

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA  
SESSION 2009

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SENATE BILL 272

Short Title: Defense of Marriage. (Public)

Sponsors: Senators Forrester, Jacumin; Allran, Apodaca, Berger of Rockingham, Bingham, Blake, Brock, Brown, Brunstetter, Clary, Davis, Goodall, Hoyle, Hunt, Jones, Preston, Rouzer, Rucho, Shaw, Snow, and Tillman.

Referred to: Ways & Means.

February 24, 2009

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT TO AMEND THE CONSTITUTION TO PROVIDE MARRIAGE BETWEEN A  
MAN AND A WOMAN IS THE ONLY DOMESTIC LEGAL UNION THAT SHALL BE  
VALID OR RECOGNIZED IN THIS STATE.

The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

**SECTION 1.** Article 14 of the North Carolina Constitution is amended by adding  
the following new section:

**"Sec. 6. Marriage.**

Marriage between a man and a woman is the only domestic legal union that shall be valid  
or recognized in this State."

**SECTION 2.** The amendment set out in Section 1 of this act shall be submitted to  
the qualified voters of the State at an election on November 3, 2009, 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 amendment to provide that marriage between a man and a woman is  
the only domestic legal union that shall be valid or recognized in this State."

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

**SECTION 4.** The amendment set out in Section 1 of this act becomes effective  
January 1, 2010.

