

As Introduced

**132nd General Assembly
Regular Session
2017-2018**

H. J. R. No. 6

Representative Sweeney

A JOINT RESOLUTION

Proposing to amend Section 2 of Article II and Section 9 1
of Article V of the Constitution of the State of Ohio 2
to impose term limits prohibiting a person from 3
holding office longer than eight years in the Ohio 4
Senate, eight years in the Ohio House of 5
Representatives, and more than sixteen years in total 6
in the General Assembly. 7

Be it resolved by the General Assembly of the State of 8
Ohio, three-fifths of the members elected to each house 9
concurring herein, that there shall be submitted to the electors 10
of the state, in the manner prescribed by law at the special 11
election to be held on May 8, 2018, a proposal to amend Section 12
2 of Article II and Section 9 of Article V of the Constitution 13
of the State of Ohio to read as follows: 14

ARTICLE II 15

Section 2. Representatives shall be elected biennially by 16
the electors of the respective house of representatives 17
districts; their term of office shall commence on the first day 18
of January next thereafter and continue two years. 19

Senators shall be elected by the electors of the 20

respective senate districts; their terms of office shall 21
commence on the first day of January next after their election. 22
All terms of senators which commence on the first day of 23
January, 1969 shall be four years, and all terms which commence 24
on the first day of January, 1971 shall be four years. 25
Thereafter, except for the filling of vacancies for unexpired 26
terms, senators shall be elected to and hold office for terms of 27
four years. 28

No person shall hold the office of state senator for a 29
~~period longer more~~ than two successive terms of four years. No 30
person shall hold the office of state representative for a 31
~~period longer more~~ than four successive terms of two years. 32
~~Terms shall be considered successive unless separated by a~~ 33
~~period of four or more years. Only terms beginning on or after~~ 34
~~January 1, 1993 shall be considered in determining an~~ 35
~~individual's eligibility to hold office.~~No person shall hold the 36
office of state senator or state representative for more than 37
eight years, and no person shall serve as a member of the 38
general assembly for more than sixteen years collectively. 39

In determining the eligibility of an individual to hold an 40
office ~~in accordance with under~~ this article, ~~(A) time spent in~~ 41
~~an office in fulfillment of a term to which another person was~~ 42
~~first elected shall not be considered provided that a period of~~ 43
~~at least four years passed between the time, if any, in which~~ 44
~~the individual previously held that office, and the time the~~ 45
~~individual is elected or appointed to fulfill the unexpired~~ 46
~~term;~~both a person appointed to an office to fulfill a term to 47
which another person was first elected and (B) a person who is 48
elected to an office ~~in a regularly scheduled general election~~ 49
and resigns prior to the completion of the term for which he or 50
she was elected, shall be considered to have served the full 51

term in that office. 52

ARTICLE V 53

Section 9. In determining the eligibility of an individual 54
to hold an office in accordance with ~~articles ii, iii,~~Articles 55
III and ~~v~~V of this constitution, ~~(a)~~(A) time spent in an 56
office in fulfillment of a term to which another person was 57
first elected shall not be considered provided that a period of 58
at least four years passed between the time, if any, in which 59
the individual previously held that office, and the time the 60
individual is elected or appointed to fulfill the unexpired 61
term; and ~~(b)~~(B) a person who is elected to an office in a 62
regularly scheduled general election and resigns prior to the 63
completion of the term for which he or she was elected, shall be 64
considered to have served the full term in that office. 65

EFFECTIVE DATE AND REPEAL 66

If adopted by a majority of the electors voting on this 67
proposal, Section 2 of Article II and Section 9 of Article V of 68
the Constitution of the State of Ohio, as amended by this 69
proposal, shall take immediate effect and the existing versions 70
of those sections shall be repealed from that effective date. 71

SCHEDULE 72

An individual holding office on the effective date of this 73
amendment, in violation of Section 2 of Article II of the Ohio 74
Constitution, as amended by this proposal, shall be permitted to 75
serve the remainder of the individual's unexpired term in 76
office. 77