

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2011

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HOUSE BILL 158

Short Title: Limit Legislators to Four Consecutive Terms. (Public)

Sponsors: Representatives Rhyne and Killian (Primary Sponsors).
For a complete list of Sponsors, see Bill Information on the NCGA Web Site.

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

February 23, 2011

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

4 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

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

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

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

13 (2) Terms of office beginning before January 1, 2011, shall not be considered for the
14 purpose of this section.

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

19 **SECTION 2.** The amendment set out in Section 1 of this act shall be submitted to
20 the qualified voters of the State at the general election in November 2012, which election shall
21 be conducted under the laws then governing elections in the State. Ballots, voting systems, or
22 both may be used in accordance with Chapter 163 of the General Statutes. The question to be
23 used in the voting systems and ballots shall be:

24 "[] FOR [] AGAINST

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

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

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

