



CHAPTER 101

N.C.G.S. § 101-2.

Procedure for changing name; petition; notice.

SOURCE	LAST AMENDMENT IN THIS TEXT	RETRIEVED	SOURCE FINGERPRINT
General Statutes of North Carolina, as published by the General Assembly	S.L. 2025-54, s. 4(a) — seventeenth act in the lineage	21 September 2026, 03:25 UTC	7244dcbf9a8794a734b76e96 - 6ff12e2d024389d57925a81c - 3c011f6736799de2

§ 101-2(a) A person who wishes, for good cause shown, to change his or her name must file an application before the clerk of the superior court of the county in which the person resides.

§ 101-2(b) Repealed by Session Laws 2025-54, s. 4(a), effective December 1, 2025, and applicable to all applications for a name change pursuant to Chapter 101 of the General Statutes filed on or after that date.

§ 101-2(c) The application and the court's entire record of the proceedings relating to the applicant's name change is not a matter of public record where the applicant meets either of the following criteria:

- (1) Is a participant in the address confidentiality program under Chapter 15C of the General Statutes.
- (2) Provides evidence that the applicant is a victim of domestic violence, sexual offense, or stalking. This evidence may include any of the following:

- a.Law enforcement, court, or other federal or state agency records or files.
- b.Documentation from a program receiving funds from the Domestic Violence Center Fund, if the applicant is alleged to be a victim of domestic violence.

Records qualifying under this subsection shall be maintained separately from other records, shall be withheld from public inspection, and may be examined only by order of the court or with the written consent of the applicant.

§ 101-2(d)

An application to change the name of a minor child may be filed by the child's parent or parents, guardian appointed under Article 6 of Chapter 35A of the General Statutes, or guardian ad litem appointed under Rule 17 of the Rules of Civil Procedure, and this application may be joined in the application for a change of name filed by the parent or parents. A change of parentage or the addition of information relating to parentage on the birth certificate of any person is governed by G.S. 130A-118. An application to change the name of a minor child shall not be filed without the consent of both parents if both parents are living, unless one of the following applies:

- (1) A minor who has reached the age of 16 may file an application to change his or her name with the consent of the parent who has custody of the minor and has supported the minor, without the necessity of obtaining the consent of the other parent, when the clerk of court is satisfied that the other parent has abandoned the minor.
- (2) A parent may file an application on behalf of the minor without the consent of the other parent if the other parent has abandoned the minor child.
- (3) A parent may file an application on behalf of the minor without the consent of the other parent if the other parent has been convicted of any of the following offenses against the minor or a sibling of the minor:

a. Felonious or misdemeanor child abuse.

b. Taking indecent liberties with a minor in violation of G.S. 14-202.1.

c. Rape or any other sex offense in violation of Article 7B of Chapter 14 of the General Statutes.

d. Incest in violation of G.S. 14-178.

e. Assault, communicating a threat, or any other crime of violence.

For purposes of subdivisions (1) and (2) of this subsection, abandonment may be shown by filing a copy of an order of a court of competent jurisdiction adjudicating that parent's abandonment of the minor. If a court of competent jurisdiction has not declared the minor to be an abandoned child, the clerk, on 10 days' written notice by registered or certified mail, directed to the last known address of the parent alleged to have abandoned the child, may determine whether the parent has abandoned the child. If the parent denies that the parent abandoned the child, this issue of fact shall be transferred and determined as provided in G.S. 1-301.2. If abandonment is determined, the consent of the parent is not required. Upon final determination of this issue of fact

the proceeding shall be transferred back to the special proceedings docket for further action by the clerk. A parent who files an application on behalf of a minor pursuant to subdivision (3) of this subsection shall submit proof of the other parent's conviction to the clerk at the time of filing.

END OF SECTION TEXT

APPARATUS FOLLOWS — DERIVED, NOT ENACTED

APPARATUS I
17 ACTS

Amendment lineage

The State prints this history as a single parenthetical at the foot of the section. It is reproduced verbatim in the colophon and unpacked below in order of enactment.



Nº	YEAR	ACT	CHARACTER
01	1891	c. 145	ENACTED
02	Rev.	s. 2147	RECODIFIED
03	C.S.	s. 2971	RECODIFIED
04	1947	c. 115	AMENDED
05	1953	c. 678	AMENDED
06	1955	c. 951, s. 3	AMENDED
07	1957	c. 1442	AMENDED
08	1959	c. 1161, s. 7	AMENDED
09	1971	c. 444, s. 1	AMENDED
10	1995	c. 509, s. 135.2(f)	AMENDED
11	1999	S.L. 1999-216, s. 13	AMENDED
12	2007	S.L. 2007-116, s. 1	AMENDED
13	2013	S.L. 2013-42, s. 1	AMENDED
14	2015	S.L. 2015-181, s. 47	AMENDED
15	2019	S.L. 2019-243, s. 27	AMENDED
16	2024	S.L. 2024-33, s. 10	AMENDED
17	2025	S.L. 2025-54, s. 4(a)	AMENDED

Authorities referenced

Every G.S. cross-reference appearing in the text of this section, in order of first appearance. Nothing is characterized; the operative language is quoted from the section itself.

REFERENCE	APPEARS IN	OPERATIVE LANGUAGE IN THIS SECTION
G.S. 130A-118	(d)	"of any person is governed by"
G.S. 14-202.1	(d)	"with a minor in violation of"
G.S. 14-178	(d)	"d. Incest in violation of"
G.S. 1-301.2	(d)	"transferred and determined as provided in"

Citation

FULL SECTION
N.C. Gen. Stat. § 101-2 (2025).

PINPOINT
N.C. Gen. Stat. § 101-2(a) (2025).

Pinpoint keys are set in the left margin of the text rather than line numbers: subsection designators are stable across editions and paper sizes, line numbers are not.

Provenance

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HISTORY PARENTHETICAL, AS PRINTED BY THE STATE
(1891, c. 145; Rev., s. 2147; C.S., s. 2971; 1947, c. 115; 1953, c. 678; 1955, c. 951, s. 3; 1957, c. 1442; 1959, c. 1161, s. 7; 1971, c. 444, s. 1; 1995, c. 509, s. 135.2(f); 1999-216, s. 13; 2007-116, s. 1; 2013-42, s. 1; 2015-181, s. 47; 2019-243, s. 27; 2024-33, s. 10; 2025-54, s. 4(a).)

