

## PROS AND CONS OF TERM LIMITS

PROS OF TERM LIMITS	CONS OF TERM LIMITS
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Politicians like Speaker of NYS Assembly exercise enormous power over the legislative agenda, committee assignments and staffing. If term limits ended his career, the leadership would pass to an assembly person who would be term limited.</li><li>• Since the 1960's state legislatures have seen pay increased and given full-time staff, encouraging people to see elected position as a desirable full-time career.</li><li>• For people who do see political life as a profession, term limits provide the necessary experience and incentive to seek higher office. Prevents dead wood from remaining in office.</li><li>• Term limits encourage younger, minority and other aspirants to run for office as the hurdle to defeat a well-entrenched and senior incumbent is lowered.</li><li>• State legislators who continue in office into their 80's create a bottleneck and discourage younger aspirants from even trying for office.</li><li>• The power of lobbyists will be weakened because they cannot form long-term relationships with legislators.</li><li>• Term limited legislators will move quickly and will try to form coalitions with other new members to get legislation passed.</li><li>• They will likely be more technology savvy than long-term members who rely on their staff to do tech work.</li><li>• More seats may be filled by minorities as long-serving members are forced to retire in districts that have seen demographic changes.</li><li>• Greater voter turnout may occur in state elections if people feel there is a real race going on and their votes can count.</li></ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Reduces the list of qualified and available candidates. "We already have term limits, they are called elections"</li><li>• Removes experienced, knowledgeable and influential office holders, thereby increasing the influence of long time lobbyists and civil service bureaucracies.</li><li>• Short term solution to long term problems</li><li>• Available statistics do not bear out the assumption that women and minorities will have an increased chance to participate under Term Limits. Other factors, such as reapportionment, redistricting and changing demographics may have a greater impact.</li><li>• Voter participation has not increased by term limits.</li><li>• The balance of power between the Legislative and Executive branches of government will shift in favor of the greater knowledge and experience of the executive branch.</li><li>• Term limits feel like an easy fix to a more difficult problem.</li></ul>