

HCS HJR 35 -- TERM LIMITS FOR STATEWIDE OFFICIALS

SPONSOR: Plocher

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "Do Pass with HCS" by the Standing Committee on Elections and Elected Officials by a vote of 7 to 5.

Upon voter approval, this proposed Constitutional amendment increases term limits for General Assembly members elected in the general election of 2018 or thereafter to 12 years in one house of the General Assembly and 16 years total in both houses thereof in any proportion. Those previously elected to the General Assembly before the general election in 2018 will retain the current term limits of eight years in one house or 16 years total service in both houses of the General Assembly.

The amendment also imposes a uniform term limit of two terms of four years each on all statewide elected officials. Term limits imposed for the first time on the offices of State Auditor, Attorney General, Secretary of State, and Lieutenant Governor shall apply prospectively to anyone elected during the general election of 2020 or thereafter or, in the case of the State Auditor's office, the election held in 2022 or thereafter.

PROPONENTS: Supporters say that the bill will enact reasonable term limits that allow for more legislative experience in the House of Representatives, and that will place all statewide elected officials under the same standard.

Testifying for the bill was Representative Plocher.

OPPONENTS: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.