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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION NO. 178

Offered January 22, 1996

Proposing an amendment to Section 4 of Article IV of the Constitution of Virginia, relating to qualifications for members of the General Assembly; terms of office.

Patrons—Wardrup, Drake, Dudley, Fisher, Landes, McClure, Sherwood, Wagner and Way; Senators: Quayle and Stolle

Referred to Committee on Rules

RESOLVED by the House of Delegates, the Senate concurring, a majority of the members elected to each house agreeing, That the following amendment to the Constitution of Virginia be, and the same hereby is, proposed and referred to the General Assembly at its first regular session held after the next general election of members of the House of Delegates for its concurrence in conformity with the provisions of Section 1 of Article XII of the Constitution of Virginia, namely:

Amend Section 4 of Article IV of the Constitution of Virginia as follows:

ARTICLE IV
LEGISLATURE

Section 4. Qualifications of senators and delegates.

Any person may be elected to the Senate who, at the time of the election, is twenty-one years of age, is a resident of the senatorial district which he is seeking to represent, and is qualified to vote for members of the General Assembly. Any person may be elected to the House of Delegates who, at the time of the election, is twenty-one years of age, is a resident of the house district which he is seeking to represent, and is qualified to vote for members of the General Assembly. A senator or delegate who moves his residence from the district for which he is elected shall thereby vacate his office.

No person shall be eligible to be elected to more than three consecutive terms in the Senate. No person shall be eligible to be elected to more than six consecutive terms in the House of Delegates. Service for a partial term shall not preclude service for the following twelve years. These limits shall apply to terms of service in the General Assembly beginning on or after the commencement of the 1996 Regular Session of the General Assembly.

No person holding a salaried office under the government of the Commonwealth, and no judge of any court, attorney for the Commonwealth, sheriff, treasurer, assessor of taxes, commissioner of the revenue, collector of taxes, or clerk of any court shall be a member of either house of the General Assembly during his continuance in office; and his qualification as a member shall vacate any such office held by him. No person holding any office or post of profit or emolument under the United States government, or who is in the employment of such government, shall be eligible to either house.

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