

No Uncertain Terms

THE NEWSLETTER OF THE TERM LIMITS MOVEMENT • SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER • VOLUME 29 • No. 3

USTL State Chair Program a Success

Heavy hitters in politics and influential business leaders in their local communities have stepped up as spokespersons for U.S. Term Limits in their respective states. The USTL State Chair program has had enormous success in bringing awareness to our term limits efforts in the states where they have been appointed.

“We are honored that these prominent leaders are passionate enough about term limits to take an active roll in helping us pass our term limits convention resolutions at the state level,” commented Philip Blumel, President of USTL.

State chairs dedicate their efforts to meeting with state lawmakers, holding press conferences, keynoting events, writing opinion pieces, and making appearances on local and national broadcasts.

The first appointment was Dr. John Cowan, a neurosurgeon who ran against Marjorie Taylor Greene for Georgia’s 14th congressional district. This legislative session, he helped pass the term limits resolution

through the Georgia senate. Since Cowan’s appointment, several more state leaders have answered the call to lead efforts in their states with many more on the way.



Dr. John Cowan, Georgia

Meet Our State Chairs Georgia: Dr. John Cowan

“In the medical profession, I’ve spent my career healing, restoring, and putting my patients back on the path to good health. It’s the greatest reward to see patients get better. I now feel called to serve in a new capacity helping to provide the healing our country desperately needs.”



Sara Hart Weir, Kansas

Kansas: Sara Hart Weir

“We need to start putting people over politics and in order to do that, we need Congressional members

(cont’d on page 7)

Grassroots Activism Takes the Country by Storm

Grassroots activists across the country are actively gathering signatures for our term limits on Congress petition. They are meeting with legislators to get them to sign our pledge. Self-organized and self-perpetuating, they are writing letters to the editor, passing out literature at events, and asking politicians about their stance on term limits at public townhalls. Volunteers are the lifeblood of our organization. We can’t thank them enough for all they do.

Oklahoma

Volunteer Oklahoma State Director, Chris Keener and his dedicated team braved the wind and the heat at the 32nd Annual Route 66 Blowout Car Show and Festival in Sepulpa. They were excited to spread the word about our mission, collect petitions, and recruit volunteers. Wildly successful, the team garnered signatures from more than 200 new term limits supporters who were delighted to sup-



Oklahoma Volunteers at the Route 66 Blow Out

port to the term limits effort. Local Democratic committee members tabling nearby signed up to volunteer for USTL, reinforcing that term limits is a nonpartisan issue embraced on both sides of the aisle.

(cont’d on page 7)



President's Corner

BY PHILIP BLUMEL

Senator Dianne Feinstein of California is 88. Senator Charles Grassley, 87, Richard Shelby, 87, James Inhofe, 86, Pat Leahy, 81. People are living longer and the average age is rising in many industries as older Americans are staying active longer. That's a good thing. But in politics, this trend is reaching extremes, and the reasons aren't limited to better healthcare or eating more salad.

How did we get here? Why do we have the oldest Senate in history?" And this is a problem plaguing the House, as well. When you have an entrenched incumbency that wins elections automatically, money pours in chasing away serious competition. If you're an incumbent and you have a pulse, you get reelected.

Because it's based on a seniority system, the older members are the ones who are actually running the show. They chair all the committees, and so the problem is worse than what the average age statistics might tell you. Their is painfully obvious, particularly when they're talking about things like the Internet and social media, and topics they actually don't know anything about. We have a joke around here,"We don't call them congressional hearings anymore. We call them commercials for Term Limits." Well, term limits would solve the problems caused by both entrenched incumbency and declining cognition. We hope you support our cause by signing the term limits petition and sharing it with everyone you know.

Sincerely,

Visit our Facebook page at facebook.com/ustermlimits.

Visit termlimits.com/petition to sign up for email updates about U.S. Term Limits.

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“The appropriations committees of the House and Senate are aged and decrepit men, who if they think at all think...backward thinking.”

-- President Harry S. Truman

Term Limits “NUT” Podcast Celebrates Third Year

The “No Uncertain Terms” podcast just reached a three year milestone. It has become the nation’s only source for term limits specific news. The show is entertaining and insightful, often poking fun at the hubris of politicians. It is also a successfully platform for recruiting, educating, and mobilizing term limits supporters.

The weekly show streams each Monday hosted by USTL President Philip Blumel.

Term limits supporters can listen to the audio, or simply read a transcript of each show by visiting termlimits.com/podcast or subscribing on your favorite podcast player.

Recent episodes have covered everything from the push for term limits on New York Governor, term limits for the Supreme Court, billboards for pledge breakers, and corruption in the Illinois and Ohio state legislature.



NO Uncertain TERMS!
Witty, entertaining political news

Ep. 154
8/16/21

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Status Update: Where Term Limits Convention Legislation Currently Stands in the States

States that passed our term limits resolution:	Florida, Alabama, Missouri, West Virginia
Passed in one chamber:	Tennessee House, Georgia Senate, North Carolina House
Awaiting Committee Vote:	US House and Senate, Georgia House, Pennsylvania House and Senate, South Carolina House and Senate, Tennessee Senate, North Carolina Senate



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Senatorial Senility

“We have the oldest Senate in American history,” Roxanne Roberts writes in The Washington Post.

