

1 State of Arkansas
2 81st General Assembly
3 Regular Session, 1997

H.J.R. 1015

4 By: Representatives Hausam, Shoffner, Critcher, and Thomas
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7 HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION

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

15 Subtitle

16 PROPOSING AN AMENDMENT TO THE FEDERAL
17 CONSTITUTION TO LIMIT THE TERMS OF
18 REPRESENTATIVES AND SENATORS.
19

20 WHEREAS, the people of the State of Arkansas having amended the State
21 Constitution to limit their Representatives to Congress to serving three
22 two-year terms and their Senators to Congress to serving two six-year terms,
23 other States also limiting the terms their delegations to Congress may serve;
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25 WHEREAS, the United States Supreme Court decreed in the case of Arkansas
26 vs. Thornton, that the terms of members elected to the United States Congress
27 may be limited only by Amendment to the United States Constitution;
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29 WHEREAS, the people of the various States have consistently
30 demonstrated, at the ballot box and in opinion polls, their overwhelming
31 desire to limit the terms of members serving in the United States Congress;
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33 WHEREAS, under Article V of the Constitution of the United States,
34 amendments to the Federal Constitution may be proposed by the Congress
35 whenever two thirds of both Houses deem it necessary, or on the application of
36 the legislatures of two thirds of the several states the Congress shall call a

1 Convention for the purpose of proposing amendments. We believe such action
2 vital;

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4 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE EIGHTY-FIRST GENERAL
5 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS AND BY THE SENATE, A MAJORITY OF ALL MEMBERS
6 ELECTED TO EACH HOUSE AGREEING THERETO:

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8 THAT this body proposes to the Congress of the United States that
9 procedures be instituted in the Congress to add a new Article to the
10 Constitution of the United States, and that the General Assembly of the State
11 of Arkansas request the Congress to prepare and submit to the several states
12 an amendment to the Constitution of the United States, to limit the terms of
13 Representatives and the Senators serving in the United States Congress; and
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15 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT, alternatively, this body makes application
16 and requests that the Congress of the United States call a Convention for
17 proposing amendments to the United States Constitution; and
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19 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT this body also proposes that the
20 legislatures of each of the several states comprising the United States apply
21 to the Congress requesting the proposal of an appropriate amendment to the
22 Federal Constitution, or requiring the Congress to call a Convention for
23 proposing such an amendment to the Federal Constitution; and
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25 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT copies of this Resolution be sent by the
26 Secretary of State to the Arkansas Congressional Delegation; and
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28 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED THAT the Secretary of State of the State of
29 Arkansas is directed to send copies of this Joint Resolution to the Secretary
30 of State and presiding officers of both Houses of the Legislature of each of
31 the other States of the Union, the Clerk of the United States House of
32 Representatives, Washington, D.C., and the Secretary of the United States
33 Senate, Washington, D.C.

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