

By Representative Casey

1                                   A bill to be entitled  
2           An act relating to the Alachua County School  
3           Board; amending s. 1, ch. 95-466, Laws of  
4           Florida; specifying an alternative method of  
5           qualification for candidates for election to  
6           the board; providing an effective date.

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

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10           Section 1. Section 1 of chapter 95-466, Laws of  
11           Florida, is amended to read:

12           Section 1. Members of the Alachua County School Board  
13           shall be elected on a nonpartisan basis. However, except as  
14           otherwise provided in this act, the provisions of law  
15           regulating elections of school board members apply to  
16           elections of Alachua County School Board members. Candidates  
17           for election to the school board are specifically authorized  
18           to qualify by means of the method prescribed in section  
19           99.095, Florida Statutes.

20           (1) Each person seeking election to the Alachua County  
21           School Board shall file qualification papers with the  
22           supervisor of elections which do not contain any reference to  
23           political party affiliation.

24           (2)(a) The name of an unopposed candidate for the  
25           office of school board member shall not appear on any ballot,  
26           and such candidate shall be deemed to have voted for himself  
27           at the general election.

28           (b) If two candidates, neither of whom is a write-in  
29           candidate, qualify in a school-board-member residence area,  
30           the names of those candidates shall be placed on the ballot at  
31           the general election.

1           (c) If more than two candidates, none of whom is a  
2 write-in candidate, qualify in a school-board-member residence  
3 area, the names of those candidates shall be placed on the  
4 ballot at the first primary election. If any candidate for  
5 such office receives a majority of the votes cast for such  
6 office in the first primary election, the name of the  
7 candidate who receives such majority shall not appear on any  
8 other ballot unless a write-in candidate has qualified for  
9 such office. An unopposed candidate shall be deemed to have  
10 voted for himself at the general election. If no candidate  
11 for such office receives a majority of the votes cast for such  
12 office in the first primary election, the names of the two  
13 candidates receiving the highest number of votes for such  
14 office shall be placed on the general election ballot. If  
15 more than two candidates receive an equal and highest number  
16 of votes, the name of each candidate receiving an equal and  
17 highest number of votes shall be placed on the general  
18 election ballot. In any contest in which there is a tie for  
19 second place and the candidate placing first did not receive a  
20 majority of the votes cast for such office, the name of the  
21 candidate placing first and the name of each candidate tying  
22 for second shall be placed on the general election ballot.

23           (d) The candidate who receives the highest number of  
24 votes cast for the office in the general election shall be  
25 elected to such office. If the vote at the general election  
26 results in a tie, the outcome shall be determined by lot.

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

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