S T A T E O F N E W Y O R K

1171

2009-2010 Regular Sessions

I N A S S E M B L Y

(PREFILED)

January 7, 2009

Introduced by M. of A. SEMINERIO -- read once and referred to the Committee on Governmental Operations

CONCURRENT RESOLUTION OF THE SENATE AND ASSEMBLY

proposing an amendment to section 1 of article 4 and section 1 of article 5 of the constitution, in relation to limiting the governor, lieutenant-governor, the comptroller and the attorney-general to two consecutive terms in such offices

Section 1. Resolved (if the Senate concur), That section 1 of article 4 of the constitution be amended to read as follows:

Section 1. The executive power shall be vested in the governor, who shall hold office for four years; the lieutenant-governor shall be chosen at the same time, and for the same term. The governor and lieutenant-governor shall be chosen at the general election held in the year nineteen hundred thirty-eight, and each fourth year thereafter. They shall be chosen jointly, by the casting by each voter of a single vote applicable to both offices, and the legislature by law shall provide for making such choice in such manner. The respective persons having the highest number of votes cast jointly for them for governor and lieutenant-governor respectively shall be elected. NO PERSON SHALL HOLD THE OFFICE OF GOVERNOR OR LIEUTENANT-GOVERNOR FOR MORE THAN TWO CONSECUTIVE TERMS.

S 2. Resolved (if the Senate concur), That section 1 of article 5 of the constitution be amended to read as follows:

Section 1. The comptroller and attorney-general shall be chosen at the same general election as the governor and hold office for the same term AND UNDER THE SAME RESTRICTIONS, and shall possess the qualifications provided in section 2 of article IV. NO PERSON SHALL HOLD THE OFFICE OF COMPTROLLER OR ATTORNEY-GENERAL FOR MORE THAN TWO CONSECUTIVE TERMS. The legislature shall provide for filling vacancies in the office of comptroller and of attorney-general. No election of a comptroller or an attorney-general shall be had except at the time of electing a governor.

EXPLANATION--Matter in ITALICS (underscored) is new; matter in brackets [ ] is old law to be omitted.

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The comptroller shall be required: (1) to audit all vouchers before payment and all official accounts; (2) to audit the accrual and collection of all revenues and receipts; and (3) to prescribe such methods of accounting as are necessary for the performance of the foregoing duties. The payment of any money of the state, or of any money under its control, or the refund of any money paid to the state, except upon audit by the comptroller, shall be void, and may be restrained upon the suit of any taxpayer with the consent of the supreme court in appellate division on notice to the attorney-general. In such respect the legislature shall define the powers and duties and may also assign to him or her: (1) supervision of the accounts of any political subdivision of the state; and (2) powers and duties pertaining to or connected with the assessment and taxation of real estate, including determination of ratios which the assessed valuation of taxable real property bears to the full valuation thereof, but not including any of those powers and duties reserved to officers of a county, city, town or village by virtue of [sections seven and eight of article nine] ANY PROVISION of this constitution. The legislature shall assign to him or her no administrative duties, excepting such as may be incidental to the performance of these functions, any other provision of this constitution to the contrary notwithstanding.

S 3. Resolved (if the Senate concur), That the provisions of the foregoing amendments shall apply only to terms of offices commencing after such amendments shall have been adopted pursuant to section 1 of article 19 of the constitution.

S 4. Resolved (if the Senate concur), That the foregoing amendments be referred to the first regular legislative session convening after the next succeeding general election of members of the assembly, and, in conformity with section 1 of article 19 of the constitution, be published three months previous to the time of such election.