

“It is up to lawmakers to resist the temptation to extend indefinitely the time that can be served in office. The people of Arizona want to keep fresh blood in their legislature, and the Senate and House have an obligation to uphold that principle, even if they disagree with it.”—U.S. Term Limits President Philip Blumel.

U.S. Term Limits Condemns Committee Vote to Eliminate Term Limits

January 27th, 2010, Fairfax, VA—U.S. Term Limits President Philip Blumel today condemned the Arizona Senate Judiciary Committee for voting in favor of constitutional amendment that would eliminate legislative term limits in Arizona.

Legislative term limits were enacted in 1992 when Arizonans voted with 74 percent of the vote to add them to the state’s constitution.

“The Arizona Senate Judiciary Committee just does not get the message,” said Philip Blumel, President of U.S. Term Limits. “The message of Arizonans to career politicians is this: once your time has been served, it’s time to move on.”

[SCR 1007, the bill which would repeal term limits](#), is being sponsored by Carolyn Allen (R-Scottsdale). The amendment would require a 2/3 vote by each chamber of the legislature to make it to the ballot. [The bill passed out of the Judiciary Committee on January 19th](#).

In a recent interview with Capitol Media Services, Allen said Arizonans probably would not support the measure: “I don’t think the public is ready. The public probably still thinks it’s a good idea.”

Blumel said term limits are popular because “Career politicians are as unresponsive to the concerns of the people as life-serving aristocrats and monarchs. The people want the law to limit terms in office, because they support the principle of a citizen legislature.”

Term limits were originally enacted in Arizona in 1992. The current law limits members from serving more than four consecutive two-year terms on the State House and four consecutive two-year terms on the State Senate, and took effect in 2000.

Blumel called upon lawmakers to “resist the temptation to extend indefinitely the time that can be served in office. The people of Arizona want to keep fresh blood in their legislature, and the Senate and House have an obligation to uphold that principle, even if they disagree with it.”

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