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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 29

46TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2003

INTRODUCED BY

Don Tripp

A JOINT RESOLUTION

PROPOSING AN AMENDMENT TO ARTICLE 4, SECTION 4 OF THE
CONSTITUTION OF NEW MEXICO TO LIMIT THE TERMS OF STATE
LEGISLATORS AND TO PROVIDE FOR FILLING VACANCIES.

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

Section 1. It is proposed to amend Article 4, Section 4
of the constitution of New Mexico to read:

"Members of the legislature shall be elected as follows:

~~[those senators from Bernalillo, Chaves, Curry, DeBaca, Grant,
Lea, Lincoln, Luna, Sandoval, San Juan, San Miguel, Socorro,
Taos, Torrance, Union and Valencia counties for a term of six
years starting January 1, 1961, and after serving such terms
shall be elected for a term of four years thereafter; those
senators from all other counties for the]~~ senators for terms of
four years, and members of the house of representatives for [a

underscored material = new
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1 ~~term of]~~ terms of two years. [~~They~~] Excluding service in the
2 legislature prior to the first session of the forty-seventh
3 legislature or appointment to a vacant office, no legislator
4 shall serve more than a total of three terms in the senate and
5 six terms in the house of representatives. Members of the
6 legislature shall be elected on the day provided by law for
7 holding the general election of state officers or
8 representatives in congress. If a vacancy occurs in the office
9 of senator or member of the house of representatives, for any
10 reason, and the legislative district is situated wholly within
11 one county, the county commissioners of the county wherein the
12 vacancy occurs shall fill such vacancy by appointment; if the
13 legislative district is situated within two or more counties,
14 the county commission of each county in the district shall
15 submit one name to the governor and the governor shall appoint
16 the legislator to fill the vacancy from the list of submitted
17 names.

18 Such legislative appointments as provided in this section
19 shall be for a term ending on December 31, subsequent to the
20 next succeeding general election. "

21 Section 2. The amendment proposed by this resolution
22 shall be submitted to the people for their approval or
23 rejection at the next general election or at any special
24 election prior to that date that may be called for that
25 purpose.

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