

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA  
SESSION 2019

H.B. 496  
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HOUSE PRINCIPAL CLERK

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HOUSE BILL DRH30213-MMY-79

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

(Public)

Sponsors: Representative Adams.

Referred to:

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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