

Florida Sen. Tom Wright Signs Term Limits Pledge to Protect Eight-Year Term Limits

September 30, 2019

U.S. Term Limits, the leader in the national, non-partisan movement to limit terms for elected officials, announced that Florida State Senator Tom Wright has signed the term limits pledge.

In doing so Wright joins five other pledge signers in Brevard's legislative delegation – Randy Fine, Tyler Sirois, Rene Plasencia and Debbie Mayfield – in committing to protect eight-year term limits in Florida.

USTL Executive Director Nick Tomboulides, a Cocoa resident, joined Wright at his Titusville office to witness the pledge signing.

"We commend Senator Wright for pledging to protect 8-year term limits," Tomboulides said.

"As a lifelong job creator in the private sector, Tom understands that citizen legislators are the backbone of good government here in Florida."

The U.S. Term Limits pledge is provided to all candidates and members of the state legislature.

It reads, "I pledge to take no action that would aid or abet the abolition or lengthening of term limits to which elected officials in Florida are subject."

Wright and Tomboulides are also supporting an effort for a 2020 constitutional amendment creating eight-year term limits for all school boards in Florida.

The amendment made the ballot in 2018 via the Constitutional Revision Commission but was removed prior to the election by the State Supreme Court due to drafting issues.

School board term limits would need a three-fifths vote in both the State House and State Senate to get back on the ballot.

In 1992, Florida citizens passed with 77 percent of the vote an amendment to the State Constitution limiting State House and State Senate members to eight consecutive years in office.

Since term limits passed, Florida has thrived, ranking first of all 50 states in fiscal health (by the Mercatus Center) and also ranking as America's most free state by the Cato Institute.

Still, this success story hasn't stopped some lawmakers and lobbyists from trying to lengthen or repeal term limits.

Every few years, an effort crops up among Tallahassee insiders to either let politicians keep power longer than eight years or abolish term limits altogether.

U.S. Term Limits always leads the fight to stop these efforts and safeguard eight-year limits.

"Floridians have spoken loud and clear: eight is enough!" Tomboulides said.

"If eight-year term limits are good enough for the President of the United States, then they're good enough for all elected officials."