

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT

P5
HB 477/96 - CGM

7lr1311

By: Delegates M. Burns and Rzepkowski

Introduced and read first time: January 9, 1997

Assigned to: Commerce and Government Matters

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **General Assembly - Limit on Consecutive Terms**

3 FOR the purpose of limiting the number of consecutive terms that an individual may
4 serve in the House of Delegates and the number of consecutive terms that an
5 individual may serve in the Senate of Maryland; and submitting this amendment to
6 the qualified voters of the State of Maryland for their adoption or rejection.

7 BY proposing an amendment to the Constitution of Maryland
8 Article III - Legislative Department
9 Section 6

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

13 **Article III - Legislative Department**

14 6.

15 (A) A member of the General Assembly shall be elected by the registered voters
16 of the legislative or delegate district from which [he] THE MEMBER seeks election, to
17 serve for a term of four years beginning on the second Wednesday of January following
18 [his] THE MEMBER'S election.

19 (B) COMMENCING WITH THE TERM OF OFFICE THAT BEGINS IN JANUARY 2003
20 AND THEREAFTER:

21 (1) AN INDIVIDUAL WHO HAS SERVED THREE CONSECUTIVE TERMS IN
22 THE SENATE OF MARYLAND SHALL BE INELIGIBLE TO HOLD THE OFFICE OF
23 SENATOR DURING THE FOUR-YEAR PERIOD FOLLOWING THE THIRD OF THE THREE
24 CONSECUTIVE TERMS; AND

25 (2) AN INDIVIDUAL WHO HAS SERVED THREE CONSECUTIVE TERMS IN
26 THE HOUSE OF DELEGATES SHALL BE INELIGIBLE TO HOLD THE OFFICE OF
27 DELEGATE DURING THE FOUR-YEAR PERIOD FOLLOWING THE THIRD OF THE
28 THREE CONSECUTIVE TERMS.

29 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the General Assembly
30 determines that the amendment to the Constitution of Maryland proposed by this Act

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1 affects multiple jurisdictions and that the provisions of Article XIV, Section 1 of the
2 Constitution concerning local approval of constitutional amendments do not apply.

3 SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the foregoing section
4 proposed as an amendment to the Constitution of Maryland shall be submitted to the
5 legal and qualified voters of this State at the next general election to be held in
6 November, 1998 for their adoption or rejection in pursuance of directions contained in
7 Article XIV of the Constitution of this State. At that general election, the vote on this
8 proposed amendment to the Constitution shall be by ballot, and upon each ballot there
9 shall be printed the words "For the Constitutional Amendments" and "Against the
10 Constitutional Amendments," as now provided by law. Immediately after the election, all
11 returns shall be made to the Governor of the vote for and against the proposed
12 amendment, as directed by Article XIV of the Constitution, and further proceedings had
13 in accordance with Article XIV.