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State of Minnesota HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

EIGHTY-FIFTH SESSION

HOUSE FILE No. 4254

May 17, 2008

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The bill was read for the first time and referred to the Committee on Governmental Operations, Reform, Technology and Elections

1.1 A bill for an act
1.2 relating to the legislature; proposing an amendment to the Minnesota
1.3 Constitution, article IV, section 4; providing four-year terms of office for
1.4 representatives and six-year terms of office for senators.

1.5 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF MINNESOTA:

1.6 Section 1. CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT PROPOSED.

1.7 An amendment to the Minnesota Constitution is proposed to the people. If the
1.8 amendment is adopted, article IV, section 4, will read:

1.9 Sec. 4. Representatives shall be chosen for a term of two four years, except to fill a
1.10 vacancy: and senators shall be chosen for a term of four six years, except to fill a vacancy
1.11 and except as otherwise required by this section. There shall be an entire new election of
1.12 all the senators and representatives at the first general election of representatives after each
1.13 new legislative apportionment provided for in this article. At that election, senators elected
1.14 from even-numbered districts shall be elected to four-year terms and representatives
1.15 elected from districts designated with the letter "A" shall be elected to two-year terms.
1.16 The governor shall call elections to fill vacancies in either house of the legislature.

1.17 Sec. 2. SUBMISSION TO VOTERS.

1.18 The proposed amendment must be submitted to the people at the 2010 general
1.19 election. The question submitted must be:

2.1 "Shall the Minnesota Constitution be amended to provide staggered four-year terms  
2.2 for representatives and staggered six-year terms for senators, with an entire new election  
2.3 of all representatives and senators after each legislative apportionment?

2.4 Yes .....

2.5 No ....."