

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA  
SESSION 2011

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HOUSE BILL 61  
Second Edition Engrossed 4/7/11

Short Title: Speaker/Pro Tem Term Limits. (Public)

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

Referred to: Judiciary.

February 10, 2011

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT AMENDING THE NORTH CAROLINA CONSTITUTION TO LIMIT THE  
TERMS OF THE SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES AND THE  
PRESIDENT PRO TEMPORE OF THE SENATE TO TWO GENERAL ASSEMBLIES.

The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

**SECTION 1.** Section 15 of Article II of the North Carolina Constitution reads as  
rewritten:

**"Sec. 15. Officers of the House of Representatives.**

The House of Representatives shall elect its Speaker and other officers. No person may  
serve as Speaker in more than two regular sessions of the General Assembly."

**SECTION 2.** Section 14(1) of Article II of the North Carolina Constitution reads  
as rewritten:

"(1) President Pro Tempore – succession to presidency. The Senate shall elect from its  
membership a President Pro Tempore, who shall become President of the Senate upon the  
failure of the Lieutenant Governor-elect to qualify, or upon succession by the Lieutenant  
Governor to the office of Governor, or upon the death, resignation, or removal from office of  
the President of the Senate, and who shall serve until the expiration of his term of office as  
Senator.

No person may serve as President Pro Tempore in more than two regular sessions of the  
General Assembly."

**SECTION 3.** The amendments set out in Sections 1 and 2 of this act shall be  
submitted to the qualified voters of the State at the general election in November 2012, 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 Chapter 163 of the General Statutes. The  
question to be used in the voting systems and ballots shall be:

"[ ] FOR [ ] AGAINST

Constitutional amendments providing that the Speaker of the House and the  
President Pro Tempore of the Senate may not serve more than two terms."

**SECTION 4.** If a majority of the votes cast on the question are in favor of the  
amendments set out in this act, the State Board of Elections shall certify the amendments to the  
Secretary of State. The amendments shall become effective upon the convening of the General  
Assembly next on or after January 1, 2013, and service as Speaker or President Pro Tempore  
prior to that date shall not be considered for the purpose of the amendments. The Secretary of  
State shall enroll the amendments so certified among the permanent records of that office.

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

