

1 A bill to be entitled
 2 An act relating to Sunshine Drainage District, Broward
 3 County; amending ch. 63-609, Laws of Florida;
 4 providing an exception to general law; providing for
 5 members of the board of supervisors to be elected by
 6 qualified electors of the district; providing for
 7 staggered terms; requiring nonpartisan elections;
 8 providing requirements for candidates; providing
 9 duties of the supervisor of elections; providing a
 10 definition; providing an effective date.

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

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 14 Section 1. Section 16 of chapter 63-609, Laws of Florida,
 15 is created to read:

16 Section 16. Notwithstanding any provision of law to the
 17 contrary, members of the board of supervisors shall be elected
 18 by the qualified electors of the district. Election of board
 19 members by the qualified electors shall be the exclusive method
 20 for the election of the members of the board of supervisors.

21 (1) The board shall call an election at which the members
 22 of the board of supervisors will be elected. Such election shall
 23 be held in conjunction with the general election in November
 24 2018. Candidates may qualify for the offices of board of
 25 supervisors, which shall be designated as seat 1, seat 2, and

26 | seat 3, each elected at large within the district. A candidate
27 | qualifying for election must be an elector and resident of the
28 | district. Each board member shall be elected by the qualified
29 | electors of the district for a term of 4 years, except that, at
30 | the first such election, the two members elected to seat 1 and
31 | seat 2 shall be elected for terms of 4 years each, and the
32 | member elected to seat 3 shall be elected for a term of 2 years.
33 | Thereafter, there shall be an election held every 2 years for
34 | expiring terms and all members shall be elected for terms of 4
35 | years each. The candidate receiving the most votes for each seat
36 | shall be elected. All elected board members must be qualified
37 | electors of the district. Members of the board of supervisors as
38 | of October 1, 2017, shall serve until the certification of the
39 | November 2018 general election results.

40 | (2) Elections of board members by qualified electors held
41 | pursuant to this section shall be nonpartisan and shall be
42 | conducted in the manner prescribed by law for holding general
43 | elections. Board members shall assume the office on the second
44 | Tuesday following their election.

45 | (3) Candidates seeking election to office by qualified
46 | electors under this subsection shall conduct their campaigns in
47 | accordance with the provisions of chapter 106, Florida Statutes,
48 | and shall file qualifying papers and qualify for individual
49 | seats in accordance with Section 99.061, Florida Statutes.
50 | Candidates shall pay a qualifying fee, which shall consist of a

51 filing fee and election assessment or, as an alternative, shall
52 file a petition signed by not less than 1 percent of the
53 qualified electors of the district, and take the oath required
54 in Section 99.021, Florida Statutes, with the Supervisor of
55 Elections of Broward County. The amount of the filing fee is 3
56 percent of the annual salary of the office. The amount of the
57 election assessment is 1 percent of the annual salary of the
58 office. The filing fee and election assessment shall be
59 distributed as provided in Section 105.031(3), Florida Statutes.

60 (4) The Supervisor of Elections of Broward County shall
61 appoint the inspector and clerks of elections, prepare and
62 furnish the ballots, designate polling places, and canvass the
63 returns of the election of board members by qualified electors.
64 The county canvassing board shall declare and certify the
65 results of the election.

66 (5) The terms "qualified elector" and "elector" mean any
67 person at least 18 years of age who is a citizen of the United
68 States, a permanent resident of the state, and a resident of the
69 district who is registered with the supervisor of elections of
70 the county within which the district lands are located when the
71 registration books are open.

72 Section 2. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law.