

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA  
SESSION 2025

FILED SENATE  
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S.B. 459  
PRINCIPAL CLERK

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SENATE BILL DRS35193-NJy-19A

Short Title: Constitutional Repeal of Art. XIV Sec. 6. (Public)

Sponsors: Senators Garrett, Grafstein, and Chitlik (Primary Sponsors).

Referred to:

1 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
2 AN ACT TO AMEND THE NORTH CAROLINA CONSTITUTION AND REPEAL A  
3 CONSTITUTIONAL PROVISION THAT RECOGNIZES MARRIAGE BETWEEN ONE  
4 MAN AND ONE WOMAN AS THE ONLY DOMESTIC LEGAL UNION THAT IS  
5 VALID OR RECOGNIZED BY THE STATE.

6 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

7 **SECTION 1.** Section 6 of Article XIV of the North Carolina Constitution reads as  
8 rewritten:

9 "**Sec. 6. Marriage.**

10 ~~Marriage between one man and one woman is the only domestic legal union that shall be~~  
11 ~~valid or recognized in this State. This section does not prohibit a private party from entering into~~  
12 ~~contracts with another private party; nor does this section prohibit courts from adjudicating the~~  
13 ~~rights of private parties pursuant to such contracts."~~

14 **SECTION 2.** The amendment set out in Section 1 of this act shall be submitted to  
15 the qualified voters of the State at the general election in November 2026, which election shall  
16 be conducted under the laws then governing elections in the State. Ballots, voting systems, or  
17 both may be used in accordance with Chapter 163 of the General Statutes. The question to be  
18 used in the voting systems and ballots shall be:

19 "[ ] FOR [ ] AGAINST

20 Constitutional amendment to repeal a constitutional provision that recognizes  
21 marriage between one man and one woman as the only domestic legal union that is valid and  
22 recognized in this State."

23 **SECTION 3.** If a majority of votes cast on the question are in favor of the amendment  
24 set out in Section 1 of this act, the State Board of Elections shall certify the amendment to the  
25 Secretary of State, and the amendment becomes effective January 1, 2027. The Secretary of State  
26 shall enroll the amendment so certified among the permanent records of that office.

27 **SECTION 4.** Except as otherwise provided, this act is effective when it becomes  
28 law.



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