

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2005

H

1

HOUSE BILL 1137

Short Title: Marriage by District Court Judge.

(Public)

Sponsors: Representative Tolson.

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

April 7, 2005

1 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
2 AN ACT ALLOWING A DISTRICT COURT JUDGE TO PERFORM MARRIAGE
3 CEREMONIES.

4 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

5 SECTION 1. G.S. 51-1 reads as rewritten:

6 "§ 51-1. **Requisites of marriage; solemnization.**

7 A valid and sufficient marriage is created by the consent of a male and female
8 person who may lawfully marry, presently to take each other as husband and wife,
9 freely, seriously and plainly expressed by each in the presence of the other, either:

10 (1) a. In the presence of an ordained minister of any religious
11 denomination, a minister authorized by a church, a district court
12 judge of this State or of another state, or a magistrate; and

13 b. With the consequent declaration by the ~~minister~~ minister,
14 district court judge, or magistrate that the persons are husband
15 and wife; or

16 (2) In accordance with any mode of solemnization recognized by any
17 religious denomination, or federally or State recognized Indian Nation
18 or Tribe.

19 Marriages solemnized before March 9, 1909, by ministers of the gospel licensed, but not
20 ordained, are validated from their consummation."

21 SECTION 2. This act becomes effective June 23, 2005, and expires June 27,
22 2005.