

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA  
SESSION 2025

H.B. 1217  
May 4, 2026  
HOUSE PRINCIPAL CLERK

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HOUSE BILL DRH30600-NTe-10

Short Title: Norlina/Even-Yr Elect./4-Yr Staggered Terms.

(Local)

Sponsors: Representative R. Pierce.

Referred to:

1 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
2 AN ACT TO REQUIRE THAT MUNICIPAL ELECTIONS IN THE TOWN OF NORLINA BE  
3 CONDUCTED IN EVEN-NUMBERED YEARS AND THAT MUNICIPAL OFFICERS IN  
4 THE TOWN OF NORLINA SERVE FOUR-YEAR STAGGERED TERMS.

5 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

6 SECTION 1. Section 4 of the Charter of the Town of Norlina, being Chapter 1020  
7 of the 1947 Session Laws, as amended by Chapter 95 of the 1969 Session Laws, reads as  
8 rewritten:

9 "SEC. 4. Creation, Salary and Compensation of Mayor and Board of Commissioners. Except  
10 as otherwise provided in this charter all powers of the town shall be vested in a board of  
11 commissioners of five members and a mayor nominated and elected from the town at large in the  
12 manner ~~hereinafter provided.~~ provided in Chapter 163 of the General Statutes. The term of office  
13 of the mayor ~~and the~~ shall be four years and until a successor is elected and qualified. The term  
14 of office of the board of commissioners shall be for ~~two~~ four years on a staggered basis and until  
15 their successors are elected and qualified. If a vacancy occurs in the office of mayor or  
16 commissioners, it shall be filled for the remainder of the unexpired term by a majority vote of  
17 the remaining members of the board of commissioners. Each member of the board of  
18 commissioners shall receive a salary the amount of which shall be prescribed by ordinance.  
19 Members of the board of commissioners shall be qualified electors of the town. A member of the  
20 board of commissioners ceasing to possess any of the qualifications specified in this Section, or  
21 convicted of crime while in office, shall immediately forfeit his office."

22 SECTION 2. Section 12 of the Charter of the Town of Norlina, being Chapter 1020  
23 of the 1947 Session Laws, reads as rewritten:

24 "SEC. 12. Municipal Elections. ~~The regular election for the choice of mayor and members of~~  
25 ~~the board of commissioners~~ Regular municipal elections shall be held on Tuesday following the  
26 first Monday in ~~May~~ November in ~~odd numbered~~ even-numbered years. The board of  
27 commissioners may, by resolution, order a special election, fix the time for holding the same,  
28 and provide all means for holding such special election."

29 SECTION 3. No regular municipal elections shall be conducted in the Town of  
30 Norlina in 2027. The terms of office for the mayor and five commissioners serving on the  
31 effective date of this act whose terms are set to expire in 2027 shall be extended by one year.  
32 Regular municipal elections in the Town of Norlina shall resume in even-numbered years  
33 beginning in 2028. Following the 2028 municipal election, the mayor and the two board of  
34 commissioner candidates receiving the highest number of votes shall be elected to serve four-year  
35 terms. The three board of commissioner candidates receiving the next highest number of votes  
36 shall be elected to serve two-year terms. In 2030 and every four years thereafter, three members



1 of the board of commissioners shall be elected to serve four-year terms. In 2032 and every four  
2 years thereafter, a mayor and two commissioners shall be elected to serve four-year terms.

3 **SECTION 4.** This act is effective when it becomes law and applies to elections held  
4 on or after that date.