**South Carolina General Assembly**

121st Session, 2015-2016

**H. 3111**

**STATUS INFORMATION**

Joint Resolution

Sponsors: Reps. W.J. McLeod, Cobb‑Hunter, McKnight, M.S. McLeod, Bannister, Hixon, Spires, Gagnon, J.E. Smith, Herbkersman, Knight, Murphy, Brannon, McCoy, Horne, Norrell, Rutherford, Jefferson, Weeks, D.C. Moss, Bernstein, Whipper and Hicks

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Introduced in the House on January 13, 2015

Currently residing in the House Committee on **Judiciary**

Summary: Grounds for Divorce

**HISTORY OF LEGISLATIVE ACTIONS**

Date Body Action Description with journal page number

12/11/2014 House Prefiled

12/11/2014 House Referred to Committee on **Judiciary**

1/13/2015 House Introduced and read first time ([House Journal‑page 99](file:///h:\HJ%20Archive\2015\01-13-15.docx))

1/13/2015 House Referred to Committee on **Judiciary** ([House Journal‑page 99](file:///h:\HJ%20Archive\2015\01-13-15.docx))

3/17/2015 House Member(s) request name added as sponsor: Bannister, Hixon, Spires, Gagnon, J.E.Smith, Herbkersman, Knight, Murphy, Brannon, McCoy, Horne, Norrell, Rutherford, Jefferson, Weeks, D.C.Moss, Bernstein, Whipper, Hicks

View the latest [legislative information](http://www.scstatehouse.gov/billsearch.php?billnumbers=3111&session=121&summary=B) at the website

**VERSIONS OF THIS BILL**

[12/11/2014](file:///p:\pprever\2015-16\3111_20141211.docx)

**A** **JOINT RESOLUTION**

PROPOSING AN AMENDMENT TO SECTION 3, ARTICLE XVII OF THE CONSTITUTION OF SOUTH CAROLINA, 1895, RELATING TO GROUNDS FOR DIVORCE, SO AS TO PROVIDE THAT A DIVORCE MAY BE GRANTED ON THE GROUND OF CONTINUOUS SEPARATION FOR A PERIOD OF ONE HUNDRED EIGHTY DAYS RATHER THAN ONE YEAR.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of South Carolina:

SECTION 1. It is proposed that Section 3, Article XVII of the Constitution of this State be amended to read:

“Section 3. Divorces from the bonds of matrimony shall be allowed on the grounds of adultery, desertion, physical cruelty, continuous separation for a period of at least ~~one year~~ one hundred eighty days or habitual drunkenness.”

SECTION 2. The proposed amendment must be submitted to the qualified electors at the next general election for representatives. Ballots must be provided at the various voting precincts with the following words printed or written on the ballot:

“Must Section 3, Article XVII of the Constitution of this State be amended so as to provide that a divorce may be granted on the ground of continuous separation for a period of at least one hundred eighty days, rather than on the ground of continuous separation for a period of at least one year?

Yes 

No 

Those voting in favor of the question shall deposit a ballot with a check or cross mark in the square after the word ‘Yes’, and those voting against the question shall deposit a ballot with a check or cross mark in the square after the word ‘No’.”

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