

# No Uncertain Terms

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## Wisconsin Passes the Term Limits Resolution

The Wisconsin State legislature approved a call for a national term limits on Congress convention. The Badger State joins the growing list of legislatures that are bypassing Congress to propose term limits on the U.S. House and Senate.

The passage of AJR135 and SJR102 gives notice to Congress that Wisconsin is to be counted towards the 34 state applications required to call a national term limits convention. The effort was spearheaded by U.S. Term Limits.

Jason Church, Wisconsin State Chair said, “Eighty-two percent of Americans support term limits on Congress, including huge majorities of Democrats, Republicans and independents. This is a rare, truly nonpartisan issue with national appeal.” The measure passed both chambers with bipartisan support.

“I want to thank both Senator Duey Stroebel and Representative Dan Knodl for sponsoring the resolution,” continued Church. “Their leadership on the issue led to this victory and reflected the wishes of the voters of Wisconsin. Other key states are well on



*Wisconsin State Capitol, Madison, Wisconsin*

their way to passing this important election reform. The progress in Wisconsin has laid the groundwork for future successes.”

(cont'd on page 7)

## Term Limits Day Celebrations Across the Country



*Term Limits supporter's sign waving in Florida*

February 27th marked the 71st anniversary of the passage of the 22nd Amendment, which put term limits on the President of the United States.

Every year, U.S. Term Limits asks volunteers and supporters across the country to show their commitment to term limits on Congress by displaying yard signs, sporting term limits garb, attending term limits events, contacting their lawmakers and engaging in good old fashioned grassroots activism.

We want to thank the hundreds of supporters who took action on our third annual Term Limits Day.

If you'd like to volunteer for other term limits activities, please visit [termlimits.com/volunteer](http://termlimits.com/volunteer).



## The History of Congressional Term Limits

On February 27, 1951, the Twenty-second Amendment was ratified by the states. Congress had proposed the amendment in a direct response to Franklin Delano Roosevelt's election to a fourth term as president. This amendment to the U.S. Constitution codified into law a two term limit on the President of the United States, the executive of one of the three branches of the federal government. The other two branches, Congress and the Supreme Court have no such limits.

Fast forward to the 1990s when calls for term limits on Congress reached a fever pitch. Spearheaded by U.S. Term Limits, supporters encouraged twenty-three states to pass laws to limit the number of terms their own federal senators and representatives could serve on Capitol Hill.

However, in 1995, the movement hit a hurdle. The United States Supreme Court decided, in *U.S. Term Limits v Thornton*, that the the states could not limit their own federal delegation. The only way to impose term limits on Congress would be through a constitutional amendment to the qualifications clause that sets the criteria for members of Congress. This invalidated the laws from those 23 states, prompting a new multi-pronged approach for USTL to add term limits on Congress to the Constitution.

Getting an amendment is no easy task, and it shouldn't be. This requires a two stage process: proposal then ratification. To propose the amendment, either Congress or the states at a national convention may set the terms. For the states to convene, 38 must pass a resolution stating the intention to set terms on Congress. Regardless of the path, 38 states must ratify the proposal.

With more than 95 members of Congress, and 700 state legislators publicly supporting term limits, we know we will get the job done. It takes a concerted effort to cross the finish line. Please keep up the pressure by volunteering, calling your legislators, and donating to support the cause. We can't do this without you.

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### On the Michigan Lobbyist Scam:

*"I will not support this proposal to undermine the [Michigan] Constitution, nor applaud its effort to fool the voters into thinking this is about "transparency."*

Patrick L. Anderson, author of the 1992 Michigan term limits amendment.

# Term Limits in California - A Different Approach

Term Limits volunteers in California have been building an operational base for nearly 18 months. There are currently ten area coordinators (including Rand E. Tanner, the state director), with the majority in southern California. The vastness of the Golden State presents unique organizational challenges. There are more than 39.5 million people in the state, over 11 million in Los Angeles metro area. Even with so many people it can be difficult connecting volunteers to legislators. California’s capital is over six hours from Los Angeles and San Diego. With more than 39.5 million people, it isn’t easy to travel to the six and a half hour drive to the state capital for legislative meetings.



