

**Representative Ken Ivory** proposes the following substitute bill:

**JOINT RESOLUTION - CONGRESSIONAL TERM LIMITS**

2023 GENERAL SESSION

STATE OF UTAH

**Chief Sponsor: Ken Ivory**

Senate Sponsor: \_\_\_\_\_

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**LONG TITLE**

**General Description:**

This joint resolution of the Legislature applies to Congress to call conventions for proposing amendments to the United States Constitution.

**Highlighted Provisions:**

This resolution:

- ▶ applies to Congress to call a convention for proposing amendments to the United States Constitution in accordance with Article V of the United States Constitution, and limits the scope of the convention to establishing a limit on the number of terms that a person may be elected as a member of the United States House of Representatives and the United States Senate; and

- ▶ additionally and separately applies to Congress to call a convention for proposing amendments to the United States Constitution in accordance with Article V of the United States Constitution, and limits the scope of the convention to establishing a limit on the length of time unelected bureaucrats in the legislative and executive branches of the federal government may work for the legislative and executive branches of the federal government.

**Special Clauses:**

None



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*Be it resolved by the Legislature of the state of Utah:*

WHEREAS, support for term limits on members of Congress is one of the most popular bipartisan voter initiatives, with a January 2023 poll showing that over 82% of Americans support a constitutional amendment that will place term limits on members of Congress;

WHEREAS, the current re-election rate in Congress is over 90%, with nearly one-half of the members of Congress having served in office for more than eight years, and a quarter of the members of Congress having served in office for more than 16 years;

WHEREAS, national efforts to address the problems associated with career politicians and incumbency are incomplete without also addressing the problems associated with the accumulation of power by unelected bureaucrats in the legislative and executive branches of the federal government;

WHEREAS, studies have shown that term limits have increased legislative diversity, and have had a statistically significant, positive impact on increasing women's representation in legislatures, and would also address the top-down power structure in Washington D.C. by allowing less-senior members to hold leadership roles;

WHEREAS, Article V of the United States Constitution provides that "on the application of the legislatures of two thirds of the several states, [Congress] shall call a convention for proposing amendments...to this Constitution":

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Legislature of the state of Utah hereby makes an application to Congress, as provided by Article V of the United States Constitution, to call a convention limited to proposing an amendment to the United States Constitution to set a limit on the number of terms that a person may be elected as a member of the United States House of Representatives and to set a limit to the number of terms that a person may be elected as a member of the United States Senate.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this resolution shall be considered as covering the same subject matter as the applications from other states to Congress to call a convention to set a limit on the number of terms that a person may be elected as a member of the United States House of Representatives and the United States Senate and shall be aggregated with the same for the purpose of attaining the two-thirds of states necessary to require Congress to call a

57 limited convention on this subject, but shall not be aggregated with any other applications on  
58 any other subject.

59 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this resolution constitutes a continuing application  
60 in accordance with Article V of the United States Constitution until the legislatures of at least  
61 two-thirds of the several states have made applications on the same subject.

62 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that, in addition to, and separately from, the above  
63 resolution clauses, the Legislature of the state of Utah hereby makes an application to  
64 Congress, as provided by Article V of the United States Constitution, to call a convention  
65 limited to proposing an amendment to the United States Constitution to set a limit on the length  
66 of time unelected bureaucrats in the legislative and executive branches of the federal  
67 government may work for the legislative and executive branches of the federal government.

68 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this separate application shall be considered as  
69 covering the same subject matter as the applications from other states to Congress to call a  
70 convention to set a limit on the length of time unelected bureaucrats in the legislative and  
71 executive branches of the federal government may work for the legislative and executive  
72 branches of the federal government and shall be aggregated with the same for the purpose of  
73 attaining the two-thirds of states necessary to require Congress to call a limited convention on  
74 this subject, but shall not be aggregated with any other applications on any other subject.

75 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this separate application constitutes a continuing  
76 application in accordance with Article V of the United States Constitution until the legislatures  
77 of at least two-thirds of the several states have made applications on the same subject.

78 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that copies of this resolution be sent to the Majority  
79 Leader and Secretary of the United States Senate, the Speaker, Clerk, and Judiciary Chairman  
80 of the United States House of Representatives, the members of Utah's congressional delegation,  
81 and the presiding officers of each of the legislative houses in the several states, requesting their  
82 cooperation.