

The State of America

Call to ACTION! Term Limits on the U.S. Congress

U.S. Term Limits Applauds Congress Members Willing to Term Limit Congress

For immediate release: January 26th, 2021
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Washington, D.C. ~ The largest and oldest organization dedicated exclusively to limiting the terms of elected officials, [U.S. Term Limits](#) is grateful to politicians in Congress who back term limits for their own congressional offices. Who else would know better than incumbent members that term limits are an important and necessary reform to fix a dysfunctional federal institution?

Two resolutions have been introduced in Congress calling for twelve years maximum in the U.S. Senate and six years total in the U.S. House of Representatives. Senate Joint Resolution 3 (SJR3), sponsored by Texas Senator Ted Cruz has six senators signed on to the measure with at least eleven more expected to join as cosponsors.

House Joint Resolution 12 (HJR12), sponsored by South Carolina Rep. Ralph Norman has a total of 44 members on board with another 31 house members pledged to cosponsor. All-in-all, support is expected to exceed 100 members during the 117th Congress.

Senator Todd Young is one of the original cosponsors of SJR3. He said that “placing term limits on the federal legislative branch will bring fresh perspectives to Congress and ensure that our nation’s leaders are in touch with the lives, needs and aspirations of the people they represent.”

“Support for term limits in Congress has never been as fervent as it is now,” says Nicolas Tomboulides, Executive Director of [U.S. Term Limits](#). He added, “these politicians have the guts to admit the institution is broken and know the solution is a congressional term limits amendment.”

According to the last nationwide poll on term limits conducted by McLaughlin & Associates, term limits enjoy wide bipartisan support. McLaughlin’s analysis states, “Support for term limits is broad and strong across all political, geographic and demographic groups. An overwhelming 79% of voters approve of a constitutional amendment that will place term limits on members of Congress.”

SJR3 and HJR12 specify that the clocks of current members would not start ticking until after 38 states ratify the proposal. It details that “no term beginning before the date of the ratification of this article shall be taken into account in determining eligibility for election or appointment under this article.”

In 1995, the Supreme Court ruled in *U.S. Term Limits Inc. v. Thornton* that states may not impose qualifications for members of Congress that are stricter than those written in the Constitution. Therefore, the only way to impose term limits on Congress would be through a constitutional amendment. Article V of the U.S. Constitution specifies that amendments may be proposed either by Congress or the states, both paths are being pursued as part of the [U.S. Term Limits](#) mission.

USTL does not require pledge signers to limit themselves absent an amendment to the Constitution.

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Arizona Legislators Introduce Resolutions to Term Limit Congress

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Washington, D.C. — [U.S. Term Limits](#) applauds both chambers of the Arizona state legislature for introducing resolutions to term limit Congress. State senator Kelly Townsend (district 16) is the sponsor of Senate Concurrent Resolution 1025 (SCR1025). The related bill in the state house, House Concurrent Resolution 2015 (HCR 2015), was introduced by representative Ben Toma (district 22).

Under Article V of the Constitution of the United States, state legislatures may team up at a national convention to propose a congressional term limits amendment to the Constitution. The effort is supported by the nonpartisan, grassroots nonprofit, [U.S. Term Limits](#).

Twenty-four members of the Arizona house and eleven members of the senate have signed a pledge to vote for and co-sponsor the measure.

A poll conducted by McLaughlin & Associates shows that 85% of likely voters in Arizona support term limits on Congress, including strong support across party lines. 87% of Republicans, 83% of Democrats, and 85% of independents of those surveyed support the reform.

[U.S. Term Limits](#)’ President Philip Blumel commended Sen. Townsend and Rep. Toma for putting forth the legislation. Blumel said, “The people of Arizona are lucky to have public servants who see what is going on in D.C. and are willing to take action to fix it. They know that Congress won’t set term limits on itself. Therefore, it is the obligation of the states to do so.”

Both resolutions have been assigned to their respective Government committees for a vote.

If passed in both the state house and senate this session, Arizona will join other states at a national convention to propose a term limits on Congress amendment. 34 state legislatures are required to call the convention. The amendment must then be ratified by 38 states to become part of the U.S. Constitution.

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[U.S. Term Limits](#) is the oldest and largest grassroots term limits advocacy group in the country. We connect term limits supporters with their legislators and work to pass term limits on all elected officials, particularly on the U.S. Congress.

