

1 SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 23

2 **55TH LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - FIRST SESSION, 2021**

3 INTRODUCED BY

4 Joseph Cervantes

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10 A JOINT RESOLUTION

11 PROPOSING TO AMEND ARTICLE 4, SECTION 4 OF THE CONSTITUTION OF  
12 NEW MEXICO TO LIMIT THE NUMBER OF CONSECUTIVE TERMS THAT STATE  
13 LEGISLATORS MAY SERVE.

14  
15 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF NEW MEXICO:

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

18 "Members of the legislature shall be elected as follows:

19 [~~those senators from Bernalillo, Chaves, Curry, DeBaca, Grant,~~  
20 ~~Lea, Lincoln, Luna, Sandoval, San Juan, San Miguel, Socorro,~~  
21 ~~Taos, Torrance, Union and Valencia counties for a term of six~~  
22 ~~years starting January 1, 1961, and after serving such terms~~  
23 ~~shall be elected]~~ senators for a term of four years

24 [~~thereafter; those senators from all other counties for the~~  
25 ~~terms of four years]~~ and members of the house of

.219632.1

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1 representatives for a term of two years. [~~They~~] Excluding  
2 terms in the senate ending prior to January 1, 2023 and time  
3 served during appointment to a vacant office, a senator shall  
4 not serve more than three consecutive terms in the senate.  
5 Excluding terms in the house of representatives ending prior to  
6 January 1, 2023 and time served during appointment to a vacant  
7 office, a member of the house of representatives shall not  
8 serve more than six consecutive terms in the house of  
9 representatives. Senators and members of the house of  
10 representatives shall be elected on the day provided by law for  
11 holding the general election of state officers or  
12 representatives in congress. If a vacancy occurs in the office  
13 of senator or member of the house of representatives, for any  
14 reason, the county commissioners of the county wherein the  
15 vacancy occurs shall fill such vacancy by appointment.

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

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