

March 23, 2005

S 857. CHIEF JUSTICE SELECTION. TO AMEND THE NORTH CAROLINA CONSTITUTION TO PROVIDE FOR THE SELECTION OF THE CHIEF JUSTICE OF THE SUPREME COURT FROM AMONG THE ASSOCIATE JUSTICES. Amends Section 6, Article IV of NC Constitution as title indicates (was, Chief Justice is separate office filled by election to that office). Submits amendment to voters at election on November 8, 2005. Amends GS 7A-10 to direct that Governor make designation of chief justice from among associate justices. Provides that person designated serves until end of his or her term or four years, whichever occurs first. If person designated has served for at least four consecutive years, person may not be redesignated as chief justice until the expiration of four years in which that person is not serving as chief justice. Statutes effective only if constitutional amendment passes.

Intro. by Clodfelter.

Ref. to Ways & Means

CONST, GS 7A