

JAN 23 2009

A BILL FOR AN ACT

PROPOSING AN AMENDMENT TO ARTICLE III, SECTION 4, OF THE
CONSTITUTION OF THE STATE OF HAWAII TO IMPOSE TERM LIMITS
UPON STATE REPRESENTATIVES AND SENATORS.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF HAWAII:

1 SECTION 1. The purpose of this Act is to propose an
2 amendment to article III, section 4, of the Constitution of the
3 State of Hawaii to limit state representatives to six
4 consecutive two-year terms and state senators to three
5 consecutive four-year terms.

6 SECTION 2. Article III, section 4, of the Constitution of
7 the State of Hawaii, is amended to read as follows:

8 **"ELECTION OF MEMBERS; TERM**

9 **Section 4.** Each member of the legislature shall be elected
10 at an election. If more than one candidate has been nominated
11 for election to a seat in the legislature, the member occupying
12 that seat shall be elected at a general election. If a
13 candidate nominated for a seat at a primary election is
14 unopposed for that seat at the general election, the candidate
15 shall be deemed elected at the primary election. The term of
16 office of a member of the house of representatives shall be two



1 years [~~and the term of office of a member of the senate shall be~~
2 ~~four years.~~]; provided that: (1) beginning with terms commencing
3 on the day of the general election of 2010, no member shall
4 serve for more than six consecutive two-year terms; and (2) if
5 there is a break in service between terms of at least four
6 years, the service prior to the break shall not be counted and
7 the tallying of the term limitation shall commence from the date
8 of the new term. The term of office of a member of the senate
9 shall be four years; provided that: (1) beginning with terms
10 commencing on the day of the general election of 2010, no member
11 shall serve for more than three consecutive four-year terms; and
12 (2) if there is a break in service between terms of at least
13 four years, the service prior to the break shall not be counted
14 and the tallying of the term limitation shall commence from the
15 date of the new term. For purposes of computing the term limits
16 in this section, the following shall be considered to have
17 served a full term of office: (1) any member of the senate whose
18 term does not expire at the 2010 general election but who has
19 two years remaining in the current term of office; and (2) any
20 person appointed or elected to fill a vacancy in the legislature
21 and who serves at least one-half of a term of office. The term
22 of a member of the legislature shall begin on the day of the



1 general election at which elected or if elected at a primary
2 election, on the day of the general election immediately
3 following the primary election at which elected. For a member
4 of the house of representatives, the terms shall end on the day
5 of the general election immediately following the day the
6 member's term commences. For a member of the senate, the term
7 shall end on the day of the second general election immediately
8 following the day the member's term commences."

9 SECTION 3. The question to be printed on the ballot shall
10 be as follows:

11 "Shall state representatives be limited to serving six
12 consecutive two-year terms, and shall state senators be
13 limited to serving three consecutive four-year terms,
14 beginning with terms commencing on the day of the general
15 election of 2010; provided that a person may serve in the
16 same position again if the person has been out of that
17 office for at least four years?"

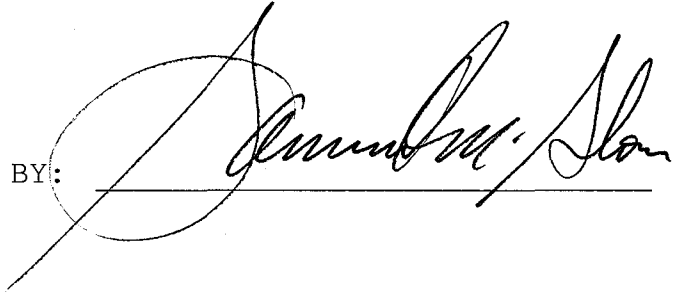
18 SECTION 4. Constitutional material to be repealed is
19 bracketed and stricken. New constitutional material is
20 underscored.



1 SECTION 5. This amendment shall take effect upon
2 compliance with article XVII, section 3, of the Constitution of
3 the State of Hawaii.

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INTRODUCED BY: _____

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Samuel M. Slom", is written over a horizontal line. The signature is cursive and somewhat stylized.

Report Title:

Term Limits

Description:

Limits state representatives to six consecutive two-year terms, and state senators to three consecutive four-year terms, beginning with terms commencing on the day of the general election of 2010; provided that a person becomes eligible to serve in the same position again if the person has been out of that office for four years.

