

**GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2003**

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SENATE BILL 3

Short Title: Session Limits.

(Public)

Sponsors: Senators Hoyle; Albertson, Allran, Apodaca, Ballantine, Berger, Clodfelter, Dalton, Dannelly, Dorsett, Forrester, Garrou, Garwood, Gulley, Hagan, Hargett, Hartsell, Horton, Jenkins, Kerr, Kinnaird, Lucas, Malone, Metcalf, Moore, Pittenger, Purcell, Rand, Reeves, Rucho, Sloan, Smith, Stevens, Swindell, Thomas, and Weinstein.

Referred to: Judiciary I.

February 10, 2003

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

1
2 AN ACT TO AMEND THE NORTH CAROLINA CONSTITUTION TO LIMIT THE
3 LENGTH OF LEGISLATIVE SESSIONS, AND TO PROVIDE FOR AN
4 EARLIER CONVENING OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY FOR
5 ORGANIZATION.

6 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

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

9 "(1) Regular sessions. The General Assembly shall meet in regular session in 1973
10 and every two years thereafter on the day prescribed by law. Beginning with the regular
11 session in 2005, during an odd-numbered year the General Assembly shall remain in
12 regular session for no more than 135 calendar days, except that this period may be
13 extended by joint resolution once per regular session for not more than 10 days. The
14 month of December in each even-numbered year is also included in the calculation. If
15 the General Assembly upon convening of the regular session meets for not more than
16 two consecutive calendar days and then adjourns for not less than 30 days, that period of
17 adjournment shall be excluded from the 135 days. If the regular session meets in even-
18 numbered years, the General Assembly shall remain in regular session for no more than
19 60 calendar days, except that this period may be extended by joint resolution once per
20 regular session for not more than 10 days, but the month of December in each even-
21 numbered year is excluded from the calculation. Any reconvened session called under
22 Section 5 of Article III of this Constitution shall be excluded from the calculations of
23 this section. Neither house shall proceed upon public business unless a majority of all of
24 its members are actually present. No valid action, other than a resolution of

