

1 STATE OF OKLAHOMA

2 2nd Session of the 56th Legislature (2018)

3 SENATE JOINT  
4 RESOLUTION 54

By: Paxton

5  
6 AS INTRODUCED

7 A Joint Resolution directing the Secretary of State  
8 to refer to the people for their approval or  
9 rejection proposed amendments to Sections 1 and 4 of  
10 Article VI of the Oklahoma Constitution, which relate  
11 to executive officers; directing the Governor to  
12 appoint the Commissioner of Labor; providing  
13 procedures; requiring consent of Senate; removing  
14 eligibility and term limit provisions; providing  
15 ballot title; and directing filing.

16 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE AND THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE  
17 2ND SESSION OF THE 56TH OKLAHOMA LEGISLATURE:

18 SECTION 1. The Secretary of State shall refer to the people for  
19 their approval or rejection, as and in the manner provided by law,  
20 the following proposed amendment to Sections 1 and 4 of Article VI  
21 of the Oklahoma Constitution to read as follows:

22 Section 1. A. The Executive authority of the state shall be  
23 vested in a Governor, Lieutenant Governor, Secretary of State, State  
24 Auditor and Inspector, Attorney General, State Treasurer,  
Superintendent of Public Instruction, Commissioner of Labor,  
Commissioner of Insurance and other officers provided by law and

1 this Constitution, each of whom shall keep his or her office and  
2 public records, books, and papers at the seat of government, and  
3 shall perform such duties as may be designated in this Constitution  
4 or prescribed by law.

5 B. The Secretary of State shall be appointed by the Governor by  
6 and with the consent of the Senate for a term of four (4) years to  
7 run concurrently with the term of the Governor.

8 C. Upon expiration of the term of the Commissioner of Labor  
9 elected in 2022, the Commissioner of Labor shall be appointed by the  
10 Governor by and with the consent of the Senate and shall serve at  
11 the pleasure of the Governor.

12 Section 4. A. The term of office of the Governor, Lieutenant  
13 Governor, State Auditor and Inspector, Attorney General, State  
14 Treasurer, ~~Commissioner of Labor~~ and Superintendent of Public  
15 Instruction shall be four (4) years from the second Monday of  
16 January next after their election. The ~~said~~ officers shall be  
17 eligible to immediately succeed themselves except as otherwise  
18 provided in this section.

19 B. 1. No person shall be eligible to serve as Governor for a  
20 period of time in excess of eight (8) years. Such years need not be  
21 consecutive. Any years served by a person serving as Governor for  
22 less than a full term to fill a vacancy in such office shall not be  
23 included in the eight-year limitation set forth herein.

24

1           2. Notwithstanding the provisions of this amendment, any person  
2 serving as Governor at the time of passage of this amendment shall  
3 be eligible to complete the term of office to which he or she was  
4 elected but shall not be eligible to serve as Governor for a period  
5 of time in excess of eight (8) years, excluding years served for  
6 less than a full term to fill a vacancy in such office. The  
7 provisions of this paragraph shall apply regardless of whether such  
8 years were served prior to or after passage of this amendment.

9           C. No person shall be eligible to serve as Lieutenant Governor,  
10 State Auditor and Inspector, Attorney General, State Treasurer,  
11 ~~Commissioner of Labor~~ or Superintendent of Public Instruction for a  
12 period of time in excess of eight (8) years. Such years need not be  
13 consecutive. Any years served by a person elected or appointed to  
14 serve less than a full term to fill a vacancy in any such office  
15 shall not be included in the limitations set forth herein. Any  
16 person serving in such position at the time of passage of this  
17 amendment shall be eligible to complete the term for which he or she  
18 has been elected and shall be eligible to serve an additional eight  
19 (8) years thereafter, notwithstanding the provisions of this  
20 amendment.

21           D. The Legislature is hereby authorized to enact laws to  
22 implement the provisions of subsections B and C of this section.

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1 SECTION 2. The Ballot Title for the proposed Constitutional  
2 amendment as set forth in SECTION 1 of this resolution shall be in  
3 the following form:

4 BALLOT TITLE

5 Legislative Referendum No. \_\_\_\_\_ State Question No. \_\_\_\_\_

6 THE GIST OF THE PROPOSITION IS AS FOLLOWS:

7 This measure amends the Oklahoma Constitution. It amends  
8 Section 1 of Article 6. It directs the Governor to appoint the  
9 Commissioner of Labor by and with the consent of the Senate.  
10 The Commissioner would serve at the pleasure of the Governor.  
11 The first appointment would be made upon expiration of the term  
12 of the person elected in 2022. It amends Section 4 of Article  
13 6. It removes term limits for the Commissioner of Labor.

14 SHALL THE PROPOSAL BE APPROVED?

15 FOR THE PROPOSAL - YES \_\_\_\_\_

16 AGAINST THE PROPOSAL - NO \_\_\_\_\_

17 SECTION 3. The President Pro Tempore of the Senate shall,  
18 immediately after the passage of this resolution, prepare and file  
19 one copy thereof, including the Ballot Title set forth in SECTION 2  
20 hereof, with the Secretary of State and one copy with the Attorney  
21 General.

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