



HB 0565

2003

1  
2  
3  
4  
5  
6  
7  
8  
9  
10  
11  
12  
13  
14  
15  
16  
17  
18  
19  
20  
21  
22  
23  
24  
25  
26  
27  
28  
29

A bill to be entitled  
 An act relating to Lee County; amending the Lee County Home Rule Charter to provide for the election of commissioners from single districts; providing for the creation of districts; providing an exception; providing for a referendum; providing a ballot statement; providing for the staggering of commissioner terms; providing an effective date.

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

Section 1. Section 2.2 A. of Article II of the Lee County Home Rule Charter is amended to read:

Section 2.2: Legislative Branch

A. The County Commission. The governing body of the County shall be a board of County Commissioners composed of five (5) members serving staggered terms of four (4) years. There shall be one Commissioner for each of the (5) County Commission districts established pursuant to general law and they shall be elected in a partisan election by the electors of their districts ~~on a county-wide basis by the electors of the County.~~

Each County Commissioner during the term of office shall reside in the district from which such County Commissioner ran for office, provided that any County Commissioner who is removed from a district by redistricting may continue to serve during the balance of the term. Districts must be contiguous, separate, and equal by population at the time of redistricting.

Section 2. In accordance with the requirements of section 101.161, Florida Statutes, and section 3, the Supervisor of



HB 0565

2003

30 Elections of Lee County shall place the title and substance of  
 31 the referendum on the ballot as follows:

32 ELECTION OF LEE COUNTY COMMISSION

33 MEMBERS TO PROVIDE FOR SINGLE-MEMBER REPRESENTATION

34 Shall the election of Lee County Commission members be changed  
 35 so that commissioners are elected by the people who live in  
 36 their districts, rather than countywide?

37 Yes

38 No

39 Section 3. If for any reason there is a countywide  
 40 election prior to the 2004 general election and 2004 primaries,  
 41 the vote for this act will occur on this earlier date. If it is  
 42 prior to the qualifying period for the 2004 general election,  
 43 all county commission seats will be up for election in the year  
 44 2004 and staggered from that point on. If the next countywide  
 45 election is in 2004, all county commission seats will be up for  
 46 election in the year 2006 and staggered from that point on.

47 Section 4. This act shall take effect only upon its  
 48 approval by a majority vote of those qualified electors of Lee  
 49 County voting in a referendum to be held by the Lee County Board  
 50 of County Commissioners in conjunction with the next regular  
 51 primary, special, general, or other election, in accordance with  
 52 the provisions of law relating to elections currently in force,  
 53 except that this section shall take effect upon becoming a law.