

HOUSE BILL 847

P5
HB 1031/21 – HRU

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT

2lr2186

By: **Delegates Saab, Boteler, Hornberger, Howard, Parrott, and Thiam**

Introduced and read first time: February 7, 2022

Assigned to: Rules and Executive Nominations

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

2 **General Assembly – Term Limits**

3 FOR the purpose of limiting the number of consecutive terms as either a Senator or a
4 Delegate to which a person may be elected; specifying how service for a partial term
5 shall be considered for purposes of the term limits; and providing that this provision
6 does not prohibit a person who was elected to serve a further consecutive term in the
7 same office in a certain election from serving in the same office during a certain term.

8 BY proposing an amendment to the Maryland Constitution
9 Article III – Legislative Department
10 Section 6

11 BY proposing an addition to the Maryland Constitution
12 Article XVIII – Provisions of Limited Duration
13 Section 6

14 SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND,
15 (Three-fifths of all the members elected to each of the two Houses concurring), That it be
16 proposed that the Maryland Constitution read as follows:

17 **Article III – Legislative Department**

18 6.

19 (A) A member of the General Assembly shall be elected by the registered voters of
20 the legislative or delegate district from which [he] **THE MEMBER** seeks election, to serve
21 for a term of four years beginning on the second Wednesday of January following [his] **THE**
22 **MEMBER’S** election.

23 (B) (1) **A PERSON WHO HAS BEEN ELECTED TO THREE CONSECUTIVE**

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



TERMS AS EITHER A SENATOR OR A DELEGATE SHALL BE INELIGIBLE TO BE ELECTED TO SERVE A FURTHER CONSECUTIVE TERM IN THE SAME OFFICE.

(2) FOR PURPOSES OF THE LIMITATION UNDER THIS SUBSECTION, IF A PERSON HAS SERVED MORE THAN THREE YEARS OF A TERM AS A SENATOR OR A DELEGATE TO WHICH ANOTHER PERSON WAS ELECTED, THAT PERSON SHALL BE CONSIDERED TO HAVE BEEN ELECTED TO A FULL TERM.

Article XVIII – Provisions of Limited Duration

6.

(A) FOR THE PURPOSE OF IMPLEMENTING THE AMENDMENTS PROPOSED BY HOUSE BILL 847 OF 2022 CONCERNING TERM LIMITS FOR MEMBERS OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY, THIS SECTION IS TEMPORARILY A PART OF ARTICLE III – LEGISLATIVE DEPARTMENT, SECTION 6. THIS SECTION SHALL EXPIRE AT THE END OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY TERM THAT BEGINS JANUARY 11, 2023.

(B) ARTICLE III, SECTION 6 OF THIS CONSTITUTION DOES NOT PROHIBIT A PERSON WHO HAS BEEN ELECTED TO THREE OR MORE CONSECUTIVE TERMS AS A SENATOR OR A DELEGATE AND WHO WAS ELECTED TO SERVE A FURTHER CONSECUTIVE TERM IN THE SAME OFFICE IN THE NOVEMBER 2022 ELECTION FROM SERVING IN THE SAME OFFICE DURING THE TERM THAT BEGINS JANUARY 11, 2023.

SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the General Assembly determines that the amendment to the Maryland Constitution proposed by Section 1 of this Act affects multiple jurisdictions and that the provisions of Article XIV, § 1 of the Maryland Constitution concerning local approval of constitutional amendments do not apply.

SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That the amendment to the Maryland Constitution proposed by Section 1 of this Act shall be submitted to the qualified voters of the State at the next general election to be held in November 2022 for adoption or rejection pursuant to Article XIV of the Maryland Constitution. At that general election, the vote on the proposed amendment to the Constitution shall be by ballot, and on each ballot there shall be printed the words “For the Constitutional Amendment” and “Against the Constitutional Amendment”, as now provided by law. Immediately after the election, all returns shall be made to the Governor of the vote for and against the proposed amendment, as directed by Article XIV of the Maryland Constitution, and further proceedings had in accordance with Article XIV.