

By the Committee on Community Affairs; and Senator Ingoglia

578-03040-24

2024438c1

1                   A bill to be entitled  
2       An act relating to term limits; creating s. 124.012,  
3       F.S.; establishing term limits for county  
4       commissioners; prohibiting specified persons from  
5       seeking certain offices until after a specified  
6       timeframe; providing applicability; providing  
7       construction; requiring certain counties to hold a  
8       referendum election on a specified date; providing for  
9       the referendum election; providing the form for the  
10      ballot title and referendum question; providing an  
11      effective date.

12  
13 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

14  
15       Section 1. Section 124.012, Florida Statutes, is created to  
16      read:

17       124.012 Term limits of county commissioners.—

18       (1) Notwithstanding the terms of any county charter to the  
19      contrary, a person may not appear on the ballot for reelection  
20      to the office of county commissioner if, by the end of his or  
21      her current term of office, the person will have served, or but  
22      for resignation would have served, in that office for 8  
23      consecutive years. The person may not qualify for or appear on  
24      the ballot for a different district seat of the county  
25      commission or an at-large county commission seat of the county  
26      after his or her initial 8-year term of office until 2 years  
27      after the end date of his or her initial term.

28       (2) The term limits imposed by this section apply to  
29      counties in which term limits are not imposed by a county

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30 charter as of July 1, 2024, and service of a term of office  
31 which commenced before November 5, 2024, may not be counted  
32 toward the limitation imposed by this section.

33 (3) (a) This section does not supersede any term limit  
34 imposed by a county charter which is more restrictive than the  
35 term limit imposed by this section and does not authorize a  
36 person subject to such term limits to serve an additional 8  
37 consecutive years.

38 (b) A county whose charter authorizes county commissioners  
39 to serve longer than the limits imposed by this section shall  
40 hold a referendum election that coincides with the 2024 general  
41 election to determine whether the limits imposed by this section  
42 shall apply to such county. In the event such county rejects the  
43 term limits imposed by this section, this section does not  
44 apply.

45 Section 2. Referendum election.—

46 (1) A charter county whose charter limits county  
47 commissioners from serving for a period longer than 8  
48 consecutive years shall hold a referendum election on November  
49 5, 2024.

50 (2) The ballot title for the referendum must be in  
51 substantially the following form:

52  
53 COUNTY COMMISSIONER TERM LIMITS

54  
55 (3) The referendum question must be in substantially the  
56 following form:

57  
58 Should the county prohibit county commissioners

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from serving longer than 8 consecutive years?

( ) Yes.

( ) No.

(4) The referendum election must be conducted by the supervisor of elections for each applicable county in accordance with the Florida Election Code.

Section 3. This act shall take effect July 1, 2024.