



NATIONAL CONFERENCE of STATE LEGISLATURES

The Forum for America's Ideas

Legislative Term Limits

| State | Year Enacted | Yes Vote | House | | Senate | | C/L* |
|------------|--------------|----------|-------|----------------|--------|----------------|------|
| | | | Limit | Year of Impact | Limit | Year of Impact | |
| Arizona | 1992 | 74.2% | 8 | 2000 | 8 | 2000 | C |
| Arkansas | 1992 | 59.9% | 6 | 1998 | 8 | 2000 | L |
| California | 1990 | 52.2% | 6 | 1996 | 8 | 1998 | L |
| Colorado | 1990 | 71.0% | 8 | 1998 | 8 | 1998 | C |
| Florida | 1992 | 76.8% | 8 | 2000 | 8 | 2000 | C |
| Louisiana | 1995 | 76.0% | 12 | 2007 | 12 | 2007 | C |
| Maine | 1990 | 67.6% | 8 | 1996 | 8 | 1996 | C |
| Michigan | 1992 | 58.8% | 6 | 1998 | 8 | 2002 | L |
| Missouri | 1992 | 75.0% | 8 | 2002 | 8 | 2002 | L |
| Montana | 1992 | 67.0% | 8 | 2000 | 8 | 2000 | C |
| Nebraska | 2000 | 56.0% | n/a | n/a | 8 | 2006 | C |
| Nevada | 1996 | 70.4% | 12 | 2010 | 12 | 2010 | L |
| Ohio | 1992 | 68.4% | 8 | 2000 | 8 | 2000 | C |
| Oklahoma** | 1990 | 67.3% | 12** | 2004 | 12** | 2004 | L |
| S. Dakota | 1992 | 63.5% | 8 | 2000 | 8 | 2000 | C |

* Term limits may be divided into two broad categories: consecutive and lifetime. With consecutive term limits, a legislator is limited to serving a particular number of years in a chamber. Upon hitting the limit in one chamber, a legislator may run for election to the other chamber or leave the legislature. After a set period of time (usually two years), the clock resets on the limit, and the legislator may run for election to his/her original seat and serve up to the limit again. With lifetime limits, on the other hand, once a legislator has served up to the limit, she/he may never again run for election to that office. Lifetime limits are much more restrictive than consecutive limits.

** Oklahoma's limit is a maximum of twelve years in the legislature.

Term Limits Repealed

| State | Year Repealed | Year Enacted | Who Repealed? |
|---------------|---------------|--------------|---------------------|
| Idaho | 2002 | 1994 | Legislature |
| Massachusetts | 1997 | 1994 | State Supreme Court |

Source: National Conference of State Legislatures
June 2010

For more information, please contact Jennie Drage Bowser at 303-364-7700.



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|------------|------|------|------------------------|
| Oregon | 2002 | 1992 | State Supreme Court |
| Utah | 2003 | 1994 | Legislature |
| Washington | 1998 | 1992 | State Supreme Court |
| Wyoming | 2004 | 1992 | State Supreme Court |

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