

FEB 20 2001  
STATE GOVERNMENT

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 8  
BY DRAKE

Passed House, Date \_\_\_\_\_ Passed Senate, Date \_\_\_\_\_  
Vote: Ayes \_\_\_\_\_ Nays \_\_\_\_\_ Vote: Ayes \_\_\_\_\_ Nays \_\_\_\_\_  
Approved \_\_\_\_\_

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION

1 A Joint Resolution proposing an amendment to the Constitution of  
2 the State of Iowa to change the length of term of office for  
3 members of the Iowa House of Representatives.

4 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF IOWA:

HJR 8

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1 Section 1. The following amendment to the Constitution of  
2 the State of Iowa is proposed:

3 1. Section 3 of Article III of the Constitution of the  
4 State of Iowa is repealed and the following adopted in lieu  
5 thereof:

6 REPRESENTATIVES. Sec. 3. The members of the House of  
7 Representatives shall be chosen by the qualified electors of  
8 their respective districts, and their term of office shall  
9 commence on the first day of January following their election  
10 which is not a Sunday or legal holiday, and continue four  
11 years, and until their successors are elected and qualified.  
12 Representatives shall be classified by statute so that as  
13 nearly as possible one-half of the members of the House of  
14 Representatives shall be elected every two years. If the  
15 state is divided into senatorial and representative districts  
16 so that each senate district is composed of two house of  
17 representative districts, the election for a senate district  
18 shall not be held in the same year as the election for the two  
19 house of representative districts composing the senate  
20 district.

21 The General Assembly shall make such changes in the law  
22 governing the time of election and terms of office of  
23 Representatives as shall be necessary to make the time of  
24 their election and terms of office conform to this section.

25 2. Section 35 of Article III of the Constitution of the  
26 State of Iowa, as amended by amendment number 4 of the  
27 Amendments of 1868, amendment number 2 of the Amendments of  
28 1904, and amendment number 3 of the Amendments of 1968, is  
29 repealed and the following adopted in lieu thereof:

30 SENATORS AND REPRESENTATIVES -- NUMBER AND DISTRICTS. Sec.  
31 35. The General Assembly shall in each year immediately  
32 following the United States decennial census determine the  
33 number of Senators and Representatives to be elected to the  
34 General Assembly and establish senatorial and representative  
35 districts. The General Assembly shall complete the

1 apportionment prior to September 1 of the year so required.  
2 If the apportionment fails to become law prior to September 15  
3 of such year, the Supreme Court shall cause the State to be  
4 apportioned into senatorial and representative districts to  
5 comply with the requirements of the Constitution prior to  
6 December 31 of such year. The reapportioning authority shall,  
7 where necessary in establishing senatorial and representative  
8 districts, shorten the term of any Senator or Representative  
9 prior to completion of the term. Any Senator or  
10 Representative whose term is so terminated shall not be  
11 compensated for the uncompleted part of the term.

12 EXPLANATION

13 This joint resolution proposes an amendment to the  
14 Constitution of the State of Iowa to change the term of office  
15 for members of the Iowa house of representatives from two  
16 years to four years.

17 The resolution, if adopted, would be referred to the next  
18 general assembly before being submitted to the electorate for  
19 ratification.

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