Roberts rattles off the five octogenarians — Sen. Dianne Feinstein (D-Calif.), age 88; Sen. Charles Grassley (R-Iowa), age 87; Richard Shelby (R-Ala.), age 87; Sen. James Inhofe (R-Okla.), age 86; and Sen. Pat Leahy (D-Vt.), age 81 — and tells us that “Twenty-three members of the Senate are in their 70s,” noting that “only one is under 40.”

That fledgling 34-year-old whippersnapper is newly elected Georgia Democrat Jon Ossoff. But being 30 years younger than the current Senate average doesn’t make him better, that’s for sure.

Age isn’t the problem. Not exactly.

My issue with octogenarian Senators Feinstein, Grassley, Shelby, Inhofe and Leahy is that they’ve been politicians in Washington for the last 28, 40, 43, 34, and 46 years, respectively.

That’s way too long. They stop being one of us, representing us. And, left, right or in-between, we know it.

“Senior senators often stay for decades,” Roberts argues, “because voters are reluctant to give up the perks of incumbency: Seniority, committee chairmanships and all the money poured into their states.”

Ha! The idea that actual voters are unwilling to “give up the perks of incumbency” is laughable. It’s the incumbents themselves who leverage their votes in Congress to dramatically out-fundraise their challengers. Voters rarely get much choice.

No wonder, then, that when people got a chance to vote to term-limit their own congressmen — they did so enthusiastically.

President Truman once quipped that legislative term limits would help “cure senility, and seniority — both terrible legislative diseases.” He understood that the Senate’s age problem is not time on the planet. It is the time in office.

This is Common Sense. I’m Paul Jacob.

Reprinted with permission from thisiscommonsense.org/2021/06/09/senatorial-senility



Sen. Dianne Feinstein

Maine State Senator Presented with Plaque

Maine Senator Rick Bennett (district 19) was honored recently at a meeting of the Lake Region Republicans for his commitment to supporting a Term Limits Amendment for Congress by signing the U.S. Term Limits Pledge which reads: “I, Rick Bennett, pledge that as a member of the state legislature I will cosponsor, vote for, and defend the resolution applying for an Article V convention for the sole purpose of enacting term limits on Congress.”

U.S. Term Limits Regional Director, Kenn Quinn presented Bennett with a plaque and commented on his support saying, “Senator Bennett is a real believer in this reform to have the state legislatures use their authority under Article V of the U.S. Constitution to propose a Congressional Term Limits Amendment.” Bennett became the Senate lead sponsor to HP438 which was introduced by House lead sponsor Representative Nate Wadsworth (district 70).”



Sen. Bennett isn’t the only term limits supporter in office. To date, 93 members of Congress and approximately 675 state lawmakers have pledged to support our resolution for term limits on Congress.

Activists collecting signatures to put term limits on the ballot in North Dakota

North Dakota may be the next state to impose term limits on its governor and state lawmakers. North Dakota Term Limits, a grassroots organization with a 42-member committee that includes current and former members of the N.D. state legislature, filed the proposed ballot measure in June.

Petitioners are making great strides gathering the required 31,164 signatures to put the measure on the ballot in 2022.

According to Jared Hendrix, the committee chair, "It's about the principle of term limits. It's a long-term structural change. The polling data we have shows that this is a popular issue across the political spectrum."

The proposed constitutional measure would restrict the governor to two four-year terms and legislators to eight years, or two terms, in each house. That adds up to a com-

bined 16 years in the state legislature, whether consecutive or cumulative. The term limits would not apply to current office holders.



Jared Hendrix, chair of the N.D. committee sponsoring a proposed constitutional amendment to term limit the governor and state legislature to 8-years in each office.

The proposed measure also would amend the constitution to allow only voters and not the Legislature to ever alter or repeal the term limit provision.

Success at the ballot would make North Dakota the 36th state to term limit its governor and the 16th to implement state legislative term limits joining ranks with Arizona, Arkansas, California, Colorado, Florida, Louisiana, Maine, Michigan,

Missouri, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, Ohio, Oklahoma, and South Dakota.

If you live in North Dakota and would like to help, visit the group's web site at northdakotafortermlimits.com.

Show the Professional Politicians What YOU Think of Them

Visit the term limits store and stock up on TERM LIMITS SWAG!

TermLimits.com/shop



Democrats Introduce Term Limits Resolution

U.S. Term Limits, a nonpartisan term limits advocacy organization, calls for a united front for term limits on all three branches of federal government. This is not a left issue or a right issue, it's about what's best for the country. U.S. Term Limits praises Democratic California U.S. Representative Ro Khanna for introducing a statute to limit the service of Supreme Court Justices to 18-years.

According to Rep. Khanna's web site "Current justices would be exempt from the term limits. Going forward, the bill would then create a regular appointment process to allow every president to nominate a new justice to the Supreme Court during each odd year, guaranteeing each president the opportunity to nominate two justices per four-year term."

