

Initiative Measure No. 1651

filed January 7, 2018

TERM LIMITS FOR POLITICIANS

AN ACT Relating to reforming election requirements for local officials; adding a new section to chapter 36.16 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 36.32 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 35.22 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 35.23 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 35.17 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 35A.12 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 35A.13 RCW; adding a new section to chapter 35.18 RCW; and creating new sections.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

INTENT

NEW SECTION. **Sec. 1.** For local governments, the people want citizen leaders, not professional politicians. Term limits inspire greater participation by citizen leaders, not professional politicians. The people strongly support reforming election requirements for local officials with term limits.

COUNTIES

NEW SECTION. **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 36.16 RCW to read as follows:

No person is allowed to serve as a county executive or county councilmember for more than two four-year terms for the same position. Any elected official who is serving a term as of the effective date of this section that is beyond the two four-year term limit under this section may remain in office until the official's term is completed. Any service as an elected county official before the effective date of this section counts as part of any official's

two terms. Establishment of residency in an alternate district does not circumvent this restriction.

NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** A new section is added to chapter 36.32 RCW to read as follows:

No person is allowed to serve as a county executive or county councilmember for more than two four-year terms for the same position. Any elected official who is serving a term as of the effective date of this section that is beyond the two four-year term limit under this section may remain in office until the official's term is completed. Any service as an elected county official before the effective date of this section counts as part of any official's two terms. Establishment of residency in an alternate district does not circumvent this restriction.

CITIES

NEW SECTION. **Sec. 4.** A new section is added to chapter 35.22 RCW to read as follows:

No person is allowed to serve as mayor or city councilmember for more than two four-year terms for the same position. Any elected official who is serving a term as of the effective date of this section that is beyond the two four-year term limit under this section may remain in office until the official's term is completed. Any service as an elected city official before the effective date of this section counts as part of any official's two terms. Establishment of residency in an alternate district does not circumvent this restriction.

NEW SECTION. **Sec. 5.** A new section is added to chapter 35.23 RCW to read as follows:

No person is allowed to serve as mayor or city councilmember for more than two four-year terms for the same position. Any elected official who is serving a term as of the effective date of this section that is beyond the two four-year term limit under this

section may remain in office until the official's term is completed. Any service as an elected city official before the effective date of this section counts as part of any official's two terms. Establishment of residency in an alternate district does not circumvent this restriction.

NEW SECTION. **Sec. 6.** A new section is added to chapter 35.17 RCW to read as follows:

No person is allowed to serve as mayor or city councilmember for more than two four-year terms for the same position. Any elected official who is serving a term as of the effective date of this section that is beyond the two four-year term limit under this section may remain in office until the official's term is completed. Any service as an elected city official before the effective date of this section counts as part of any official's two terms. Establishment of residency in an alternate district does not circumvent this restriction.

NEW SECTION. **Sec. 7.** A new section is added to chapter 35A.12 RCW to read as follows:

No person is allowed to serve as mayor or city councilmember for more than two four-year terms for the same position. Any elected official who is serving a term as of the effective date of this section that is beyond the two four-year term limit under this section may remain in office until the official's term is completed. Any service as an elected city official before the effective date of this section counts as part of any official's two terms. Establishment of residency in an alternate district does not circumvent this restriction.

NEW SECTION. **Sec. 8.** A new section is added to chapter 35A.13 RCW to read as follows:

No person is allowed to serve as mayor or city councilmember for more than two four-year terms for the same position. Any elected official who is serving a term as of the effective date of this

section that is beyond the two four-year term limit under this section may remain in office until the official's term is completed. Any service as an elected city official before the effective date of this section counts as part of any official's two terms. Establishment of residency in an alternate district does not circumvent this restriction.

NEW SECTION. **Sec. 9.** A new section is added to chapter 35.18 RCW to read as follows:

No person is allowed to serve as mayor or city councilmember for more than two four-year terms for the same position. Any elected official who is serving a term as of the effective date of this section that is beyond the two four-year term limit under this section may remain in office until the official's term is completed. Any service as an elected city official before the effective date of this section counts as part of any official's two terms. Establishment of residency in an alternate district does not circumvent this restriction.

NEW SECTION. **Sec. 10.** This act is remedial in nature and applies to all counties and cities established before or after the effective date of this act.

NEW SECTION. **Sec. 11.** The provisions of this act are to be liberally construed to effectuate the intent, policies, and purposes of this act.

NEW SECTION. **Sec. 12.** If any provision of this act or its application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the remainder of the act or the application of the provision to other persons or circumstances is not affected.

NEW SECTION. **Sec. 13.** This act is known and may be cited as "Term Limits For Politicians."

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