

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA  
SESSION 2009

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HOUSE DRH80106-LBx-140 (2/19)

Short Title: Limit Legislators to Four Consecutive Terms.

(Public)

Sponsors: Representative Rhyne.

Referred to:

1 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
2 AN ACT TO AMEND THE CONSTITUTION OF NORTH CAROLINA TO LIMIT  
3 MEMBERS OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY TO FOUR CONSECUTIVE TERMS IN A  
4 HOUSE.

5 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

6 **SECTION 1.** Article II of the Constitution of North Carolina is amended by adding  
7 a new section to read:

8 "**Sec. 25.** Limitation of consecutive terms.

9 (1) No person shall be eligible for election to more than four consecutive terms as a  
10 member of the House of Representatives. No person shall be eligible for election to more than  
11 four consecutive terms as a member of the Senate. If a person fills a vacancy, it shall be  
12 considered as election to a term for the purpose of this section if the person takes office during  
13 the first calendar year of the term.

14 (2) Terms of office beginning before January 1, 2009, shall not be considered for the  
15 purpose of this section.

16 (3) A person disqualified by this section from election to the next succeeding term as a  
17 member of the House of Representatives may not fill a vacancy in that body in the succeeding  
18 term. A person disqualified by this section from election to the next succeeding term as a  
19 member of the Senate may not fill a vacancy in that body in the succeeding term."

20 **SECTION 2.** The amendment set out in Section 1 of this act shall be submitted to  
21 the qualified voters of the State at the general election in November 2010, which election shall  
22 be conducted under the laws then governing elections in the State. Ballots, voting systems, or  
23 both may be used in accordance with Chapter 163 of the General Statutes. The question to be  
24 used in the voting systems and ballots shall be:

25 "[ ] FOR [ ] AGAINST

26 Constitutional amendment limiting members to four consecutive terms in the Senate  
27 or House of Representatives."

28 **SECTION 3.** If a majority of the votes cast on the question are in favor of the  
29 amendment set out in Section 1 of this act, the State Board of Elections shall certify the  
30 amendment to the Secretary of State. The amendment becomes effective upon certification. The  
31 Secretary of State shall enroll the amendment so certified among the permanent records of that  
32 office.

33 **SECTION 4.** This act is effective when it becomes law.

