

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA
SESSION 2019

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HOUSE BILL 496

Short Title: 4-Year Terms for Legislators in 2022. (Public)

Sponsors: Representative Adams.

For a complete list of sponsors, refer to the North Carolina General Assembly web site.

Referred to: Rules, Calendar, and Operations of the House

March 28, 2019

1 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED
2 AN ACT TO AMEND THE CONSTITUTION TO MAKE TERMS OF OFFICE FOR
3 LEGISLATORS FOUR YEARS.

4 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

5 **SECTION 1.** Section 2 of Article II of the Constitution of North Carolina reads as
6 rewritten:

7 "**Sec. 2. Number of Senators.**

8 The Senate shall be composed of 50 Senators, ~~biennially~~ quadrennially chosen by ballot."

9 **SECTION 2.** Section 4 of Article II of the Constitution of North Carolina reads as
10 rewritten:

11 "**Sec. 4. Number of Representatives.**

12 The House of Representatives shall be composed of 120 Representatives, ~~biennially~~
13 quadrennially chosen by ballot."

14 **SECTION 3.** Section 8 of Article II of the Constitution of North Carolina reads as
15 rewritten:

16 "**Sec. 8. Elections.**

17 The election for members of the General Assembly shall be held for the respective districts
18 in ~~1972-2022~~ and every ~~two~~ four years thereafter, at the places and on the day prescribed by law."

19 **SECTION 4.** The amendments set out in sections 1 through 3 of this act shall be
20 submitted to the qualified voters of the State at the general election in November 2020, which
21 election shall be conducted under the laws then governing elections in the State. Ballots, voting
22 systems, or both may be used in accordance with Chapter 163A of the General Statutes. The
23 question to be used in the voting systems and ballots shall be:

24 "[] FOR [] AGAINST

25 Constitutional amendments providing for four-year terms for members of the General
26 Assembly beginning with members elected in 2022."

27 **SECTION 5.** If a majority of the votes cast on the question are in favor of the
28 amendments set out in Sections 1 through 3 of this act, the Bipartisan State Board of Elections
29 and Ethics Enforcement shall certify the amendments to the Secretary of State. The amendments
30 set out in Sections 1 through 3 of this act become effective with the members elected in 2022.
31 The Secretary of State shall enroll the amendments so certified among the permanent records of
32 that office.

33 **SECTION 6.** Except as otherwise provided, this act is effective when it becomes
34 law.



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