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# Free Our Presidents From Re-election Campaigns

To the Editor:

Griffin B. Bell, Herbert Brownell, William E. Simon and Cyrus R. Vance, all former members of Presidential cabinets and now national chairmen of the Committee for a Single Six-Year Presidential Term (Op-Ed, Dec. 31), propose a single six-year term for the President of the United States. Those of us who support this position are often met with the objection that a single term would make the President a "lame duck" from the very beginning of his tenure.

Why, then, have modern Presidents fought so tenaciously during their first term in office for their re-election - for that very lame-duck status that it is argued would make the Presidency undesirable and ineffective?

I wish to eliminate the possibility of the re-election of a sitting President primarily because the personal loyalty of Presidential staffs turns to the re-election prospect rather than to the good of the nation.

No sooner had President Carter extolled Hamilton Jordan as the finest public servant in the Administration than Mr. Jordan was transferred out of the Administration to handle re-election matters.

Personal loyalty to a President who has no higher legitimate goal than to make a mark in history benefits us all; loyalty to a contestant for office who happens to be the President is a serious potential conflict of interest, of which we have seen much concrete evidence.

RICHARD L. GARWIN Yorktown Heights, N.Y., Dec. 31, 1985

The writer has served every President since Dwight D. Eisenhower as a White House consultant on national security and other technical matters.