

Good Morning Chairman Thompson and committee members, thank you for the opportunity to address the committee regarding the U.S. Term Limits Article V resolution, SCR1609, advocating for a single-topic amendment convention to propose term limits on the U.S. Congress. I am Shanna Chamblee, a Regional Director for the organization U.S. Term Limits.

Firstly, it is crucial to highlight the groundswell of public support for this initiative. A recent study conducted by the Pew Research Center revealed an overwhelming 87% approval among American voters for term limits on Congress. It is the highest polling non-partisan issue in the nation. This level of consensus underscores the urgency and importance of addressing this matter.

Currently, six states (FL, AL, MO, WV, WI, & OK) have taken a decisive step by passing our resolution, several other states have passed one chamber (GA, NC, LA, IN, TN, AZ), signaling a growing movement among states to call for a convention focused solely on term limits. This momentum showcases the broad appeal and bipartisan nature of the desire to change the status quo. This resolution received a vote in the Kansas House chamber last session with bipartisan support, but did not meet the State Constitutional requirement of two-thirds. We have been diligently working the House chamber to gain the votes needed when this Senate chamber answers the will of The People by passing SCR1609 with a super-majority vote.

While these state-level efforts are gaining traction, it is noteworthy to consider the expected response from Congress. History has shown via other convention efforts such as; The Bill of Rights, Women's Suffrage, The repeal of Prohibition, and Presidential Term Limits, that as states pass resolutions and the momentum builds, Congress will eventually preemptively propose term limits on themselves. This preemptive action will be an acknowledgment of the widespread support and a testament to the effectiveness of States using their Constitutional authority via Article V resolutions to urge action from our Congress.

The popularity of term limits, as demonstrated by the Pew Research Center study and the increasing number of states supporting the resolution, underscores the urgency for Congress to heed the will of the people. It is a clear signal that voters across party lines want a more dynamic, accountable, and responsive Federal Legislature.

In conclusion, the U.S. Term Limits Article V resolution is a reflection of the collective voice of the American people, with the support of 87% of voters and backing from multiple states. We anticipate that, as more states join this movement, Congress will recognize the inevitability of this change and proactively propose term limits on themselves. It is a historic opportunity to align the will of the people with the actions of our government. Thank you for your attention to this issue. Please vote to move SCR1609 favorable for passage to the Senate floor.

I am happy to answer any questions pertaining to the resolution and/or the Amendment process.