

1 ENGROSSED SENATE  
JOINT  
2 RESOLUTION NO. 45

By: Schulz and Ford of the  
Senate

3  
4 and

Ortega of the House  
5  
6

7 A Joint Resolution directing the Secretary of State  
to refer to the people for their approval or  
8 rejection a proposed amendment to Sections 4 and 23  
of Article VI of the Oklahoma Constitution; deleting  
9 obsolete language; modifying limits on terms of  
office for certain elected officials; providing  
10 ballot title; and directing filing.  
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13 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE AND THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE  
14 2ND SESSION OF THE 55TH OKLAHOMA LEGISLATURE:

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

19 Section 4. A. The term of office of the Governor, Lieutenant  
20 Governor, State Auditor and Inspector, Attorney General, State  
21 Treasurer, Commissioner of Labor and Superintendent of Public  
22 Instruction shall be four (4) years from the second Monday of  
23 January next after their election. The said officers shall be  
24

1 eligible to immediately succeed themselves except as otherwise  
2 provided in this section.

3 B. ~~1.~~ No person shall be eligible to serve as Governor for a  
4 period of time in excess of eight (8) years. Such years need not be  
5 consecutive. Any years served by a person serving as Governor for  
6 less than a full term to fill a vacancy in such office shall not be  
7 included in the eight-year limitation set forth herein.

8 ~~2. Notwithstanding the provisions of this amendment, any person~~  
9 ~~serving as Governor at the time of passage of this amendment shall~~  
10 ~~be eligible to complete the term of office to which he or she was~~  
11 ~~elected but shall not be eligible to serve as Governor for a period~~  
12 ~~of time in excess of eight (8) years, excluding years served for~~  
13 ~~less than a full term to fill a vacancy in such office. The~~  
14 ~~provisions of this paragraph shall apply regardless of whether such~~  
15 ~~years were served prior to or after passage of this amendment.~~

16 C. No person shall be eligible to serve as Lieutenant Governor,  
17 State Auditor and Inspector, Attorney General, State Treasurer,  
18 Commissioner of Labor or Superintendent of Public Instruction for a  
19 period of time in excess of ~~eight (8)~~ twelve (12) years. Such years  
20 need not be consecutive. Any years served by a person elected or  
21 appointed to serve less than a full term to fill a vacancy in any  
22 such office shall not be included in the limitations set forth  
23 herein. Any person serving in such position at the time of passage  
24 of this amendment shall be eligible to complete the term for which

1 he or she has been elected and shall be eligible to serve ~~an~~  
2 ~~additional eight (8) years~~ thereafter for additional years such that  
3 the period of time served does not exceed twelve (12) years,  
4 excluding years not included in the limitations set forth herein,  
5 notwithstanding the provisions of this amendment.

6 D. The Legislature is hereby authorized to enact laws to  
7 implement the provisions of subsections B and C of this section.

8 Section 23. A. There shall be elected by the qualified  
9 electors of the State, at the first general election, a chief  
10 officer of the Insurance Department, who shall be styled the  
11 "Insurance Commissioner", whose term of office shall be four years:  
12 Provided, That the first term of the Insurance Commissioner so  
13 elected, shall expire at the time of the expiration of the term of  
14 office of the first Governor elected. The Insurance Commissioner  
15 shall be at least twenty-five (25) years of age and well versed in  
16 insurance matters.

17 B. No person shall be eligible to serve as Insurance  
18 Commissioner for a period of time in excess of ~~eight (8)~~ twelve (12)  
19 years. Such years need not be consecutive. Any years served by a  
20 person elected or appointed to serve less than a full term to fill a  
21 vacancy in such office shall not be included in the limitation set  
22 forth herein. Any person serving in such position at the time of  
23 passage of this amendment shall be eligible to complete the term for  
24 which he or she has been elected and shall be eligible to serve ~~an~~

1 ~~additional eight (8) years~~ thereafter for additional years such that  
2 the period of time served does not exceed twelve (12) years,  
3 excluding years not included in the limitations set forth herein,  
4 notwithstanding the provisions of this amendment. The Legislature  
5 is hereby authorized to enact laws to implement the provisions of  
6 this subsection.

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

10 BALLOT TITLE

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

12 THE GIST OF THE PROPOSITION IS AS FOLLOWS:

13 This measure amends Sections 4 and 23 of Article 6 of the  
14 Oklahoma Constitution. Under current law, persons are not  
15 eligible to serve as Governor, Lieutenant Governor, State  
16 Auditor and Inspector, Attorney General, State Treasurer,  
17 Commissioner of Labor, Superintendent of Public Instruction or  
18 Insurance Commissioner for more than 8 years, with certain  
19 exceptions. This measure changes the limit to 12 years for all  
20 these offices except Governor, which would stay at 8 years.  
21 Persons serving at the time of passage of this amendment may  
22 complete their current terms and serve additional years so that  
23 the total period of time served does not exceed 12 years. The  
24 measure also deletes some obsolete language.

1 SHALL THE PROPOSAL BE APPROVED?

2 FOR THE PROPOSAL — YES \_\_\_\_\_

3 AGAINST THE PROPOSAL — NO \_\_\_\_\_

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

9 Passed the Senate the 9th day of March, 2016.

10  
11 \_\_\_\_\_  
12 Presiding Officer of the Senate

13 Passed the House of Representatives the \_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_,  
14 2016.

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16 \_\_\_\_\_  
17 Presiding Officer of the House  
18 of Representatives  
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