

**GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA**  
**SESSION 2007**

**S**

**D**

**SENATE DRS55047-LB-94 (2/6)**

Short Title: Session Limits.

(Public)

---

Sponsors: Senator Hoyle.

---

Referred to:

---

A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT TO AMEND THE NORTH CAROLINA CONSTITUTION TO LIMIT THE  
LENGTH OF LEGISLATIVE SESSIONS.

The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

**SECTION 1.** Section 11(1) of Article II of the North Carolina Constitution  
reads as rewritten:

"(1) Regular sessions.

(a) The General Assembly shall meet in regular session in 1973 and every  
two years thereafter on the day prescribed by law.

(b) Odd-numbered years. – Beginning with the regular session in 2009,  
during an odd-numbered year, the General Assembly shall remain in  
session for no more than 135 calendar days, except that this period  
may be extended by joint resolution once per regular session for not  
more than 10 calendar days. If the General Assembly, upon convening  
of the regular session, meets initially for not more than two  
consecutive calendar days and then adjourns for not less than 14  
calendar days, that period of adjournment shall be excluded from the  
135 calendar days.

(c) Even-numbered years. – If the regular session meets in even-numbered  
years, the General Assembly shall remain in session for no more than  
60 calendar days, except that this period may be extended by joint  
resolution once per regular session for not more than 10 calendar days.

(d) Any reconvened session called under Section 5 of Article III of this  
Constitution shall be excluded from the calculations of this section.

(e) Neither house shall proceed upon public business unless a majority of  
all of its members are actually present.

1 (f) No valid action, other than a resolution of adjournment, may be taken  
2 by the General Assembly after the time limits prescribed in this section  
3 have expired."

4 **SECTION 2.** The amendments set out in Section 1 of this act shall be  
5 submitted to the qualified voters of the State at the next statewide election, primary or  
6 otherwise, which election shall be conducted under the laws then governing elections in  
7 the State. Ballots, voting systems, or both may be used in accordance with Chapter 163  
8 of the General Statutes. The question to be used in the voting systems and ballots shall  
9 be:

10 "[ ] FOR [ ] AGAINST

11 Constitutional amendment limiting the length of the legislative session."

12 **SECTION 3.** If a majority of votes cast on the question are in favor of the  
13 amendments set out in Sections 1 and 2 of this act, the State Board of Elections shall  
14 certify the amendments to the Secretary of State whereupon the amendments shall  
15 become effective. The Secretary of State shall enroll the amendments so certified  
16 among the permanent records of that office.

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