

**GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2009**

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HOUSE BILL 1486

Short Title: Allow Judge to Perform Marriage Ceremonies. (Public)

Sponsors: Representative Boles.

Referred to: Rules, Calendar, and Operations of the House, if favorable, State Government/State Personnel.

April 13, 2009

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
AN ACT ALLOWING A COURT OF APPEALS JUDGE TO PERFORM MARRIAGE
CEREMONIES.

The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

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

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

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

- (1) a. In the presence of an ordained minister of any religious denomination, a minister authorized by a church, a court of appeals judge in this State or another state, or a magistrate; and
- b. With the consequent declaration by the ~~minister~~minister, court of appeals judge, or magistrate that the persons are husband and wife; or
- (2) In accordance with any mode of solemnization recognized by any religious denomination, or federally or State recognized Indian Nation or Tribe.

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

SECTION 2. This act becomes effective June 25, 2009, and expires June 29, 2009.

