

# HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 4

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By: **Delegates McKay, Afzali, Corderman, Folden, Kittleman, Malone, McComas, McDonough, Metzgar, Miele, Rose, Saab, Shoemaker, Vogt, and Wivell**

Introduced and read first time: January 29, 2018

Assigned to: Rules and Executive Nominations

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## HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION

1 A House Joint Resolution concerning

2 **United States Constitution – Amendments Convention – Congressional Term**  
3 **Limits Amendment**

4 FOR the purpose of applying to the U.S. Congress for an amendments convention called  
5 under Article V of the U.S. Constitution, on the application of the legislatures of  
6 two-thirds of the several states, to propose an amendment to the U.S. Constitution  
7 that limits the number of terms that a person may be elected as a member of the  
8 U.S. House of Representatives and a member of the U.S. Senate; and generally  
9 relating to an application to Congress for a convention to propose an amendment to  
10 the U.S. Constitution.

11 WHEREAS, The American people no longer favor career politicians who run for  
12 reelection over and over again; and

13 WHEREAS, Members of Congress seem to care more about pandering to campaign  
14 contributors and special interest groups than representing their constituents; and

15 WHEREAS, Election rules and government power have been perverted so that it has  
16 become almost impossible for the people to vote their elected representatives out of office;  
17 and

18 WHEREAS, 75% of the American people support term limits; and

19 WHEREAS, Congress will not vote for an amendment to impose term limits on itself;  
20 and

21 WHEREAS, Article V of the U.S. Constitution allows for states to bypass the U.S.  
22 Congress to propose an amendment through Convention; now, therefore, be it

23 **RESOLVED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND**, That, as provided  
24 in Article V of the U.S. Constitution, the General Assembly of Maryland respectfully applies



1 to the U.S. Congress for an amendments convention to be called, as soon as two-thirds of  
2 the several states have applied for a convention, for the purpose of proposing an  
3 amendment to the U.S. Constitution limited to setting a limit on the number of terms that  
4 a person may be elected as a member of the U.S. House of Representatives and a member  
5 of the U.S. Senate; and be it further

6 RESOLVED, That this application shall be considered as covering the same subject  
7 matter as the applications from other states to the U.S. Congress to call a convention to set  
8 a limit on the number of terms that a person may be elected to the U.S. House of  
9 Representatives and the U.S. Senate; and be it further

10 RESOLVED, That this application shall be aggregated with the applications from  
11 other states for the purpose of attaining the two-thirds of states necessary to require  
12 Congress to call a limited convention on this subject, but shall not be aggregated with any  
13 other applications on any other subject; and be it further

14 RESOLVED, That this application constitutes a continuing application in  
15 accordance with Article V of the U.S. Constitution until at least two-thirds of the  
16 legislatures of the several states have made an application for an equivalently limited  
17 amendments convention; and be it further

18 RESOLVED, That certified copies of this Joint Resolution be sent by the Secretary  
19 of State to:

20 (1) the Honorable Michael R. Pence, Vice President of the United States,  
21 President of the United States Senate, Suite S-212, United States Capitol Building,  
22 Washington, D.C. 20510; the Honorable Orrin Hatch, President Pro Tempore of the United  
23 States Senate, 104 Hart Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20510; and the Honorable Paul  
24 D. Ryan, Speaker of the United States House of Representatives, 1233 Longworth House  
25 Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20515; and

26 (2) the Maryland Congressional Delegation: Senators Benjamin L. Cardin  
27 and Christopher Van Hollen, Jr., Senate Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20510; and  
28 Representatives Andrew P. Harris, C. A. Dutch Ruppersberger III, John P. Sarbanes,  
29 Anthony G. Brown, Steny Hamilton Hoyer, John Delaney, Elijah E. Cummings, and Jamie  
30 Raskin, House Office Building, Washington, D.C. 20515; and

31 (3) the Honorable David S. Ferriero, Archivist of the United States,  
32 National Archives and Records Administration, 709 Pennsylvania Avenue, N.W.,  
33 Washington, D.C. 20408; and

34 (4) the Honorable Julie E. Adams, Secretary of the United States Senate,  
35 United States Capitol Building, Suite S-312, Washington, D.C. 20510; the Honorable  
36 Elizabeth MacDonough, Parliamentarian of the United States Senate, United States  
37 Capitol Building, Suite S-133, Washington, D.C. 20510; the Honorable Karen L. Haas,  
38 Clerk of the United States House of Representatives, Suite H-154, United States Capitol  
39 Building, Washington, D.C. 20515; and the Honorable Thomas J. Wickham, Jr.,

1 Parliamentarian of the United States House of Representatives, Room H-209, United  
2 States Capitol Building, Washington, D.C. 20515, requesting that they publish this Joint  
3 Resolution in the Congressional Record and list this application in the official tally of state  
4 legislative applications for a convention of the states under Article V of the U.S.  
5 Constitution; and be it further

6           RESOLVED, That the Secretary of State is directed to send copies of this Joint  
7 Resolution to the presiding officers of both Houses of the legislature of each of the several  
8 states, with the request that it be circulated among leaders in the legislative branch of the  
9 state governments; and with the further request that each of the states join in requesting  
10 the U.S. Congress to call a convention for the purpose of initiating a proposal to amend the  
11 U.S. Constitution as described in this Joint Resolution.