Nick Tomboulides, Executive Director of U.S. Term Limits, supports term limits on the SCOTUS because our judicial system should not be based purely on gamesmanship based on ideological consideration. Recently, Justice Breyer, now 83, acknowledged that he may make his retirement decision based on the composition of the other two branches of government.

Last year, Ruth Bader Ginsberg stayed in office until she died at the age of 87 having held the seat for 27 years, an appointee of President Jimmy Carter. RBG, a Democrat, was replaced by a Republican Justice Amy Coney Barrett further shifting justice ideology because Ginsberg happened to die while Republicans were in control instead of retiring when President Obama held office.

Since her death a year ago, Justice Breyer has hinted at retiring while Democrats are in control so as not to lose any more Democratic influence on the Supreme Court.

Currently, Democrats control the appointing (Executive) and nominating (Senate) bodies.

We are following the term limits bills in Congress and call on both parties to cosponsor S.J.R. 3 and H.J.R. 12 for term limits on Congress as well as H.R. 5140 for Supreme Court. #UnitedforTermLimits.



U.S. Representative Rohit Khanna, sponsor of H.R.5140 for 18-year term limits on the Supreme Court

We ask that you write your U.S. senators and representatives asking them all to cosponsor SJR3, HJR12, and HR5140.

**Take action now at
[termlimits.com/unitedfortermlimits](https://www.termlimits.com/unitedfortermlimits)**

What YOU Can Do to Help Impose Term Limit on Congress

<https://www.termlimits.com/volunteer/>

U.S. Term Limits is looking for volunteers who can spend an hour or more a week, working from home, helping to end career politicians everywhere. You'll be able to shine as a member of our grassroots team in whatever capacity suits you best.

Grassroots activism can be anything you want it to be. From writing emails to your state politicians, hosting a petition drive, or starting a local group to lead a more coordinated effort. Regardless, anyone can help! It's high time we get #UnitedforTermLimits!

State Chair Program a Success (cont'd from page 1)

who are responsive to the people they represent rather than PACs and lobbyists. Term limits is the answer. That's why I am proud to be heading up this effort in Kansas."

North Carolina: Leigh Brown

"Community leaders serve – and then step aside for others to serve. A small group of individuals holds power in our current system, and they are using that power to reward themselves and their friends. Without term limits, Congress loses touch with the people they are elected to represent."



Leigh Brown, North Carolina

Texas: Chris Ekstrom

"With 95 percent of incumbents getting re-elected, new ideas and new voices are stifled. It is time to restore our founding father's vision of a citizen legislature where people serve for a short time and then return back to their community."



Chris Ekstrom, Texas

Tennessee: Mayor Glenn Jacobs

"America is divided as ever before. But there is one thing we all agree on no matter politics. Congress is broken



Mayor Glenn Jacobs, Tennessee

and there doesn't seem to be any way to fix it. Our goal is to make sure the state of Tennessee is the next state to pass a resolution for the states to add term limits on Congress to the U.S. Constitution."

Oklahoma: David Hill

"Washington is non-stop politics. Congress is more focused on power grabs than doing what is in the best interest of our nation. I truly believe that to fix DC we need to return to a citizen legislature. That's why I support term limits and I am proud to be part of this growing movement."



David Hill, Oklahoma

Iowa: Terry Henderson

"Congress no longer represents the voice of the people. It is time to end the reign of career politicians who have long forgotten the people they are supposed to represent."



Terry Henderson, Iowa

To find out more about the state chairpersons, visit termlimits.com/state-chairs.

Grassroots Activism (cont'd from page 1)

Pennsylvania

The PA team is on fire tabling at several gun shows, meeting with lawmakers, holding online information sessions and organizing grassroots activists. There is tremendous support for term limits in the Keystone State as our team has gathered record breaking number of signatures while they actively work to pass our term limits resolutions through both chambers of the state legislature.

Florida

A dedicated volunteer is connecting with supporters attending Tampa Bay Lightning games as we continue



USTL Pennsylvania Volunteers

collect pledges from candidate for Congress and put pressure on the Florida state legislature to pass school board term limits. USTL is committed to term limits on all levels of government, and is actively advocating for local term limits across the state of Florida.

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Inside No Uncertain Terms...

USTL State Chair Program a Success...1

Term Limits Activists Take the Country by Storm..1

USTL Resolutions Status Update..3

State Senator Receives Term Limits Plaque...4

Petition Drive for Term Limits in North Dakota...5

Democrats Introduce Term Limits Bill in Congress...6

Volunteer with U.S. Term Limits...6

Outrageous Congress...8



Outrageous Congress!

88-year old Sen. Chuck Grassley files for reelection

ANNOUNCEMENT: Sen. Grassley of Iowa announces his eighth term for senator. At the end of the next term, he will be 95-years old and will have had the position for 48 years! Grassley has held public office for 62 years since 1959. He was 36-years old when Neil Armstrong walked on the moon. He was a politician for 15 years during the Watergate scandal. When is enough enough? Do we want 95-year old politicians or do we want term limits on Congress?