



# SENATE BILL 91: Amend Rule 4/Acceptance of Service.

2023-2024 General Assembly

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<b>Committee:</b>	Senate Rules and Operations of the Senate	<b>Date:</b>	February 28, 2023
<b>Introduced by:</b>	Sens. Galey, Sawrey, B. Newton	<b>Prepared by:</b>	Bill Patterson
<b>Analysis of:</b>	First Edition		Staff Attorney

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**OVERVIEW:** *Senate Bill 91 would permit a party to a civil action to accept service of process using a form provided by the Administrative Office of the Courts.*

**CURRENT LAW:** Rule 4(j5) of the North Carolina Rules of Civil Procedure permits a party to accept service of process by signing a notation of acceptance of service on an original or copy of the summons accompanying a complaint. Accepting service in this manner has the same effect as if the process had been served by personal delivery of the summons and complaint to the person signing the acceptance.

**BILL ANALYSIS:** Section 1 of the bill would amend Rule 4(j5) of the Rules of Civil Procedure to permit a party also to accept service of process by completing an acceptance of service form provided by the Administrative Office of the Courts, which would have the same effect as personal delivery of the summons and complaint to the person signing the form.

**EFFECTIVE DATE:** This act becomes effective October 1, 2023, and applies to actions commenced on or after that date.

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