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# TAXATION: EXEMPTION FOR DISABLED VETERANS

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and inexperienced members. One-half of the membership of the Assembly would be elected every two years and approximately one-third of the membership of the Senate would be elected every two years.

In other states and in cities and counties there has been a marked trend in recent years to lengthen the terms of office of members of the legislative branch.

The 22nd Amendment to the Constitution, which recently was ratified by the states, limits the term of the office of the President of the United States to two consecutive terms. Proposition No. 10 also provides a similar limitation on the term of the Office of Governor, exempting the incumbent Governor at the time this proposition would take effect.

This provision would free the Governor from narrow partisan considerations in the conduct of his office. He would no longer be forced to use his gubernatorial powers, especially the patronage power, to achieve renomination and re-election. In general, this limitation encourages rotation in the highest political office in the State and thus permits the rise of new leadership and continuation of the two-party system.

This proposition enjoys bi-partisan support, and many statewide business, labor and professional groups have endorsed this amendment.

L. H. LINCOLN (R)  
Assemblyman, 15th District

DOROTHY M. DONOHUE (D)  
Assemblyman, 33th District

**Argument Against Assembly Constitutional Amendment No. 1**

A.C.A. No. 1 contains three basic alterations to the Constitution each of which would tend to decrease the control of the People their State Government.

Taken in order, the first would double the length of terms of Assemblymen. At present, members of the lower house have the same terms as Congressmen, namely two years. Down through the years, this has seemed the best suited. Certainly, the proposed increase to four years would not increase the People's Control.

The second would set six years for State Senators instead of the present four. This would likewise make the Senators less responsive to the public will. However, it would give State Senators the same length of terms as U. S. Senators. Upper houses, both National and State, are designed to permit a certain detached viewpoint. While this change seems less undesirable than the four year term for Assemblymen, in the absence of any particular benefit, it also should be rejected.

The third would limit future Governors to two four year terms. Since the reasons outlined above for Legislators terms do not apply to this restriction upon the Executive, it is submitted that this proposal might well be placed in some future amendment. It can then be judged upon its merit independent of the length of legislative terms.

The more we revere our National and State Constitutions, the more should we oppose any amendment not proved to be unmisakably in the interest of the People.

The more you, the People, wish to control your Legislature, the more should you vote "NO" on A.C.A. 1.

FRANK LUCKEL  
Assemblyman, 1036 Savoy St., San Diego 7, Cal.

**TAXATION: EXEMPTION FOR DISABLED VETERANS. Assembly Constitutional Amendment No. 2.** Authorizes tax exemption on home acquired with Federal assistance by veteran who has permanent and total service-connected disability consisting of loss or loss of use of both lower limbs. Limits such exemption to \$5,000.

YES	
NO	

(For Full Text of Measure, See Page 9, Part II)

**Analysis by the Legislative Counsel**

This measure would authorize the Legislature to provide an increased property tax exemption for the homes of veterans who are residents of this State and who by reason of permanent and total service-connected disabilities incurred in the armed services have received assistance from the Federal Government in the acquisition of such homes. A veteran receiving this proposed tax exemption would not be entitled to the present veterans' property tax exemption.

The exemption may not extend to more than one home nor exceed \$5,000 for any person or for any person and his spouse.

The service of the veteran must have been during a period which would qualify him for the existing veterans' property tax exemption and the disability of the veteran must be due to the loss, or loss of use, of both lower extremities from specified causes which preclude locomotion without the aid of braces, crutches, canes, or a wheelchair.

This exemption, for those veterans who qualify, would be in lieu of the existing exemption from property taxation of \$1,000 which is provided by the first paragraph of the section of the Constitution proposed to be amended by this measure. The existing exemption does not apply if the veteran or his wife own property of the value of \$5,000 or more.

The Legislature at its 1953 Regular Session provided, effective upon approval of this constitutional amendment, for the tax exemption authorized by it (Stats. 1953, Ch. 1219).

**Argument in Favor of Assembly Constitutional Amendment No. 2**

This measure authorizes the legislature to provide a tax exemption on the homes of less than 500 paraplegic veterans who have lost the use of both legs in military service and who received the special federal grant in acquiring a home with special ramps, plumbing, and other facilities for their wheelchairs. The exemption is limited to veterans who have lost both legs, or the use of both legs, by reason of total permanent disability incurred in the military or naval service of the United States. It applies only to a home acquired with special assistance from the United States. These veterans, the most disabled of all, are supported entirely by their veterans pension, yet in many cases, because of the necessary special ramps and plumbing facilities in these houses, they are denied the standard \$1,000 veterans exemption which the rest of us enjoy. The exemption is limited to \$5,000. The companion measure which passed the legislature to give effect to this constitutional amendment limits the exemption very definitely to homes with such special fixtures, and further, to residents of California. This amendment passed the Assembly by a vote of 68-0 and the Senate by 30-0.

