By Senator Flores

38-00979A-11 20111342

A bill to be entitled

An act relating to school district financing; amending s. 1010.49, F.S.; authorizing a district school board issuing a bond to determine the schedule of maturities of the bond; deleting a provision requiring payments on a bond to be as nearly equal as practicable; extending to 30 years from 20 years the maximum permissible term of a bond that may be issued by a district school board without approval from the Department of Education; providing that a bond is callable at such times and upon such terms as prescribed by the district school board; deleting a requirement for bonds bearing an interest rate greater than a certain rate to be callable after a certain period of time after issuance; amending s. 1011.73, F.S.; extending the maximum duration of the levy of ad valorem taxes approved by the electors of a school district for the operating expenses of the district; providing an effective date.

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Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

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Section 1. Section 1010.49, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

1010.49 Form and denomination of bonds.—The district school board may prescribe the denomination of the bonds to be issued, and such bonds may be issued with or without interest coupons in the discretion of the board. The form of the bonds to be issued may be prescribed by the State Board of Education on the

38-00979A-11 20111342

recommendation of the Department of Legal Affairs. The schedule of maturities of the proposed bonds shall be <u>determined by the district school board</u> so arranged that the total payments required each year shall be as nearly equal as practicable. The schedule shall provide that all bonds are to be retired within a period of 30 20 years from the date of issuance unless a longer period is required and has been specifically approved by the Department of Education. All bonds issued under this section are that bear interest in excess of 2.99 percent shall be callable at such times and upon such on terms as prescribed by the district school board beginning not later than 10 years from the date of issuance.

Section 2. Subsection (2) of section 1011.73, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

1011.73 District millage elections.

(2) MILLAGE AUTHORIZED NOT TO EXCEED $\underline{8}$ 4 YEARS.—The district school board, pursuant to resolution adopted at a regular meeting, shall direct the county commissioners to call an election at which the electors within the school district may approve an ad valorem tax millage as authorized under s. 1011.71(9). Such election may be held at any time, except that not more than one such election shall be held during any 12—month period. Any millage so authorized shall be levied for a period not in excess of $\underline{8}$ 4 years or until changed by another millage election, whichever is earlier. If any such election is invalidated by a court of competent jurisdiction, such invalidated election shall be considered not to have been held.

Section 3. This act shall take effect July 1, 2011.