



CHAPTER 50
ARTICLE 1 - DIVORCE, ALIMONY, AND CHILD SUPPORT, GENERALLY

N.C.G.S. § 50-11.

Effects of absolute divorce.

SOURCE General Statutes of North Carolina, as published by the General Assembly	LAST AMENDMENT IN THIS TEXT No amendment history on record	RETRIEVED 21 September 2026, 02:14 UTC	SOURCE FINGERPRINT d4faeb4df236f39843be8c30 - 2169a99f279a9a20fb4f5dff - 5b98c11af6310f0f
--	---	---	--

- § 50-11(a)

After a judgment of divorce from the bonds of matrimony, all rights arising out of the marriage cease, except as otherwise provided by this section, and either party may marry again without restriction arising from the dissolved marriage.
- § 50-11(b)

No judgment of divorce shall cause any child in esse or begotten of the body of the wife during the marriage to be treated as a child born out of wedlock.
- § 50-11(c)

A divorce obtained pursuant to G.S. 50-5.1 or G.S. 50-6 does not affect the rights of either spouse with respect to any action for alimony or postseparation support pending at the time the judgment for divorce is granted. Furthermore, a judgment of absolute divorce does not impair or destroy the right of a spouse to receive alimony or postseparation support or affect any other rights provided for the spouse under any judgment or decree of a court rendered before or at the time of the judgment of absolute divorce.
- § 50-11(d)

A divorce obtained outside the State in an action in which jurisdiction over the person of the dependent spouse was not obtained does not impair or destroy the right of the dependent spouse to alimony as provided by the laws of this State.
- § 50-11(e)

An absolute divorce obtained in this State destroys the right of a spouse to equitable distribution under G.S. 50-20 unless the right is asserted prior to judgment of absolute divorce; however, the defendant may bring an action or file a motion in the cause for equitable distribution within six months from the date of the judgment in the case if

service of process upon the defendant was by publication pursuant to G.S. 1A-1, Rule 4, and the defendant failed to appear in the action for divorce.

§ 50-11(f)

An absolute divorce by a court that lacked personal jurisdiction over the absent spouse or lacked jurisdiction to dispose of the property does not destroy the right of a spouse to equitable distribution under G.S. 50-20 if an action or motion in the cause is filed within six months after the judgment of divorce is entered. The validity of the divorce may be attacked in the action for equitable distribution. (1871-2, c. 193, s. 43; Code, s. 1295; Rev., s. 1569; 1919, c. 204; C.S., s. 1663; 1953, c. 1313; 1955, c. 872, s. 1; 1967, c. 1152, s. 3; 1981, c. 190; c. 815, s. 2; 1987, c. 844, s. 3; 1991, c. 569, s. 2; 1995, c. 319, s. 8; 1998-217, s. 7(a), (b); 2013-198, s. 24; 2025-25, s. 1(c).)

END OF SECTION TEXT

APPARATUS FOLLOWS — DERIVED, NOT ENACTED

APPARATUS II
4 AUTHORITIES

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. 50-5.1	(c)	"A divorce obtained pursuant to"
G.S. 50-6	(c)	"obtained pursuant to G.S. 50-5.1 or"
G.S. 50-20	(e)	"a spouse to equitable distribution under"
G.S. 1A-1	(e)	"defendant was by publication pursuant to"

APPARATUS III

Citation

FULL SECTION

N.C. Gen. Stat. § 50-11 (2026).

PINPOINT

N.C. Gen. Stat. § 50-11(a) (2026).

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.

COLOPHON

Provenance

This document reproduces the text of one section of the General Statutes of North Carolina from a source file whose SHA-256 digest is printed on every page. The digest fixes the bytes this export was made from; if the State's file changes, the digest will not match.

The text of the section is unaltered. Subsection designators have been moved from the run of text into the margin. The amendment history and the table of authorities are derived from the section by mechanical extraction — they add no characterization of the law.

This is not the official text. The official text is published by the General Assembly of North Carolina.

SET IN SPECTRAL AND ARCHIVO
NORTH CAROLINA LAW — STATUTE EXPORT, FORMAT V1



UNOFFICIAL REPRODUCTION — OFFICIAL TEXT IS PUBLISHED BY THE STATE

SHA-256 d4faeb4d...310f0f