

**Stricken language would be deleted from and underlined language would be added to the Arkansas Constitution.**

1 State of Arkansas  
2 85th General Assembly  
3 Regular Session, 2005

HJR 1015

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5 By: Representative Mahony  
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**HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION**

9 PROPOSING AN AMENDMENT TO THE ARKANSAS  
10 CONSTITUTION CONCERNING THE LENGTH OF TERMS OF  
11 COUNTY OFFICIALS; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.  
12

**Subtitle**

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14 PROPOSING AN AMENDMENT TO THE ARKANSAS  
15 CONSTITUTION CONCERNING THE LENGTH OF  
16 TERMS OF COUNTY OFFICIALS.  
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19 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE EIGHTY-FIFTH GENERAL  
20 ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ARKANSAS AND BY THE SENATE, A MAJORITY OF ALL  
21 MEMBERS ELECTED TO EACH HOUSE AGREEING THERETO:  
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23 That the following is proposed as an amendment to the Constitution of  
24 the State of Arkansas, and upon being submitted to the electors of the state  
25 for approval or rejection at the next general election for Representatives  
26 and Senators, if a majority of the electors voting thereon at the election  
27 adopt the amendment, the amendment shall become a part of the Constitution of  
28 the State of Arkansas, to wit:  
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30 SECTION 1. Section 19 of Article 7 of the Arkansas Constitution is  
31 amended to read as follows:

32 § 19. Circuit clerks - Election - Term of office - Ex-officio duties -  
33 County clerks elected in certain counties.

34 The clerks of the circuit courts shall be elected by the qualified  
35 electors of the several counties for the term of ~~two~~ four years, and shall be  
36 ex-officio clerks of the county and probate courts and recorder; provided,



1 that in any county having a population exceeding fifteen thousand  
 2 inhabitants, as shown by the last Federal census, there shall be elected a  
 3 county clerk, in like manner as the clerk of the circuit court, and in such  
 4 case the county clerk shall be ex-officio clerk of the probate court of such  
 5 county until otherwise provided by the General Assembly.

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 7 SECTION 2. Section 29 of Article 7 of the Arkansas Constitution is  
 8 amended to read as follows:

9 § 29. County judge - Election - Term - Qualifications.

10 The Judge of the County Court shall be elected by the qualified  
 11 electors of the county for the term of ~~two~~ four years. He shall be at least  
 12 twenty-five years of age, a citizen of the United States, a man of upright  
 13 character, of good business education, and a resident of the State for two  
 14 years before his election; and a resident of the county at the time of his  
 15 election, and during his continuance in office.

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 17 SECTION 3. Section 46 of Article 7 of the Arkansas Constitution is  
 18 amended to read as follows:

19 § 46. County executive officers - Compensation of county assessor.

20 The qualified electors of each county shall elect one Sheriff, who  
 21 shall be ex-officio collector of taxes, unless otherwise provided by law; one  
 22 Assessor, one Coroner, one Treasurer, who shall be ex-officio treasurer of  
 23 the common school fund of the county, and one County Surveyor; for the term  
 24 of ~~two~~ four years, with such duties as are now or may be prescribed by law:  
 25 Provided, that no per centum shall ever be paid to assessors upon the  
 26 valuation or assessment of property by them.

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 28 SECTION 4. Section 2 of Amendment 55 of the Arkansas Constitution is  
 29 amended to read as follows:

30 § 2. Composition of quorum court - Power over elective offices.

31 (a)(1) No county's Quorum Court shall be comprised of fewer than nine  
 32 (9) justices of the peace, nor comprised of more than fifteen (15) justices  
 33 of the peace.

34 (2) Justices of the peace shall be elected for terms of four (4)  
 35 years, except that the term prior to an apportionment shall be a two-year  
 36 term.

1           (3) The number of justices of the peace that comprise a county's  
2 Quorum Court shall be determined by law.

3           (4) The county's Election Commission shall, after each decennial  
4 census, divide the county into convenient and single member districts so that  
5 the Quorum Court shall be based upon the inhabitants of the county with each  
6 member representing, as nearly as practicable, an equal number thereof.

7           (b) The Quorum Court may create, consolidate, separate, revise, or  
8 abandon any elective county office or offices except during the term thereof;  
9 provided, however, that a majority of those voting on the question at a  
10 general election have approved said action.

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