

**GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA**  
**SESSION 2007**

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**SENATE DRS75000-LBx-21 (1/16)**

Short Title: Defense of Marriage. (Public)

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Sponsors: Senators Forrester, and Smith.

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Referred to:

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A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT TO AMEND THE CONSTITUTION TO PROVIDE THAT MARRIAGE IS  
THE UNION OF ONE MAN AND ONE WOMAN AT ONE TIME, AND THIS IS  
THE ONLY MARRIAGE THAT IS RECOGNIZED AS VALID IN THIS STATE.

The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

**SECTION 1.** Article 14 of the North Carolina Constitution is amended by  
adding the following new section:

**"Sec. 6. Marriage.**

Marriage is the union of one man and one woman at one time. This is the only  
marriage that shall be recognized as valid in this State. The uniting of two persons of the  
same sex or the uniting of more than two persons of any sex in a marriage, civil union,  
domestic partnership, or other similar relationship within or outside of this State shall  
not be valid or recognized in this State. This Constitution shall not be construed to  
require that marital status or the rights, privileges, benefits, or other legal incidents of  
marriage be conferred upon unmarried individuals or groups."

**SECTION 2.** The amendment set out in Section 1 of this act shall be  
submitted to the qualified voters of the State at an election on November 6, 2007, which  
election shall be conducted under the laws then governing elections in the State. Ballots,  
voting systems, or both may be used in accordance with Chapter 163 of the General  
Statutes. The question to be used in the voting systems and ballots shall be:

"[ ] FOR [ ] AGAINST

Constitutional amendment to provide that marriage is the union of one man  
and one woman at one time, and this is the only marriage that shall be recognized as  
valid in this State."

**SECTION 3.** If a majority of votes cast on the question are in favor of the  
amendment set out in Section 1 of this act, the State Board of Elections shall certify the

1 amendment to the Secretary of State. The Secretary of State shall enroll the amendment  
2 so certified among the permanent records of that office.

3           **SECTION 4.** The amendment set out in Section 1 of this act becomes  
4 effective January 1, 2008.