

## House Resolution 1159

By: Representatives Jones of the 62<sup>nd</sup>, Pezold of the 133<sup>rd</sup>, and Spencer of the 180<sup>th</sup>

## A RESOLUTION

1 Proposing an amendment to the Constitution so as to provide that members of the House of  
 2 Representatives and the Senate shall serve staggered, four-year terms of office; to provide  
 3 that members of the House of Representatives and the Senate shall be limited to serving three  
 4 consecutive terms of office; to provide that terms of office in one house shall not apply to  
 5 service in the other house; to provide that a member can be eligible to serve again after at  
 6 least one year out of office; to provide for related matters; to provide for submission of this  
 7 amendment for ratification or rejection; and for other purposes.

8 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF GEORGIA:

9 **SECTION 1.**

10 Article III, Section II of the Constitution is amended by revising Paragraph V as follows:

11 "Paragraph V. *Election and term of members.* (a) ~~The~~ Except as otherwise provided  
 12 in subparagraph (c) of this Paragraph, the members of the General Assembly shall be  
 13 elected by the qualified electors of their respective districts for a term of ~~two~~ four years and  
 14 shall serve until the time fixed for the convening of the next General Assembly.

15 (b) The members of the General Assembly ~~in office on June 30, 1983,~~ elected in the  
 16 November, 2016, general election shall serve out the remainder of the terms to which  
 17 elected.

18 (c) The first election for members of the General Assembly under this ~~Constitution~~  
 19 Paragraph shall take place on Tuesday after the first Monday in November, ~~1984~~ 2018, and  
 20 subsequent elections biennially on that day until the day of election is changed by law. In  
 21 the 2018 general election, the members of the House of Representatives and the Senate  
 22 from even-numbered districts shall be elected to two-year terms of office, and the members  
 23 of the House of Representatives and the Senate from odd-numbered districts shall be  
 24 elected to four-year terms of office. Thereafter, in all subsequent elections, members of  
 25 the House of Representatives and the Senate shall be elected at the general election  
 26 immediately preceding the end of their terms of office for four-year terms of office.

27 (d) Beginning with the members elected in the November, 2018, general election,  
 28 members of the Senate shall be limited to three consecutive terms of office in the Senate,  
 29 and members of the House of Representatives shall be limited to three consecutive terms  
 30 of office in the House of Representatives. Service in one house shall not be counted with  
 31 regard to consecutive terms of service in the other house. After being out of office for at  
 32 least one year following three consecutive terms in a house of the General Assembly, a  
 33 member shall again be eligible for service in such house."

34 **SECTION 2.**

35 The above proposed amendment to the Constitution shall be published and submitted as  
 36 provided in Article X, Section I, Paragraph II of the Constitution. The ballot submitting the  
 37 above proposed amendment shall have written or printed thereon the following:

38 "( ) YES Shall the Constitution of Georgia be amended so as to provide that members  
 39 ( ) NO of the General Assembly shall serve staggered, four-year terms of office and  
 40 that members of the General Assembly shall be limited to three consecutive  
 41 terms of office?"

42 All persons desiring to vote in favor of ratifying the proposed amendment shall vote "Yes."  
 43 All persons desiring to vote against ratifying the proposed amendment shall vote "No." If  
 44 such amendment shall be ratified as provided in said Paragraph of the Constitution, it shall  
 45 become a part of the Constitution of this state.