

Stricken language would be deleted from and underlined language would be added to law as it existed prior to the 82nd General Assembly.

State of Arkansas *As Engrossed: H3/4/99*

82nd General Assembly

Regular Session, 1999

HJR 1005

By: Representative Rodgers

## HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION

*"PROPOSING AN AMENDMENT TO THE ARKANSAS CONSTITUTION  
TO INCREASE THE NUMBER OF TERMS A MEMBER OF THE  
GENERAL ASSEMBLY MAY SERVE: TO ESTABLISH FOUR YEAR  
TERMS FOR ALL ELECTED OFFICIALS, EXCLUDING MEMBERS OF  
THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES AND QUORUM COURT  
MEMBERS. "*

### Subtitle

*"TO INCREASE THE NUMBER OF TERMS A MEMBER  
OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY MAY SERVE; TO  
ESTABLISH FOUR YEAR TERMS FOR ALL ELECTED  
OFFICIALS, EXCLUDING MEMBERS OF THE HOUSE  
OF REPRESENTATIVES AND QUORUM COURT  
MEMBERS. "*

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

That the following is hereby proposed as an amendment to the  
Constitution of the State of Arkansas, and upon being submitted to the  
electors of the state for approval or rejection at the next general election  
for Representatives and Senators, if a majority of the electors voting thereon  
at such election, adopt such amendment, the same shall become a part of the  
Constitution of the State of Arkansas, to wit:

SECTION 1. *Section 2 of Amendment 73 of the Constitution of the State*

\*MEJ333\*

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1 of Arkansas is amended to read as follows:

2 "Section 2. Legislative Branch.

3 (a) The Arkansas House of Representatives shall consist of members to be  
4 chosen every second year by the qualified electors of the several counties.  
5 No member of the Arkansas House of Representatives may serve more than ~~three~~  
6 six (6) such two year terms. A member of the Arkansas House of  
7 Representatives who is in office on November 7, 2000 shall only be eligible to  
8 serve three (3) such two (2) year terms including any terms served prior to  
9 the effective date of this Amendment.

10 (b) The Arkansas Senate shall consist of members to be chosen every  
11 four years by the qualified electors of the several districts. No member of  
12 the Arkansas Senate may serve more than ~~two~~ three (3) such four year terms.

13 (1) A member of the Arkansas Senate who is in office on November  
14 7, 2000 shall only be eligible to serve two (2) such four (4) year terms  
15 including any terms served prior to the effective date of this Amendment.

16 (2) A member of the Arkansas Senate who has served twelve (12)  
17 years, but has not served three (3) full terms may serve the remainder of the  
18 third term."

19  
20 SECTION 2. Section 6 of Article 7 of the Constitution of the State of  
21 Arkansas is amended to read as follows:

22 "Section 6. Qualifications of judges of Supreme Court.

23 A judge of the Supreme Court shall be at least thirty years of age, of  
24 good moral character, and learned in the law; a citizen of the United States  
25 and two years a resident of the State, and who has been a practicing lawyer  
26 eight years, or whose service upon the bench of any court of record, when  
27 added to the time he may have practiced law, shall be equal to eight years.  
28 The judges of the Supreme Court shall be elected by the qualified electors of  
29 the State and shall hold their offices during the term of ~~eight~~ four years  
30 from the date of their commissions; but at the first meeting of the court  
31 after the first election under this Constitution the judges shall by lot  
32 divide themselves into three classes, one of which shall hold his office for  
33 four, one for six and the other for eight years, after which each judge shall  
34 be elected for a full term of eight years. A record shall be made in the court  
35 of this classification. After the general election in the year 2000, the  
36 judges shall by lot divide themselves into two (2) classes, two (2) of which

1 shall hold office for two (2) years and three (3) of which shall hold terms of  
2 four (4) years, after which each judge shall be elected for a full term of  
3 four (4) years."

4  
5 SECTION 3. Section 19 of Article 7 of the Constitution of the State of  
6 Arkansas is amended to read as follows:

7 "Section 19. Circuit clerks - Election - Term of office - Ex-officio  
8 duties - County clerks elected in certain counties.

9 The clerks of the circuit courts shall be elected by the qualified  
10 electors of the several counties for the term of ~~two~~ four years, and shall be  
11 ex-officio clerks of the county and probate courts and recorder; provided,  
12 that in any county having a population exceeding fifteen thousand inhabitants,  
13 as shown by the last Federal census, there shall be elected a county clerk, in  
14 like manner as the clerk of the circuit court, and in such case the county  
15 clerk shall be ex-officio clerk of the probate court of such county until  
16 otherwise provided by the General Assembly."

17  
18 SECTION 4. Section 24 of Article 7 of the Constitution of the State of  
19 Arkansas is amended to read as follows:

20 "Section 24. Prosecuting attorneys.

21 The qualified electors of each circuit shall elect a prosecuting  
22 attorney, who shall hold his office for the term of ~~two~~ four years, and he  
23 shall be a citizen of the United States, learned in the law, and a resident of  
24 the circuit for which he may be elected."

25  
26 SECTION 5. Section 29 of Article 7 of the Constitution of the State of  
27 Arkansas is amended to read as follows:

28 "Section 29. County judge - Election - Term - Qualifications.

29 The judge of the county court shall be elected by the qualified electors  
30 of the county for the term of ~~two~~ four years. He shall be at least twenty-five  
31 years of age, a citizen of the United States, a man of upright character, of  
32 good business education and a resident of the State for two years before his  
33 election, and a resident of the county at the time of his election and during  
34 his continuance in office."

35  
36 SECTION 6. Section 46 of Article 7 of the Constitution of the State of

Arkansas is amended to read as follows:

"Section 46. County executive officers - Compensation of county assessor.

The qualified electors of each county shall elect one sheriff, who shall be ex-officio collector of taxes, unless otherwise provided by law; one assessor, one coroner, one treasurer, who shall be ex-officio treasurer of the common school fund of the county, and one county surveyor, for the term of ~~two~~ four years, with such duties as are now or may be prescribed by law. Provided, that no per centum shall ever be paid to assessors upon the valuation or assessment of property by them."

SECTION 7. Section 47 of Article 7 of the Constitution of the State of Arkansas is amended to read as follows:

"Section 47. Constables - Term of office - Certificate of election.

The qualified electors of each township shall elect the constable for the term of ~~two~~ four years, who shall be furnished by the presiding judge of the county court with a certificate of election, on which his official oath shall be indorsed."

SECTION 8. The term of office for all elected officials excluding members of the House of Representatives of the Arkansas General Assembly and members of the Quorum Court, shall be four (4) years upon approval by the voters of the State of Arkansas.

SECTION 9. This amendment shall be effective on January 1, 2001.

/s/ Rodgers