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An act relating to Alachua County; amending the Alachua County Home Rule Charter to authorize the county to adopt by charter amendment restrictions more stringent than those imposed by general law on campaign financing in regard to candidates for elective county offices identified in the charter; providing for a referendum; providing an effective date.

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

Section 1. Section 1.6 is added to Article I of the Alachua County Home Rule Charter to read:

ARTICLE I. CREATION, POWERS AND ORDINANCES OF HOME RULE CHARTER AND GOVERNMENT

Sec. 1.6. Campaign finance regulation.

Alachua County shall have the power to adopt by charter amendment restrictions more stringent than those imposed by general law upon the financing of campaigns conducted by candidates for elective county offices identified in Article II, Section 2.2 (Legislative branch) and Article III, Section 3.1 (Elected county constitutional offices) of this home rule charter. These additional restrictions may apply to all aspects of campaign financing, including solicitations, contributions, expenditures, recordkeeping, reporting requirements, and noncriminal penalties for violation. The initial additional restrictions authorized by this section shall be proposed by amendment of this home rule charter at the general election held in either 2004 or 2006 and shall be adopted if approved by a majority of the electors of Alachua

1 County voting on the amendment in that general election. All
2 additional restrictions shall be proposed by amendment of this
3 home rule charter at a subsequent general election and shall
4 be adopted if approved by a majority of those electors of
5 Alachua County voting on the amendment in that general
6 election. Charter amendments adopted pursuant to the
7 authority granted in this section shall not be preempted by
8 general law unless the general law expressly supersedes all
9 special acts authorizing county charter home rule power for
10 campaign financing.

11 Section 2. This act shall take effect only upon its
12 approval by a majority vote of those qualified electors of
13 Alachua County voting in a referendum to be held by the Board
14 of County Commissioners of Alachua County in conjunction with
15 the general election to be held in 2002, in accordance with
16 the provisions of law relating to elections currently in
17 force, except that this section shall take effect upon
18 becoming a law.

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