

Opposition to Term Limits

1. Term Limits destroy our voting freedom and force us to toss out the good with the bad.
2. We have term limits now; they're called "elections." America's best term-limiting device is the ballot box.
3. Term limits would mean giving lobbyists & bureaucrats more power, in that institutional memory and experience are no longer available.
4. In his farewell address in 1989, President Reagan rightly pointed out that term limits are "a preemption of the people's right to vote for whomever they want as many times as they want."
5. Right now, after a candidate is defeated, we have a lame duck period where there is no longer accountability to the voters for two months. A Term Limits Amendment for Congress would extend the lame duck period from two months to *two years* in the case of U.S. Representatives and to *six years* in the case of U.S. Senators!
6. The real problem is that the politicians we elect ignore our Constitution – yet we keep reelecting them.
7. Limiting their terms by an amendment merely increases the turnover of politicians in Congress who ignore our Constitution – and to whom we must pay luxurious lifetime pensions.
8. The Articles of Confederation, our first Constitution, set term limits on the Continental Congress. Our Framers considered this and rejected the idea of congressional term limits. James Madison wrote in [Federalist 53](#): "...The greater the proportion of new members of Congress, and the less the information of the bulk of the members, the more apt they be to fall into the snares that may be laid before them."
9. Throwing out the baby with the bathwater: yes, term limits would help eliminate some of the corrupt, power-hungry, incompetent Congress members, but it would also get rid of all the honest and effective ones.