



Legislation Details (With Text)

**File #:** 06008      **Version:** 1      **Name:** term limits  
**Type:** Charter Ordinance      **Status:** Filed  
**File created:** 3/20/2007      **In control:** Attorney's Office  
**On agenda:** 3/3/2009      **Final action:** 3/3/2009  
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**Title:** Amending Section 3.03 and creating Section 3.015 of the Madison General Ordinances to establish term limits for the Mayor and Alderpersons.

**Sponsors:**

**Indexes:**

**Code sections:**

**Attachments:** 1. termlimits12.pdf, 2. 06008 Registration Stmt.pdf

Date	Ver.	Action By	Action	Result
3/3/2009	1	COMMON COUNCIL	Place On File	Pass
2/25/2009	1	Attorney's Office	RECOMMEND TO COUNCIL WITH THE FOLLOWING RECOMMENDATIONS - REPORT OF OFFICER	
9/18/2007	1	COMMON COUNCIL	Refer	Pass
9/4/2007	1	COMMON COUNCIL ORGANIZATIONAL COMMITTEE (ended 4/2017)	RECOMMEND TO COUNCIL TO RE-REFER - REPORT OF OFFICER	Pass
8/7/2007	1	COMMON COUNCIL ORGANIZATIONAL COMMITTEE (ended 4/2017)	Re-refer	
5/15/2007	1	COMMON COUNCIL ORGANIZATIONAL COMMITTEE (ended 4/2017)	Re-refer	Pass
3/27/2007	1	COMMON COUNCIL	Refer	
3/21/2007	1	Finance Dept/Approval Group	Approved Fiscal Note By The Comptroller's Office	
3/21/2007	1	Attorney's Office	Referred for Introduction	
3/20/2007	1	Attorney's Office/Approval Group	Approved As To Form	
3/20/2007	1	Attorney's Office	Fiscal Note Required / Approval	

**Fiscal Note**

No appropriation required.

**Title**

Amending Section 3.03 and creating Section 3.015 of the Madison General Ordinances to establish term limits for the Mayor and Alderpersons.

**Body**

DRAFTER'S ANALYSIS: These ordinances would place limits on the number of consecutive terms that either a Mayor or Alderperson could serve. The Mayor could only serve three consecutive terms and the Alders could only serve four consecutive terms. This ordinance would have prospective application only as terms served or entered into before the enactment of the ordinance would not count towards these term limits. This is a Charter Ordinance requiring 14 votes for approval.

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1. Pursuant to sec. 66.0101, Wis. Stats., 2003-2004, and notwithstanding those provisions of sec. 62.09(5), Wis. Stats., 2003-2004, relating to the terms of office of the Mayor, which may otherwise prohibit the enactment of term limits and which section has not been in effect since the enactment of the current provisions of sec. 3.03, Madison General Ordinances, the Common Council of the City of Madison do ordain as follows:

Subsection (1) of Section 3.03 entitled "Mayor" of the Madison General Ordinances is amended to read as follows:

"(1) Length of Terms and Limit on Consecutive Terms.

(a) The Mayor shall be elected on each odd numbered year for a term of two (2) years. Beginning with the 1991 Spring Election, the Mayor shall be elected every other odd numbered year for a term of four (4) years. The Mayor shall devote his entire time to the duties of the office of Mayor. The Mayor shall have the general supervision of all City officers and heads of departments in the performance of their official duties.

(b) No person shall be eligible to be nominated, elected, or to serve as Mayor if that person shall previously have held such office for three (3) or more full consecutive terms, unless one full term or more has elapsed since that person last held such office. For the purposes of this ordinance, a term shall be deemed consecutive unless more than four years apart, and a term shall be deemed full if a person has served at least half of the time allotted for the term. Service prior to the passage of this ordinance shall not be used in determining whether a person's length of service would disqualify them from serving as Mayor.

This is a charter ordinance and shall be effective upon sixty (60) days from passage and publication subject, however, to the referendum procedures of Section 66.0101(5), Wisconsin Statutes. ED. NOTE: Sec. 3.03(1) was repealed and recreated as a Charter Ordinance and amended to provide for four-year mayoral term pursuant to adoption by the electorate at the 1987 Spring Election of Res. No. 43,063, File No. 3885-86, amending Charter Ord. 39."

This is a Charter Ordinance which in effect amends another Charter Ordinance, specifically section 3.03, Madison General Ordinances, (**Mayor**) inasmuch as said ordinance provided four year terms for the Mayor without any limitations upon the number of consecutive terms and thus, this charter ordinance requires adoption by two-thirds of all the members of the Common Council and which shall take effect sixty (60) days following passage and publication subject, however, to the referendum provisions of Section 66.0101(5), Wis. Stats.

2. Pursuant to sec. 66.0101, Wis. Stats., 2003-2004, and notwithstanding those provisions of sec. 62.09(5)(d), Wis. Stats., 2003-2004, relating to the terms of office of Alderpersons, which may otherwise prohibit the enactment of term limits and which section has not been in effect since the enactment of the current provisions of sec. 3.01, Madison General Ordinances, the Common Council of the City of Madison do ordain as follows:

Section 3.015, entitled "Aldersperson Term Limits" of the Madison General Ordinances is created to read as follows:

**"3.015 ALDERPERSON TERM LIMITS.** No person shall be eligible to be nominated, elected, or to serve as an alderperson if that person shall previously have held such office for four (4) or more full consecutive terms, unless one full term or more has elapsed since that person last held such office. For the purposes of this ordinance, a term shall be deemed consecutive unless more than two years apart, and a term shall be deemed full if a person has served at least half of the time allotted for the term. Service prior to the passage of this ordinance shall not be used in determining whether a person's length of service would disqualify them from serving as an alderperson."

This is a Charter Ordinance which in effect amends another Charter Ordinance, specifically section 3.01, Madison General Ordinances, (**Organization Under Mayor Plan**) inasmuch as said ordinance provided two year terms for alderpersons without any limitations upon the number of consecutive terms and thus, this charter ordinance requires adoption by two-thirds of all the members of the Common Council and which shall take effect sixty (60) days following passage and publication subject, however, to the referendum provisions of Section 66.0101(5), Wis. Stats."