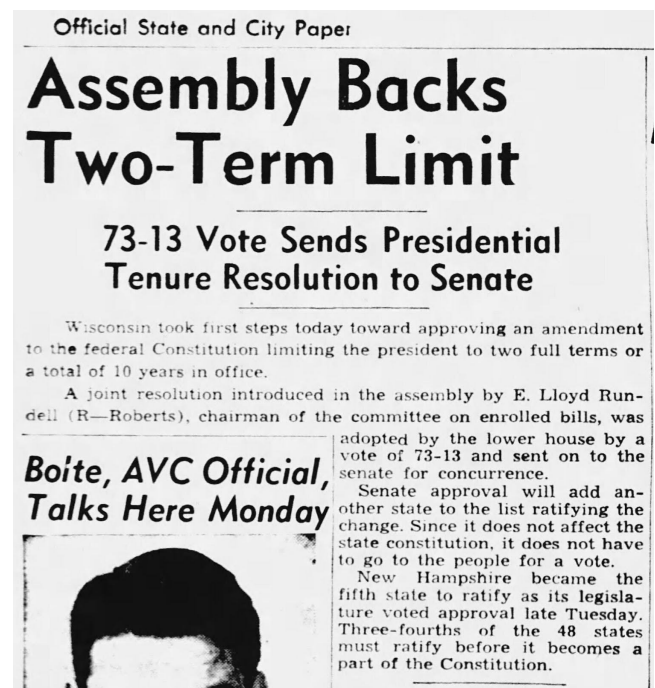


Wisconsin

The 22nd Amendment to the Constitution, which limits a person to being elected to the presidency two times, and sets additional eligibility conditions for presidents who succeed to the presidency, was voted out of Congress by a supermajority vote in both chambers. Between 1947 and 1951, the 22nd Amendment was ratified by 41 state legislatures and officially came into effect after 36 states ratified the amendment in February 1951. Donald Trump's repeated public threats to seek a third term, if allowed to succeed, would plainly violate the 22nd Amendment. As a result of President Trump's authoritarian posturing, the history of the 22nd Amendment's passage, led by Republicans in many states, and the intent of those who ratified it, is newly relevant. This factsheet is part of a series covering each state's ratification of the 22nd Amendment.

Wisconsin's consideration of the 22nd Amendment:

- On April 16, 1947, Wisconsin voted to ratify the 22nd Amendment, becoming the [14th state](#) to do so.
- Wisconsin ratified the 22nd Amendment through the legislature's adoption of a Joint [Resolution](#) introduced by Republican Assemblyman Elmer Rundell.
- The WI assembly adopted the amendment the same day it was presented, on April 3, 1947, but not without procedural hurdles. Democratic Assemblyman and Floor Leader [Leland McParland](#) moved to reject the resolution, but the measure was defeated 12 to 74.
- Ultimately, the Joint Resolution to ratify the 22nd Amendment was [approved](#) in the lower chamber by a vote of 73 to 13. Thirteen other representatives were absent or did not vote.
- The Senate [concurred](#) in the resolution on April 16, 1947, with a bipartisan vote of 27 to 5. Democratic Senator Clement Zablocki [joined](#) his Republican colleagues in supporting the measure. One senator was absent and did not vote.



- Republican Senator Ernest Heden, who [supported](#) the amendment, [said](#) a president might conceivably “build himself up” through broad powers and “create emergencies himself” that would force the people to continue him in office. “There are men in this world who would capitalize on economic conditions and other catastrophes in order to exalt their own power.”

Cases involving the 22nd Amendment in Wisconsin:

- There are no relevant cases in Wisconsin courts that analyze the provisions of the 22nd Amendment.