

1 State of Arkansas
2 82nd General Assembly
3 Regular Session, 1999

HJR 1021

4
5 By: Representatives Shoffner, Hausam, Magnus, Agee, Bevis, Broadway, French, Green, Judy, King,
6 Minton, Scrimshire, Weaver, Willis
7 By: Senator Critcher

8
9 **HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION**

10 "REQUESTING APPROPRIATE ACTION BY THE CONGRESS,
11 BECAUSE OF THE DESIRE OF THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF
12 ARKANSAS TO ENACT TERM LIMITS ON THE HOUSE OF
13 REPRESENTATIVES AND THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES,
14 UPON THE APPLICATION OF THE LEGISLATURES OF TWO THIRDS
15 OF THE SEVERAL STATES, TO CALL A CONVENTION PURSUANT
16 TO ARTICLE V. "

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18 **Subtitle**

19 "PROPOSING AN AMENDMENT TO THE FEDERAL
20 CONSTITUTION TO LIMIT THE TERMS OF
21 REPRESENTATIVES AND SENATORS. "

22
23 WHEREAS, the people of the State of Arkansas having amended the State
24 Constitution to limit their Representatives to Congress to serving three two-
25 year terms and their Senators to Congress to serving two six-year terms, other
26 States also limiting the terms their delegations to Congress may serve;

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28 WHEREAS, the United States Supreme Court decreed in the case of Arkansas
29 vs. Thornton, that terms of members elected to the United States Congress may
30 be limited only by Amendment to the United States Constitution;

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32 WHEREAS, the people of the various States have consistently
33 demonstrated, at the ballot box and in opinion polls, their overwhelming
34 desire to limit the terms of members serving in the United States Congress;

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36 WHEREAS, under Article V of the Constitution of the United States,

1 amendments to the Federal Constitution may be proposed by the Congress
2 whenever two thirds of both Houses deem it necessary, or on the application of
3 the legislatures of two thirds of the several states the Congress shall call a
4 Convention for the purpose of proposing amendments. We believe such action
5 vital;

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7 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE EIGHTY-SECOND GENERAL
8 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS AND BY THE SENATE, A MAJORITY OF ALL MEMBERS
9 ELECTED TO EACH HOUSE AGREEING THERETO:

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11 THAT this body proposes to the Congress of the United States that
12 procedures be instituted in the Congress to add a new Article to the
13 Constitution of the United States, and that the General Assembly of the State
14 of Arkansas request the Congress to prepare and submit to the several states
15 an amendment to the Constitution of the United States, to limit the terms of
16 Representatives and the Senators serving in the United States Congress; and

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18 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT, alternatively, this body makes application
19 and requests that the Congress of the United States call a Convention for
20 proposing amendments to the United States Constitution; and

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22 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT this body also proposes that the
23 legislatures of each of the several states comprising the United States apply
24 to the Congress requesting the proposal of an appropriate amendment to the
25 Federal Constitution, or requiring the Congress to call a Convention for
26 proposing such an amendment to the Federal Constitution; and

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28 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT copies of this Resolution be sent by the
29 Secretary of State to the Arkansas Congressional Delegation; and

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31 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Secretary of State of the State of
32 Arkansas is directed to send copies of this Joint Resolution to the Secretary
33 of State and presiding officers of both Houses of the Legislature of each of
34 the other States of the Union, the Clerk of the United States House of
35 Representatives, Washington, D.C., and the Secretary of the United States
36 Senate, Washington, D.C.