*Rand E. Tanner, Cali State Director and volunteers tabling.*

Some of our efforts in social media have been to increase our footprint on MeWe and Instagram, maintain our traction on Facebook by responding to comments on posts, and using “California” and “Term Limits” as keywords on Google News to find articles which we leverage to further our communications effort. This is accomplished primarily by volunteers Andie Sarjeant (Ontario, Canada) and Lesley Sanders.

Our coordinators in the San Francisco Bay area, Steve Sustrick and Yvonn Dorsey have been increasing their term limits supporter engagement activities by presenting to local political groups.

In the south, Karen Lau, Krystal Escarsega, Mussa Khiar, Paul Fridich, and Michael Hamilton have been focusing on their own legislators and building their base of term limits volunteers.

Therefore, a laser focus is being implemented where local constituents contact their own state legislators in their home districts. Our coordinators are zeroing in on their respective state legislators to ascertain a solid yes or no response to their support of term limits for Congress (a.k.a. “whip count”). There are eighty state assembly members and forty senators who are subject to state term limits. Every two years, all assembly members and either the odd or even numbered senators (twenty each year) are up for election; every two years more than 100 state candidates run for office.

We have found that social media ads that may work in conserative states are not always received well in California.

## Progress: Where Term Limits Convention Resolutions Currently Stand Across the Country

<b>States that passed our term limits resolution:</b>	Florida, Alabama, Missouri, West Virginia, Wisconsin
<b>Passed in one chamber:</b>	Tennessee House, Georgia Senate, North Carolina House.
<b>Awaiting committee vote:</b>	U.S. House and Senate, Alaska, Georgia House, Tennessee Senate, North Carolina Senate, Arizona, Idaho, Pennsylvania, Kentucky, Minnesota, Hawaii, and Kansas.

*Email your representatives in these states at [termlimits.com/takeaction](http://termlimits.com/takeaction).*

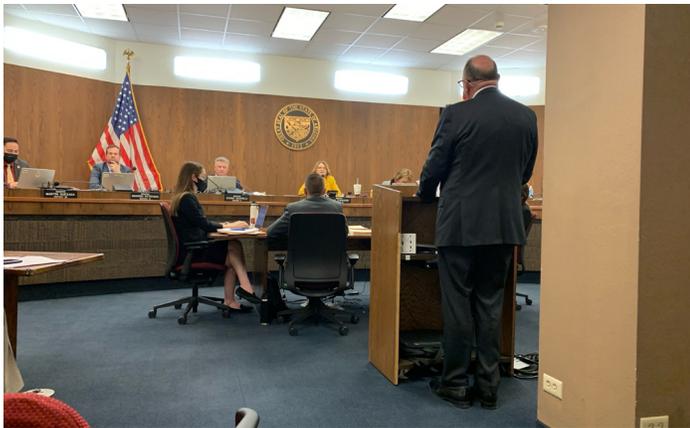
# Term Limits News Across the Country

## North Region

**Wisconsin:** We're excited to announce that Wisconsin became the fifth state to pass the single topic term limits convention resolution (read story on page 1 for more details.)

## West Region

**Arizona:** The Arizona State Senate Government Committee passed SCR1048 and is heading to the senate floor for a vote. Five Democrats and six Republicans cosponsored our bipartisan resolution.



*AZ Senate Government Committee passes SCR 1048*

**Idaho:** COVID-19 illnesses have hampered the leadership in this year's session compressing the legislative timeline. Our term limits resolution has been filed and is pending a resolution number.

We appreciate Gov. Ron DeSantis for his message of encouragement to the Idaho voters on the merits of passing the US Term Limits resolution. <https://youtu.be/sacG9azVlg8>

Ron Crane has been appointed to Idaho State Chair. He is former state legislator, recent State Treasurer and his son Brent serves in the legislature.

Volunteers Carri Campbell, Idaho State Director, John Parker and the USTL team have organized petition signings at three gun shows, receiving more than 1000 signatures.

