

February 10, 2009

**S 118. FOUR-YEAR TERM IMPLEMENTING.** Filed 2/10/09. *TO IMPLEMENT AN ACT TO AMEND THE NORTH CAROLINA CONSTITUTION TO PROVIDE FOUR-YEAR TERMS FOR MEMBERS OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY.*

Amends GS 163-1 (Time of regular elections and primaries) to change the term of office for members of the state Senate and the state House of Representatives from two years to four years beginning with November of 2008. Modifies the date of election for Appellate Division justices and judges, superior court judges, district court judges, district attorney, county commissioners, superior court clerk, register of deeds, sheriff and coroner from various dates to: *At the next regular statewide election for members of the US House of Representatives, immediately preceding the termination of each regular term.* Makes an identical change to GS 163-8 for the election date for filling vacancies in state executive offices and to GS 163-12 for filling vacancies in the US Senate. Makes conforming changes to GS 163-9 (Filling vacancies in state and district judicial offices), GS 163-10 (Filling vacancy in office of district attorney), GS 7A-140 (district judge elections), GS 147-4 (election of executive officers), GS 152-1 (election of coroner), and GS 162-1 (election of county sheriff). Repeals GS 161-1 (election of register of deeds), now superseded by GS 161-2. Provides that each statute and local act which states that a vacancy in an elected office is filled by relying on General Assembly elections to determine when an event will take place or for the duration of an appointment will instead use the next statewide election of the US House of Representatives. Makes a conforming change to GS 120-11.1 (Time of meeting).

The proposed amendments in this act take effect only upon voter approval of the proposed constitutional amendments set forth in *AN ACT TO AMEND THE NORTH CAROLINA CONSTITUTION TO PROVIDE FOR FOUR-YEAR TERMS FOR MEMBERS OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY.*

**Intro. by Weinstein.**

GS 7A, 120, 147, 152, 161, 162, 163