

HJR 4 -- GENERAL ASSEMBLY TERM LIMITS

SPONSOR: Neth

COMMITTEE ACTION: Voted "Do Pass" by the Committee on Elections by a vote of 12 to 0.

Upon voter approval, this proposed constitutional amendment prohibits a person from serving more than 16 years in the General Assembly. The service may be split between the House of Representatives and the Senate in any proportion as long as the individual serves no more than 16 years total. Currently, no one can serve more than eight years in any one house of the General Assembly or more than 16 years in both houses.

PROPONENTS: Supporters say that the bill allows voters to decide how long to retain their representatives and senators. Term limitations often leave the state and cities without experienced persons to serve in the General Assembly.

Testifying for the bill were Representative Neth; Nancy Coopenhaver, League of Women Voters; and Tim Fischer, Missouri Municipal League.

OPPONENTS: There was no opposition voiced to the committee.