

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA  
SESSION 2017

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HOUSE BILL 659  
Senate Select Committee on Elections Committee Substitute Adopted 6/12/18

Short Title: Filling Vacancies/U.S. Senate. (Public)

Sponsors:

Referred to:

April 11, 2017

1 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
2 AN ACT TO CLARIFY THE MANNER IN WHICH VACANCIES ARE FILLED IN THE  
3 OFFICE OF UNITED STATES SENATOR.

4 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

5 **SECTION 1.** G.S. 163A-720 reads as rewritten:

6 "**§ 163A-720. Filling vacancy in United States Senate.**

7 Whenever there shall be a vacancy in the office of United States Senator from this State,  
8 whether caused by death, resignation, or otherwise than by expiration of term, the Governor shall  
9 appoint to fill the vacancy until an election shall be held to fill the office. If the Senator was  
10 elected as the nominee of a political party, ~~the person appointed by the Governor shall be a person~~  
11 ~~affiliated with that same political party.~~ the Governor shall appoint from a list of three persons  
12 recommended by the State executive committee of the political party with which the vacating  
13 member was affiliated when elected if that party executive committee makes recommendations  
14 within 30 days of the occurrence of the vacancy. The Governor shall issue a writ for the election  
15 of a Senator to be held at the time of the first election for members of the General Assembly that  
16 is held more than 60 days after the vacancy occurs. The person elected shall hold the office for  
17 the remainder of the unexpired term. The election shall take effect from the date of the canvassing  
18 of the returns."

19 **SECTION 2.** This act is effective when it becomes law and applies to vacancies  
20 filled on or after that date.



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