

By Representative Farkas

1 A bill to be entitled
 2 An act relating to Pinellas County; amending
 3 Article VI of the Home Rule Charter for
 4 Pinellas County, as created by chapter 80-590,
 5 Laws of Florida; adding s. 6.04 to provide that
 6 any charter amendment proposed by the Pinellas
 7 County Commission pursuant to s. 6.01, by
 8 citizens' initiative under s. 6.02, or by a
 9 Charter Review Commission pursuant to s. 6.03
 10 shall be placed on the ballot for voter
 11 approval or rejection in accordance with the
 12 requirements of the Charter and without
 13 necessity of prior reference to or approval by
 14 the Legislature; providing for a special
 15 referendum; providing a ballot question;
 16 providing an effective date.

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

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 20 Section 1. Section 6.04 is added to Article VI of the
 21 Home Rule Charter for Pinellas County as created by chapter
 22 80-590, Laws of Florida, to read:

23 ARTICLE VI - CHARTER AMENDMENTS.

24 Section 6.04 Any other section of the Pinellas County
 25 Charter, chapter 80-590, Laws of Florida, notwithstanding,
 26 except for any proposed amendments affecting the status,
 27 duties, or responsibilities of the county officers referenced
 28 in ss. 2.06 and 4.03 of this Charter, charter amendments
 29 proposed under s. 6.01 (proposed by Pinellas County
 30 Commission), s. 6.02 (proposed by citizens' initiative), or s.
 31 6.03 (proposed by a Charter Review Commission) shall be placed

1 directly on the ballot for approval or rejection by the voters
2 and it shall not be a requirement that any such proposed
3 amendments need to be referred to or approved by the
4 Legislature prior to any such placement on the ballot.
5 However, any charter amendment affecting any change in
6 function, service, power, or regulatory authority of a county,
7 municipality, or special district may be transferred to or
8 performed by another county, municipality, or special district
9 only after approval by vote of the electors of each transferor
10 and approval by vote of the electors of each transferee. Such
11 amendments proposed by the Board of County Commissioners must
12 be approved by ordinance passed by a majority plus one member.
13 The power to amend, revise, or repeal this Charter by
14 citizens' initiative shall not include amendments relating to
15 the county budget, debt obligations, capital improvement
16 programs, salaries of county officers and employees, the levy
17 or collection of taxes, or the rezoning of less than 5 percent
18 of the total land area of the county.

19 Section 2. In accordance with the requirements of s.
20 101.161, Florida Statutes, and section 1 of this act, the
21 supervisor of elections of Pinellas County shall place the
22 title and substance of the referendum on the ballot as
23 follows:

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25 CERTAIN PROPOSED CHARTER AMENDMENTS TO GO ON
26 THE BALLOT WITHOUT REFERENCE TO THE STATE
27 LEGISLATURE

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29 Shall Article VI of the Pinellas County Charter be amended by
30 adding section 6.04 to provide that charter amendments, except
31 for amendments related to the status of constitutional

1 officers, proposed by the Board of County Commissioners, by
2 citizens' initiative (with limitations), or by a Charter
3 Review Commission be placed directly on the ballot for
4 presentation to the voters without necessity of prior referral
5 to or approval by the Legislature?

6 YES

7 NO

8 Section 3. This act shall take effect only upon its
9 approval by a majority vote of those qualified electors of
10 Pinellas County voting in a special referendum election to be
11 held before November 30, 1999.

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