H. B. 3 **CHAPTER 634**

AN ACT TO AMEND SECTIONS, ONE, SEVEN, ELEVEN, THIRTEEN, NINETEEN AND TWENTY-SIX OF ARTICLE I OF THE CONSTITUTION OF NORTH CAROLINA, AND TO REWRITE SAID SECTIONS CHANGING THE WORD "MEN" TO "PERSONS" THEREIN; TO PROVIDE AGAINST EXCLUSION OF WOMEN FROM JURY SERVICE ON ACCOUNT OF SEX, AND TO AMEND SECTION ONE OF ARTICLE VI THEREOF BY REWRITING THE SAME OMITTING THE WORD "MALE," LIMITING THE RIGHT TO VOTE IN THIS STATE.

The General Assembly of North Carolina do enact:

Proposing amendments to Article I of Constitution of North Carolina.

SECTION 1. That Sections one, seven, eleven, thirteen, nineteen and twenty-six of Article I of the Constitution of North Carolina be rewritten so as to read as follows:

Substituting "persons" for "men."

SECTION 1. The equality and rights of persons. That we hold it to be self-evident that all persons are created equal; that they are endowed by their Creator with certain inalienable rights; that among these are life, liberty, the enjoyment of the fruits of their own labor, and the pursuit of happiness.

Substituting "persons" for "men."

SEC. 7. Exclusive emoluments, et cetera. No person or set of persons are entitled to exclusive or separate emoluments or privileges from the community but in consideration of public services.

In criminal prosecutions.

SEC. 11. In criminal prosecutions. In all criminal prosecutions, every person charged with crime has the right to be informed of the accusation and to confront the accusers and witnesses with other testimony, and to have counsel for defense, and not be compelled to give self-incriminating evidence, or to pay costs, jail fees, or necessary witness fees of the defense, unless found guilty.

Substituting "persons" for "men."

SEC. 13. Right of jury. No person shall be convicted of any crime but by the unanimous verdict of a jury of good and lawful persons in open court. The Legislature may, however, provide other means of trial, for petty misdemeanors, with the right of appeal.

Qualifying women to serve on juries.

SEC. 19. Controversies at law respecting property. In all controversies at law respecting property, the ancient mode of trial by jury is one of the best securities of the rights of the people, and ought to remain sacred and inviolable. No person shall be excluded from jury service on account of sex.

Religious liberty.

SEC. 26. Religious liberty. All persons have a natural and inalienable right to worship Almighty God according to the dictates of their own consciences, and no human authority should,

in any case whatever, control or interfere with the rights of conscience.

SEC. 2. That Section one of Article VI of the Constitution of North Carolina be amended to read as follows:

Right to vote.

SECTION 1. Who may vote. Every person born in the United States, and every person who has been naturalized, twenty-one years of age, and possessing the qualifications set out in this article, shall be entitled to vote at any election by the people of the State, except as herein otherwise provided.

Providing for vote on these amendments at next general election.

SEC. 3. That these amendments shall be submitted to the qualified voters in the State at the next general election, in the same way and manner, and under the same rules and regulations as provided in the laws governing general elections in this State.

Form of ballot.

SEC. 4. That the electors favoring the adoption of these amendments shall vote a ballot on which shall be written or printed the words "For Amendments Making the Constitution Equally Applicable to Men and Women," and those opposed shall vote a ballot on which shall be written or printed the words "Against Amendments Making the Constitution Equally Applicable to Men and Women."

Effectuating results of election.

SEC. 5. That the election upon these amendments shall be conducted in the same manner and under the same rules and regulations as provided by the laws governing general elections; and, if a majority of the votes cast be in favor of the amendments, it shall be the duty of the Governor of the State to certify the amendments under the seal of the State to the Secretary of State, who shall enroll the same amendments so certified among the permanent records of his office, and the same shall be in force and every part thereof, from and after the date of such certification.

Conflicting laws repealed.

SEC. 6. That all laws and clauses of laws in conflict with the provisions of this Act are hereby repealed.

SEC. 7. That this Act shall be in full force and effect from and after its ratification.

Ratified this the 15th day of March, 1945.

H. B. 65 CHAPTER 635

AN ACT TO REVISE CERTAIN SECTIONS OF THE GENERAL STATUTES OF NORTH CAROLINA.

The General Assembly of North Carolina do enact:

SECTION 1. The General Statutes of North Carolina is hereby amended as follows: