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A bill to be entitled
 An act relating to the Lee County Trauma Services District, an independent district; providing for establishment of the Lee County Trauma Services District for the purpose of financially supporting trauma services in Lee County; providing that such trauma services shall be provided through a designated Level II Trauma Center; providing for a governing board; providing for officers of the governing board; providing for audit of books; providing for quarterly meetings; prescribing the powers and duties of the board; stating a public purpose; providing for a budget; providing severability; providing an effective date.

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

Section 1. The Lee County Trauma Services District, an independent special district encompassing all the territory comprising Lee County, Florida, shall be established for the purposes of financially supporting the provision of trauma services in Lee County, which trauma services shall be defined as comprehensive emergency medical services for victims of trauma and trauma-related injuries, provided by the State of Florida designated Level II Trauma Center operated by Lee Memorial Health System.

Section 2. The governing body of the Lee County Trauma Services District shall be composed of the members of the Board of Directors of the Lee Memorial Health System, a political entity, as duly constituted by law and any amendments thereto, and shall be called the Board of Directors of the Lee County



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31 Trauma Services District.

32 Section 3. The Board of Directors of the Lee County Trauma
33 Services District shall have the same officers as those officers
34 of the Board of Directors of the Lee Memorial Health System.

35 Section 4. The books and accounts of the Lee County Trauma
36 Services District shall be audited annually by an independent
37 certified public accountant selected by the board of the
38 District. The report of said audit shall be open for inspection
39 by the public.

40 Section 5. The Board of Directors of the Lee County Trauma
41 Services District shall meet no less than quarterly at such
42 date, time, and place as may be fixed by the board. Proper
43 notice of such meetings shall be filed and given, minutes shall
44 be kept in accordance with general law, and all meetings of the
45 board shall be open to the public.

46 Section 6. The Board of Directors of the Lee County Trauma
47 Services District shall have the authority to operate and
48 conduct the business of the District and, consistent therewith,
49 shall have the following powers:

50 (1) The board is authorized to pay all expenses of
51 operation of the District and all other necessary expenses
52 incurred, including the fees and expenses of attorneys retained
53 by the board or the management of the District, in the
54 transaction of the business of the District, and in carrying out
55 and accomplishing the purposes of this act.

56 (2) The Lee County Trauma Services District may sue and be
57 sued in the name of Lee County Trauma Services District,
58 provided that in any suit, a change in personnel of the board
59 shall not abate the suit, which shall proceed as if such change
60 had not taken place. In all suits against the Lee County Trauma



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61 Services District, service or process shall be had on any
62 officer of the board or its legal representative.

63 (3) To the fullest extent permitted by state law, the
64 board may make, or authorize its management to make, contracts.

65 (4) The board is authorized to accept gifts, bequests,
66 grants, endowments, and conveyances from any source for the use
67 and benefit of the Lee County Trauma Services District.

68 (5) The board may, or may authorize its management to,
69 settle or compromise any claim, suit, or action brought against
70 the Lee County Trauma Services District or any of its
71 subsidiaries or affiliated organizations, or any of its
72 directors, officers, or employees when such claim, suit, or
73 action arises out of such directors', officers', or employees'
74 acts or omissions in the course of employment or the performance
75 of official duties, consistent with the provisions of the
76 Florida Waiver of Sovereign Immunity Act, as such act may be in
77 effect at the time of such settlement or compromise.

78 (6) The board may take action consistent with the
79 efficient and effective operation of the Lee County Trauma
80 Services District or the trauma center provided for by this act,
81 consistent with the Constitution and laws of the State of
82 Florida.

83 Section 7. The operation and maintenance of the Lee County
84 Trauma Services District and the operation of health facilities
85 provided for in this act are declared to be a public purpose.

86 Section 8. (1) The fiscal year of the Lee County Trauma
87 Services District shall be the same as that of the Lee Memorial
88 Health System. The board shall prepare a tentative budget for
89 the District covering its proposed operation and requirements
90 for the ensuing fiscal year. The budget shall set forth the



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91 proposed expenditures of the District for operation and
92 maintenance of the Level II Trauma Center and payment for
93 trauma-related physician services and for the conduct of the
94 affairs of the District generally. The budget shall be in such
95 form as the board may decide.

96 (2) The budget shall also include the estimated amount
97 obligated for commitments which have been made but not
98 completed, shall indicate the estimated balance of unobligated
99 funds which shall be on hand at the beginning of the fiscal
100 year, and shall indicate the estimated amount to be raised.

101 (3) The provision of notice to the public and the
102 opportunity for public comment regarding the district budget
103 shall be as provided by general law.

104 Section 9. It is declared to be the legislative intent
105 that if any section, subsection, sentence, clause, provision, or
106 part thereof of this act is held invalid, unenforceable, or
107 unconstitutional, it shall not affect the remainder of the act,
108 and the remainder of the act shall remain in force and effect as
109 if the invalid portion had not been enacted.

110 Section 10. This act shall take effect upon becoming a
111 law.