treasurer, and county

1 commissioner shall serve no more than sixteen (16) years in
2 office. Years in office do not need to be consecutive.

3 SHALL THE PROPOSAL BE APPROVED?

4 FOR THE PROPOSAL - YES _____

5 AGAINST THE PROPOSAL - NO _____

6 SECTION 4. The Chief Clerk of the House of Representatives,
7 immediately after the passage of this act, shall prepare and file
8 one copy thereof, including the Ballot Title set forth in SECTION 3
9 hereof, with the Secretary of State and one copy with the Attorney
10 General.

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12 55-1-6161 LRB 01/08/15
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