**Alaska:** House Joint Resolution 28, sponsored by Rep. McKay has been referred to the House Judiciary Committee. A hearing date is pending.

**Montana:** Ed Walker, our new Montana State Chair, has hit the ground running acquiring in 6 new pledges from Montana legislators, many of whom are in leadership. Montana's biennial legislative session starts in 2023. Walker's efforts will help set the stage to launch early next year.

## Central Region

**Tennessee:** In February, volunteers from all corners of the state, representing various parties and generations, joined Tennessee State Chair Mayor Glenn Jacobs at the capitol in Nashville. Their mission was to advocate for our resolution in meetings with state senators. They succeeded in garnering two new 'yes' votes while reaffirming support of several others. The volunteers also met Senator Mike Bell, the lead sponsor for HJR8.

We expect a vote in the Senate Judiciary Committee in the next few weeks.



*Lt. Governor McNally, Mayor Jacobs, Aaron Dukette, and volunteers at Tennessee Capitol Day*

## South Region

**Florida.** School Board Term Limits passed the Florida legislature. Unfortunately, Senator Gruters amended the language of the statute from eight years to twelve... a move U.S. Term Limits adamantly condemns.

# USTL Spotlight: Kenn Quinn, Northern Regional Director

**Time with USTL:** I have been working for U.S. Term Limits as a Regional Director for 4.5 years.

**Term Limits Moment Most Proud Of:** Ever since getting involved in the Article V movement, I have become a bit of a constitutional history wonk and enjoy sharing my research to educate people on the Article V convention and term limits. I have consolidated this research into flashcards that we share with legislators to overcome their objections and to refute the false claims by our opponents. I think these turned out pretty good and you can view them at [www.termlimits.com/debunkingmyths/](http://www.termlimits.com/debunkingmyths/)

**Why I do this:** I am doing this because I am deeply concerned about the future of our country and believe that we need to take the power back by imposing term limits on Congress. I firmly believe that if we are successful in calling first Article V convention, we will change the course of our country and put the federal government on notice.

**Fun Fact:** I was adamantly opposed to the idea of an Article V convention. The reason I was an opponent is because of information I received from an organization that I later found out was false based upon my own research. Needless to say, once I realized that I was lied to, I became an ardent Article V convention advocate and made it my mission to expose the anti-Article V lies from that organization.



*Kenn Quinn is the National Field Director of U.S. Term Limits. He resides in Maine with his family.*



## Show the Professional Politicians What YOU Think

Visit the term limits store and stock up on TERM LIMITS SWAG!  
[TermLimits.com/shop](http://TermLimits.com/shop)

# North Dakota Term Limits Group Submits Record Number of Petition Signatures

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, submitted more than 46,000 signatures to send the measure to the ballot in November 2022. They initially filed the proposed ballot measure in June 2021. Since then, petitioners made great strides gathering the 31,164 signatures required by July 2022.

Support was overwhelming, the committee submitted more signature than any other petition in North Dakota history.

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 show that this is a popular issue across the political spectrum.”

If approved by voters, term limits would be effective Jan. 1, 2023. The proposed amendment would limit the governor to two terms (8 years); representatives in the state house to two terms (8 years); and state senators to two terms (8 years). Term limits would not be retroactive — meaning the service of current officeholders would not count against them. The measure would bar the legislature from proposing amendments to alter or repeal the term limits; only citizens would be able to do so.

“Americans, regardless of political affiliation, believe in term limits for elected officials,” said Scott

Tillman, National Field Director for U.S. Term Limits. “North Dakotans regardless of political identity, believe that term limits are needed in the state and proved it by signing the ballot petition in numbers never before seen in North Dakota history,” he concluded.

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 [northdakotaforterm\\_limits.com](http://northdakotaforterm_limits.com).



*Alvin Jaeger, North Dakota Secretary of State reviewing petitions for term limits on North Dakota legislature and governor*

## What YOU Can Do to Help Impose Term Limits on Congress

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!

