

By Representative Bradley

1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to election of county
3 commissioners; requiring county commissioners
4 to be elected from single-member districts in
5 certain counties; authorizing certain boards of
6 county commissioners to increase their
7 membership; providing for election of county
8 commissioners in such counties; providing
9 applicability; providing for transition to such
10 method of election; providing an effective
11 date.

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

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15 Section 1. (1) In any county having a population of
16 600,000 or more persons, each county commissioner must be
17 elected in the following manner, notwithstanding any provision
18 of section 124.01 or section 124.011, Florida Statutes, to the
19 contrary:

20 (a) If the county has five commissioners on the date
21 this act takes effect, each county commissioner must be
22 elected from a single-member district only by the electors
23 residing in that district. The districts of such a county
24 together must cover the entire county, and each district must
25 be of contiguous territory as nearly equal in population as
26 practicable. A commissioner of such a county must be a
27 resident of the district from which elected, and no
28 commissioner of a county with a five-member commission may be
29 elected at large.

30 (b) If the board of county commissioners of such a
31 county adopts an ordinance increasing the membership of the

1 board from five to seven, each of five county commissioners
2 must be elected from a single-member district only by the
3 electors residing in that district. The districts of such a
4 county together must cover the entire county, and each
5 district must be of contiguous territory as nearly equal in
6 population as practicable. A commissioner elected from a
7 district must be a resident of the district from which
8 elected. The remaining two commissioners will be elected at
9 large.

10 (2) In each county having a population of 600,000 or
11 more persons, the board of county commissioners shall provide
12 for the orderly transition to election of commissioners from
13 single-member districts as the terms of incumbent
14 commissioners expire.

15 (3) This section does not apply to any county that, as
16 of the effective date of this act, elected some members of its
17 board of county commissioners from single-member districts and
18 some members at large.

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

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23 SENATE SUMMARY

24 Provides that county commissioners in a county having a
25 population of 600,000 or more will be elected from
26 single-member districts by the electors residing in those
27 districts unless the board of county commissioners
28 determines to increase the membership to seven, in which
29 case five members will be elected from single-member
30 districts and two members will be elected at large.
31 However, this does not apply to a county currently
electing some members from single-member districts and
some at large. Requires the board of county commissioners
to provide for the orderly transition to election of
members from districts as the terms of incumbent
commissioners expire.