

March 14, 2007

**H 703. FOUR-YEAR TERMS IMPLEMENTING STATUTE.** Filed 3/14/07. *TO IMPLEMENT A CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT PROVIDING FOR FOUR-YEAR TERMS FOR MEMBERS OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY BY PROVIDING NECESSARY STATUTORY CHANGES.*

Amends GS Chapter 163 to provide for four-year terms for General Assembly members and to provide that elections for appellate, superior, and district court judges, district attorneys, county commissioners, clerks of superior court, registers of deeds, and coroners will occur at the time of the regular election for members of the General Assembly, or Governor, whichever occurs first (was, General Assembly), immediately preceding the termination of each regular term. Amends the provisions in GS Chapter 163 and other statutes and local acts pertaining to filling of vacancies in elected offices to rely on the date of election for members of the General Assembly or Governor, whichever occurs first, to determine when an event takes place or the duration of an appointment. Also amends GS 7A-140 (district judges), GS 147-4 (executive officers), GS 152-1 (coroner), GS 161-1 (register of deeds), and GS 162-1 (sheriff), so that GS Chapter 163 (Elections and Election Laws) is used to determine the timing or manner of election. Provisions take effect only upon approval by the voters of corresponding constitutional amendments and are effective beginning with the 2010 election.

**Intro. by Underhill, Farmer-Butterfield, Justice, Holliman.** GS 7A, 147, 152, 161, 162, 163