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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 14

42ND LEGISLATURE - STATE OF NEW MEXICO - SECOND SESSION, 1996

INTRODUCED BY

ROBERT A. PERLS

A JOINT RESOLUTION

PROPOSING AN AMENDMENT TO ARTICLE 4, SECTION 4 OF THE
CONSTITUTION OF NEW MEXICO TO INCREASE TERMS OF MEMBERS OF THE
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES TO FOUR YEARS AND TO PROVIDE FOR
STAGGERED TERMS FOR STATE LEGISLATORS.

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:

"Effective with the 1998 general election, 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~~

Underscored material = new
[bracketed material] = delete

Underscored material = new
~~[bracketed material] = delete~~

1 ~~counties for the]~~ senators for terms of four years and members
2 of the house of representatives for ~~[a term of two]~~ terms of
3 four years. ~~[They]~~ Members of the legislature shall serve
4 staggered terms of office, so that one-half of the membership of
5 each house shall be elected to office each general election, as
6 provided by law. Members of the legislature shall be elected on
7 the day provided by law for holding the general election of
8 state officers or representatives in congress. If a vacancy
9 occurs in the office of senator or member of the house of
10 representatives, for any reason, the county commissioners of the
11 county wherein the vacancy occurs shall fill such vacancy by
12 appointment.

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

16 Section 2. The amendment proposed by this resolution shall
17 be submitted to the people for their approval or rejection at
18 the next general election or at any special election prior to
19 that date which may be called for that purpose.