A JOINT RESOLUTION

PROPOSING TO AMEND ARTICLE 20, SECTION 3 OF THE CONSTITUTION

OF NEW MEXICO TO PERMIT THE ADJUSTMENT BY LAW OF TERMS OF

NON-STATEWIDE ELECTED OFFICERS AND TO STANDARDIZE THE DATE AN

OFFICER BEGINS TO SERVE.

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO:

SECTION 1. It is proposed to amend Article 20, Section

3 of the constitution of New Mexico to read:

"A. The term of office of every state, county or

district officer, except those elected to fill vacancies,

shall commence on the first day of January next after the

officer's election.

B. A state, county or district officer elected to

fill a vacancy in office shall take office on the first day

of January next after the officer's election to serve the

remainder of the unexpired term for that office.

C. The term of a state, county or district officer

may be adjusted by law to align or stagger the election of

officers for a particular state, county or district office

throughout the state. Any such adjustment shall require a

legislative finding that the adjustment is to provide for

consistency in the timing of elections for that office or to

balance the number of offices appearing on the ballot. The

term of any officer affected by such adjustment shall not be

shortened or extended by more than two years. An extended

term shall be counted as one term for the purposes of any

limitation on the number of terms an officer may serve. A

shortened term shall not be counted as a term and shall be

disregarded for the purposes of any limitation on the number

of terms an officer may serve. No statewide elective office

may be adjusted pursuant to this subsection."

    SECTION 2. The amendment proposed by this resolution

shall be submitted to the people for their approval or

rejection at the next general election or at any special

election prior to that date that may be called for that

purpose.