BRUCE F. ALLEN  
29th District Assemblyman

JOHN B. COOKE  
Member of Assembly, 37th Assembly District

fourth year and those of the 14 Senators elected in the year 1956 from the odd-numbered Districts 13 to 39, inclusive, shall be vacated at the expiration of the sixth year, so that approximately one-third of the Senators shall be elected every two years. Thereafter the terms of all Senators shall be six years.

Fourth, That Section 2 of Article V of said Constitution be amended to read:

Sec. 2. The Governor shall be elected by the quali-

fied electors at the time and places of voting for Members of the Assembly, and shall hold his office four years from and after the first Monday after the first day of January subsequent to his election, and his successor is elected and qualified. No person except the incumbent of the Office of Governor at the time this provision takes effect shall be eligible for the Office of Governor for more than two successive terms.

**TAXATION: EXEMPTION FOR DISABLED VETERANS. Assembly Constitutional Amendment No. 2.** Authorizes tax exemption on home acquired with Federal assistance by veteran who has permanent and total service-connected disability consisting of loss or loss of use of both lower limbs. Limits such exemption to \$5,000.

YES	
NO	

(This proposed amendment expressly amends an existing section of the Constitution, therefore, **NEW PROVISIONS** proposed to be **INSERTED** are printed in **BLACK-FACED TYPE**.)

PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO ARTICLE XIII

Sec. 14. The property to the amount of one thousand dollars (\$1,000) of every resident of this State who has served in the Army, Navy, Marine Corps, Coast Guard or Revenue Marine (Revenue Cutter) Service of the United States (1) in time of war, or (2) in time of peace, in a campaign or expedition for service in which a medal has been issued by the Congress of the United States, and in either case has received an honorable discharge therefrom, or who after such service of the United States under such conditions has continued in such service, or who in time of war is in such service, or who has been released from active duty because of disability resulting from such service in time of peace or under other honorable conditions, or lacking such amount of property in his own name, so much of the property of the wife of any such person as shall be necessary to equal said amount; and the property to the amount of one thousand dollars (\$1,000) of the widow resident in this State, or if there be no such widow, of the widowed mother resident in this State, of every person who has so served and has died either during his term of service or after receiving an honorable discharge from said service, or who has been released from active duty because of disability resulting from such service in time of peace or under other honorable conditions, and the property to the amount of one thousand dollars (\$1,000) of pensioned widows, fathers, and mothers, resident in this State, of soldiers, sailors and marines who served in the Army, Navy, Marine Corps, Coast Guard or

Revenue Marine (Revenue Cutter) Service of the United States shall be exempt from taxation; provided, this exemption shall not apply to any person named herein owning property of the value of five thousand dollars (\$5,000) or more, or where the wife of such soldier or sailor owns property of the value of five thousand dollars (\$5,000) or more. No exemption shall be made under the provisions of this section of the property of a person who is not legal resident of the State; provided, however, all real property owned by the Ladies of the Grand Army of the Republic and all property owned by the California Soldiers Widows Home Association shall be exempt from taxation.

The Legislature may exempt from taxation, in whole or in part, the property, constituting a home, of every resident of this State who, by reason of his military or naval service, is qualified for the exemption provided in the first paragraph of this section without regard to any limitation contained therein on the value of property owned by such person his wife, and who, by reason of a permanent and total service-connected disability incurred in such military or naval service due to the loss, or loss of use, as the result of amputation, ankylosis, progressive muscular dystrophies, or paralysis, of both lower extremities, such as to preclude locomotion without the aid of braces, crutches, canes, or a wheelchair, has received assistance from the Government of the United States in the acquisition of such property; except that such exemption shall not extend to more than one home nor exceed five thousand dollars (\$5,000) for any person or for any person and his spouse. This exemption shall be in lieu of the exemption provided in the first paragraph of this section.

**VOTING ELIGIBILITY. Assembly Constitutional Amendment No. 28.** Removes voting disqualification of person convicted of infamous crime after he has completed paying penalties imposed by law for such conviction.

YES	
NO	

(This proposed amendment expressly amends an existing section of the Constitution, therefore, **EXISTING PROVISIONS** proposed to be **DELETED** are printed in **STRIKE-OUT TYPE**, and **NEW PROVISIONS** proposed to be **INSERTED** are printed in **BLACK-FACED TYPE**.)

PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO ARTICLE II

Section 1. Every native citizen of the United States of America, every person who shall have acquired the rights of citizenship under and by virtue of the Treaty of Queretaro, and every naturalized citizen thereof, who shall have become such 90 days prior to any election, of the age of 21 years, who shall have been a resident of the State one year next preceding the day of the elec-

tion, and of the county in which he or she claims his or her vote 90 days, and in the election precinct 54 days, shall be entitled to vote at all elections which are now or may hereafter be authorized by law; provided, any person duly registered as an elector in one precinct and removing therefrom to another precinct in the same county within 54 days, or any person duly registered as an elector in any county in California and removing therefrom to another county in California within 90 days prior to an election, shall for the purpose of such election be deemed to be a resident and qualified elector of the precinct or county from which he so removed until after such election; provided, further, no alien ineligible to citizenship, no idiot, no insane person,