

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2025

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HOUSE BILL 761

Short Title: Limit Session Length. (Public)

Sponsors: Representatives Lambeth, Warren, Watford, and Willis (Primary Sponsors).
For a complete list of sponsors, refer to the North Carolina General Assembly web site.

Referred to: Rules, Calendar, and Operations of the House

April 7, 2025

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT TO AMEND THE NORTH CAROLINA CONSTITUTION TO LIMIT THE
LENGTH OF LEGISLATIVE SESSIONS.

The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

SECTION 1. Section 11(1) of Article II of the Constitution of North Carolina reads
as rewritten:

"(1) Regular Sessions. The General Assembly shall meet in regular session in 1973 and every two years thereafter on the day prescribed by law. Neither house shall proceed upon public business unless a majority of all of its members are actually present. In odd-numbered years, the General Assembly shall remain in regular session for no more than 90 legislative days. If the General Assembly meets in regular session in even-numbered years, the General Assembly shall remain in session for no more than 45 legislative days. Any reconvened session called under Section 5 of Article III and any extra session called under Section 11(2) of Article II or Section 5(7) of Article III of the North Carolina Constitution shall be excluded from the calculations of this section. No valid action, other than a resolution of adjournment, may be taken by the General Assembly in regular session after the time limits prescribed in this subsection have expired."

SECTION 2. The amendment set out in Section 1 of this act shall be submitted to the qualified voters of the State at the statewide general election to be held on November 3, 2026, 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 the laws governing elections at that time. The question to be used in the voting systems and ballots shall be:

" [] FOR [] AGAINST

Constitutional amendment to limit the number of days the General Assembly can be in regular session in odd-numbered years to 90 legislative days and in even-numbered years to 45 legislative days."

SECTION 3. The State Board of Elections shall certify the results of the referendum conducted under Section 2 of this act. If a majority of votes cast on the question are in favor of the amendment set out in Section 1 of this act, then the Secretary of State shall enroll the amendment so certified among the permanent records of that office. If a majority of votes cast on the question are against the amendment set out in Section 1 of this act, the amendment shall have no effect.

SECTION 4. If the certification from the State Board of Elections under Section 3 of this act reflects that a majority of votes cast on the question are in favor of the amendment set out in Section 1 of this act, then that amendment is effective upon certification and applies to regular sessions of the General Assembly beginning on or after that date.



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SECTION 5. This act is effective when it becomes law.