

Directions-Read the following excerpt of a letter from Thomas Jefferson to John Adams.
Answer the questions that follow:

To John Adams

Paris, Nov. 13, 1787

How do you like our new constitution?...Their President seems a bad edition of a Polish king. He may be reelected from 4. years to 4. years for life. Reason and experience prove to us that a chief magistrate, so continuable, is an officer for life. When one or two generations shall have proved that this is an office for life, it becomes on every succession worthy of intrigue, of bribery, of force, and even of foreign interference... Once in office, and possessing the military force of the union, without either the aid or check of a council, he would not be easily dethroned, even if the people could be induced to withdraw their votes from him. I wish that at the end of the 4. years they had made him for ever ineligible a second time...

1. Why does Jefferson believe that the office could become an office for life?
2. How would Jefferson solve this problem?

Letter text:

Thomas Jefferson

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