

Minnesota 12-Year Term Cap Act

Purpose

This Act ensures dynamic and representative governance by limiting the total time any individual may serve in major elected offices in Minnesota.

Definitions

1. "Major elected offices" means the Office of the Governor, the Minnesota State Senate, and the Minnesota State House of Representatives.
2. "Term" means a four-year term for governor and a two-year term for both the House and Senate.

Section 1: Term Limits

No individual may serve more than a total of 12 years in any combination of these offices. Once a person reaches 12 years, they are permanently ineligible to run again.

Section 2: Local Offices Exception

This limit applies only to state-level offices. Individuals may still run for and serve in local offices, such as mayor or city council.

Section 3: Relinquishment Requirement

Any individual currently holding a state office must fully resign before filing to run again. If they run for President or Vice President, they must also resign their state office before campaigning. If they lose, they cannot return to that office without a new election.

Section 4: Federal Office Clarification

Running for President or Vice President of the United States does not count toward the 12-year cap; however, resignation from current office is still required.

Section 5: Implementation

The limitation applies retroactively to all current officeholders; all prior years count toward the total.

Section 6: Severability

If any provision of this Act is held invalid, the remaining provisions remain in effect.

Section 7: Effective Date

This Act takes effect January 1st following passage. All prior years served count toward the limit.

Section 8: Enforcement

The Secretary of State shall monitor compliance. Any candidate exceeding the limit or failing to resign properly will be disqualified from the ballot.