By: Delegates Hough, Afzali, Arentz, Frank, George, Glass, Jacobs, Krebs, McComas, McDermott, McMillan, Norman, Otto, Parrott, Schuh, Schulz, and Szeliga

Introduced and read first time: January 15, 2014
Assigned to: Rules and Executive Nominations

A BILL ENTITLED

AN ACT concerning

General Assembly – Limitation of Terms

FOR the purpose of proposing an amendment to the Maryland Constitution to impose a certain limit on the number of consecutive terms that a person may serve in the office of Senator or Delegate in the General Assembly; making stylistic changes; and submitting this amendment to the qualified voters of the State of Maryland for their adoption or rejection.

BY proposing an amendment to the Maryland Constitution
Article III – Legislative Department
Section 6

SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, (Three–fifths of all the members elected to each of the two Houses concurring), That it be proposed that the Maryland Constitution read as follows:

Article III – Legislative Department

A member of the General Assembly shall be elected by the registered voters of the legislative or delegate district from which [he] THE PERSON seeks election, to serve for a term of four years beginning on the second Wednesday of January following [his] THE PERSON’S election. A PERSON WHO HAS SERVED THREE CONSECUTIVE POPULAR ELECTIVE TERMS OF OFFICE AS A SENATOR OR DELEGATE SHALL BE INELIGIBLE TO SERVE AS A SENATOR OR DELEGATE FOR THE TERM IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING THE THIRD OF THE THREE CONSECUTIVE POPULAR ELECTIVE TERMS.
SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the General Assembly determines that the amendment to the Maryland Constitution proposed by this Act affects multiple jurisdictions and that the provisions of Article XIV, § 1 of the Maryland Constitution concerning local approval of constitutional amendments do not apply.

SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the foregoing section proposed as an amendment to the Maryland Constitution shall be submitted to the qualified voters of the State at the next general election to be held in November 2014 for their adoption or rejection pursuant to Article XIV of the Maryland Constitution. At that general election, the vote on this proposed amendment to the Constitution shall be by ballot, and upon each ballot there shall be printed the words “For the Constitutional Amendment” and “Against the Constitutional Amendment,” as now provided by law. Immediately after the election, all returns shall be made to the Governor of the vote for and against the proposed amendment, as directed by Article XIV of the Maryland Constitution, and further proceedings had in accordance with Article XIV.