County voters signed term limitation petition

Oakland County played a promi-nent role in the petition drive to put term limitations on the Michigan ballot in 1992, according to a Troy businessman who feels strongly that

businessman who feels strongly that government is abuse to Cakland County is responsible for at least 190,000 of the 402,337 signatures filled Mooday with the Elections Bureau of the Michigan Serary of State's office, according to Raymond B. Dugan, vice president of Time Communications, a computer and communication company, He said the term limitations advocated in Michigan is strictly bipartisan in nature. "It will work against Democrats and Republicans alike.

Politicos react to term limit petition

By Pat Murphy staff writer

Are term limitations a way to clean the scum out of government," as one advocate claims?
Or a ploy "to make politics the

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"It would belp get rid of people like (Sen. Carl) Levin and (Sen. Don) Riegle as well as people like (U.S. Rep. William) Broomfield ... and (State Rep.) Gordon Sparks," Dugan sald. "Term limitations will enable us to clean the scum out of govern-ment."

us to clean the scum out of govern-ment."

The number of signatures submit-ted Monday is substantially higher than the 235,437 signatures needed to put term limitations on the ballot, according to Bradley S. Wittman, as So It's likely a proposal on term limitations will be on next Novem-ber's ballot, he said.

The petitions were filed by an or-ganization calling itself the Cam-paign to Limit Politicians' Terms.

DUGAN DESCRIBED the organization as a coalition of groups — like the Oakland County Tarpayers Association, of which he is a member and press spokesman — fed up with big government and the insensitivity of elected officials.

"We (the Oakland County Taxpayers' Association) did a lot of work on

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this petition. Without us, there wouldn't be any term limitation proposal. We put people outside post of inces, and 19 out of 20 people would sign. The 20th worked for the government."

The movement toward term limitations in Michigan had some helpfrom a national organization called Americans. Against Government Waste, a Washington, D.C.-based group that Digan said is promoting similar anti-government revolts around the country.

"Americans Against Government Waste gave us two full-time staff people." Dugan said. "We put them waste gave us two full-time staff people." Dugan said. "We put them and they cally did a job. They helped us with organizing counting and verifying signatures."

This is a well-organized and well-conceived movement, Dugan said.

"We were careful to make sure that only registered voters signed and we double checked each signature.

INCUMBENTS WOULD NOT be forced to leave office Immediately, assuming the bailot proposal is approved next November, Dugan said, "If we had our druthers, they would be out immediately. But we want to avoid problems."

Thus, he said, an official with 20 years in office would be subject to the new limitations the same as a newcomer.

newcomer.
The petitions filed Monday would:

• Limit state representatives to three two-year terms.

• Limit state senators to two four-year terms.

• Limit the governor, attorney general and secretary of state to two four-year terms.

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Limit U.S. representatives to three two-year terms in a 12-year

three two-year terms in a 12-year period.

Limit U.S. senators to two six-year terms in a 24-year period.

On a nationwide basis, term limitations in a fide that is blossoming. Dugan insisted. Some 20 states, including Minchigan, are at some stage of voting on term limitations. The state of Washington, which last month narrowly rejected term limitations, is an exception, Dugan said.

Washington's economy is dominated by defense spending, he explained. "Voters there didn't want to be among the first states to enact term limitations because they dose political clout... and jobs.

"But Washington will eventually adopt term limitations," Dugan said.
"It's an idea that is blossoming."

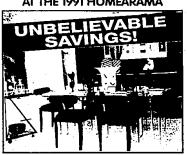
FRANK S. STARON of Farming-ton Hills is a retired Ford Motor Co-engineer who spent an estimated 330 hours working on the term limitation petition, including bours gathering signatures at the Meijer store in Novi.

"There's a connection between term limitations and David Duke," Staron said referring to the former

term limitations and David Dake."
Staron sald, referring to the former
Nari and Klu Klux Klan wizard from
Louisiana who says be will probably
run as a Republican for president in
Michigan's March 17 primary.
"People who might vote for David
Duke don't necessarily support him,"
said Staron. "And people who want
better government don't necessarily
support term limitations.
"But people are turning to Duke
and term limitations because they
realize something has to be done to
return to good government."



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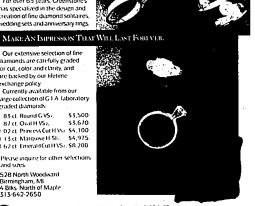
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