



HB 0589

2003

A bill to be entitled

An act relating to the Lee County School District; requiring the Lee County School Board to submit to the electors of the county school district the question of whether the district school board shall consist of five members, each to be elected from a single-member residence area by electors residing in that residence area only; requiring the district school board to provide for the orderly transition to such election of district school board members, if approved; providing for the staggering of district school board member terms; providing for a referendum; providing a ballot statement; providing an effective date.

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

Section 1. (1) The Lee County School Board shall submit to the electors of the county school district for approval or rejection at a referendum in conjunction with the 2004 general election the question of whether the district school board shall be composed of five members, each to be elected from a single-member residence area by electors residing in the single-member residence area only, notwithstanding the provisions of section 1001.36, section 1001.361, or section 1001.362, Florida Statutes.

(2) If the electors approve such election of district school board members, the five single-member residence areas must be drawn by the district school board, and the district school board shall provide for the orderly transition to such



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30 election of district school board members in the general  
 31 election of 2006. All five school board seats will be up for  
 32 reelection in the general election of 2006 and staggered from  
 33 that date forward. If for any reason there is a countywide  
 34 election prior to the 2004 general election and 2004 primaries,  
 35 the vote for this act will occur on the earlier date. If it is  
 36 prior to the qualifying period for the 2004 general election,  
 37 all school board seats will be up for election in the year 2004  
 38 and staggered from that point forward.

39 Section 2. In accordance with section 101.161, Florida  
 40 Statutes, and section 1 of this act, the Supervisor of Elections  
 41 of Lee County shall place the title and substance of the  
 42 referendum on the ballot as follows:

43 ELECTION OF LEE COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD MEMBERS  
 44 TO PROVIDE FOR SINGLE-MEMBER REPRESENTATION

45 Shall the election of Lee County School Board members be changed  
 46 so that board members are elected by the electors living in  
 47 their districts, rather than countywide?

- 48 Yes
- 49 No

50 Section 3. This act shall take effect upon approval of a  
 51 majority vote of those qualified electors of Lee County voting  
 52 in a referendum to be held by the supervisor of elections in  
 53 conjunction with the next primary, general, special, or other  
 54 election to be held in Lee County, except that this section  
 55 shall take effect upon becoming a law.