[Volunteer at \[termlimits.com/volunteer/\]\(http://termlimits.com/volunteer/\)](http://termlimits.com/volunteer/)

# Michigan Lobbyists Unveil the “SCAM OF THE CENTURY”

Buckle up, folks. A group of Michigan career politicians, lobbyists and insiders is launching what might be the biggest anti-term limits scam ever.

The group, which has given itself the Orwellian name “Voters for Transparency and Term Limits,” is helmed by a who’s who of Michigan power brokers: former Michigan Chamber of Commerce CEO Rich Studly, Wayne State Board Member Mark Gaffney, Detroit Mayor Mike Duggan and ex-House Speaker, now-lobbyist Jase Bolger.

These Lansing insiders have announced a new ballot measure they claim “reduces overall time in the legislature” by eliminating Michigan’s voter-approved term limits of 6 years in the House and 8 years in the Senate and replacing them with a 12-year limit.

Here’s the problem: This measure accomplishes the OPPOSITE of what the power brokers claim. It effectively doubles term limits for Michigan House members, from 6 to 12 years, while lengthening term limits for Michigan state senators by 50 percent (8 to 12). Essentially, this measure would seize control of state government away from the people of Michigan while handing it over to career politicians. It ought to be renamed “The Career Politician Empowerment Act.”

Under the current law, the vast majority of Michigan House members who reach their 6-year term limit cannot move to the Senate. There are simply not enough seats for them. So, the claim that Michigan lawmakers currently have a 14-year term limit (which would then be “reduced”



to 12) is not true. The practical effect of this change would be that House members keep power for twice as long.

Even worse, the measure is being presented to voters in the most dishonest way possible. If this appears on the ballot, it will fail to inform citizens that term limits are being destroyed. Instead, a voter will only see flowery language about “ethics and transparency,” as well as the false claim that this measure would make term limits shorter.

The bureaucrats behind this scheme know that, if they were to be honest with voters about their aim of demolishing term limits, they would lose in a landslide. They know they have to resort to smoke and mirrors in an attempt to trick the people of Michigan into voting against term limits. How ironic...this proposal for “transparency” is clouded in deception.

## Wisconsin Passes Term Limits... (cont'd from page 1)

Over this past year, our field team employed everything from Facebook campaigns, to volunteer phone calls, to extensive grassroots support in hearings and meetings with legislators.

USTL’s plan is to recreate the success of the Wisconsin in states like Tennessee, Georgia, North Carolina, Pennsylvania, Indiana, Iowa, Idaho, Arizona and others where term limits field teams are already working. (See our regional updates on page 4.)

“When volunteers help on the ground and donors contribute money for field team operations which include supplies, targeted ads, rallies and phone banks, I believe we’ll convince several more states to support the term limits convention this session,” USTL Executive Director, Nick Tomboulides says.

“We have the right strategy, we have public opinion on our side, we know what tactics work on these state legisla-

tors. We are grateful to the generosity of our supporters who contribute the resources necessary to help us execute our plans,” added Tomboulides.

The key to USTL’s strategy is that the U.S. Constitution provides the state legislatures authority to propose amendments without the approval of Congress. For the term limits amendment convention to be called, 34 states must pass resolutions. Once a term limits amendment is proposed, 38 states must ratify it for it to be added to the U.S. Constitution. This states are the only entity that has the power to both propose and ratify amendments to the U.S. Constitution, completely bypassing Congress.

The exact number of states to date may have room for some legal interpretation. Five states have passed the U.S. Term Limits single-subject application for congressional term limits. Thirteen additional states have passed applications that include congressional term limits as part of a multi-subject resolution.

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## **Outrageous Congress! 33 Years in the House.**



Nancy Pelosi (CA-12) files to run for reelection, despite being in Congress for 33 years (since 1987)! Pelosi has received criticism even from her own party. Last Congress, she announced she would not run for another term as Speaker of the House. This, a result of newer members of the Democratic Party calling for younger leadership. If only Congress had term limits like her home state of California! It's time for new leadership in the House. Pelosi turns 82 in March.