

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA  
SESSION 2023

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SENATE BILL 91  
Second Edition Engrossed 3/7/23

Short Title: Amend Rule 4/Acceptance of Service. (Public)

Sponsors: Senators Galey, Sawrey, and B. Newton (Primary Sponsors).

Referred to: Rules and Operations of the Senate

February 13, 2023

1 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
2 AN ACT AMENDING RULE 4 OF THE NORTH CAROLINA RULES OF CIVIL  
3 PROCEDURE TO ALLOW ACCEPTANCE OF SERVICE USING A FORM ISSUED BY  
4 THE ADMINISTRATIVE OFFICE OF THE COURTS.

5 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

6 **SECTION 1.** G.S. 1A-1, Rule 4(j5) of the North Carolina Rules of Civil Procedure  
7 reads as rewritten:

8 "(j5) Personal jurisdiction by acceptance of service. – Any party personally, or through the  
9 persons provided in Rule 4(j), may accept service of process either (i) by completing an  
10 acceptance of service, such as a form for that purpose to be prescribed by the Administrative  
11 Office of the Courts, or (ii) by notation of acceptance of service together with the signature of  
12 the party accepting service and the date thereof on an original or copy of a summons, and such  
13 acceptance summons. Acceptance of service by either method shall have the same force and  
14 effect as would exist had the process been served by delivery of copy and summons and  
15 complaint to the person signing said the acceptance."

16 **SECTION 2.** This act becomes effective October 1, 2023, and applies to actions  
17 commenced on or after that date.

