

## HOUSE BILL NO. 520

INTRODUCED BY K. HANSEN

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4 A BILL FOR AN ACT ENTITLED: "AN ACT SUBMITTING TO THE QUALIFIED ELECTORS OF MONTANA AN  
5 AMENDMENT TO ARTICLE IV, SECTION 8, OF THE MONTANA CONSTITUTION AND ARTICLE V, SECTION  
6 3, OF THE MONTANA CONSTITUTION TO EXTEND THE TERMS OF REPRESENTATIVES TO 4 YEARS AND  
7 SENATORS TO 6 YEARS; REVISING TERM LIMITS FOR REPRESENTATIVES AND SENATORS TO  
8 REFLECT THE EXTENDED TERMS; ELIMINATING THE REQUIREMENT THAT ONE-HALF OF THE  
9 SENATORS BE ELECTED EVERY 2 YEARS IN ORDER TO REFLECT EXTENDED TERMS FOR SENATORS;  
10 AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE."

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12 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MONTANA:

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14 **Section 1.** Article IV, section 8, of The Constitution of the State of Montana is amended to read:  
15 **"Section 8. Limitation on terms of office.** (1) The secretary of state or other authorized official shall  
16 not certify a candidate's nomination or election to, or print or cause to be printed on any ballot the name of a  
17 candidate for, one of the following offices if, at the end of the current term of that office, the candidate will have  
18 served in that office or had he not resigned or been recalled would have served in that office:  
19 (a) 8 or more years in any 16-year period as governor, lieutenant governor, secretary of state, state  
20 auditor, attorney general, or superintendent of public instruction;  
21 ~~———— (b) 8 or more years in any 16-year period as a state representative;~~  
22 ~~———— (c) 8 or more years in any 16-year period as a state senator;~~  
23 (b) 16 or more years in any 24-year period as a state legislator, whether as a state representative or as  
24 a state senator, or both;  
25 ~~(d)~~(c) 6 or more years in any 12-year period as a member of the U.S. house of representatives; and  
26 ~~(e)~~(d) 12 or more years in any 24-year period as a member of the U.S. senate.  
27 (2) When computing time served for purposes of subsection (1), the provisions of subsection (1) do not  
28 apply to time served in terms that end during or prior to January 1993.  
29 (3) Nothing contained herein shall preclude an otherwise qualified candidate from being certified as  
30 nominated or elected by virtue of write-in votes cast for said candidate."

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**Section 2.** Article V, section 3, of The Constitution of the State of Montana is amended to read:

**"Section 3. Election and terms.** A member of the house of representatives shall be elected for a term of ~~two~~ four years and a member of the senate for a term of ~~four~~ six years each to begin on a date provided by law. ~~One-half of the senators shall be elected every two years."~~

NEW SECTION. **Section 3. Two-thirds vote required.** Because [sections 1 and 2] are a legislative proposal to amend the constitution, Article XIV, section 8, of the Montana constitution requires an affirmative roll call vote of two-thirds of all the members of the legislature, whether one or more bodies, for passage.

NEW SECTION. **Section 4. Effective date.** [This act] is effective on approval by the electorate.

NEW SECTION. **Section 5. Submission to electorate.** [This act] shall be submitted to the qualified electors of Montana at the general election to be held in November 2014 by printing on the ballot the full title of [this act] and the following:

- YES for extending the terms of legislators, revising term limits for legislators, and removing the requirement that one-half of senators be elected every 2 years.
- NO for extending the terms of legislators, revising term limits for legislators, and removing the requirement that one-half of senators be elected every 2 years.

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