



CHAMBER ACTION

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The Committee on Local Government & Veterans' Affairs recommends the following:

Committee Substitute

Remove the entire bill and insert:

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 in conjunction with the 2004 general elections 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; providing an exemption; providing for an earlier vote under certain circumstances; providing for the expiration of the term of current members under certain circumstances with staggered terms thereafter; providing direction to the Supervisor of Elections; providing for a referendum; providing a ballot statement; providing for the district school board to draw five single-member residence areas and to provide for transition; providing for terms of office and staggering; providing an effective date.



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

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31 Section 1. (1) The Lee County School Board shall submit
 32 to the electors of the county school district for approval or
 33 rejection at a referendum in conjunction with the 2004 general
 34 election the question of whether the district school board shall
 35 be composed of five members, each to be elected from a single-
 36 member residence area by electors residing in the single-member
 37 residence area only, notwithstanding the provisions of section
 38 1001.36, section 1001.361, or section 1001.362, Florida
 39 Statutes. If for any reason there is a countywide election prior
 40 to the 2004 general election and 2004 primaries, the vote for
 41 this act will occur on the earlier date. If the vote for this
 42 act is prior to the qualifying period for the 2004 general
 43 election, all school board seats will be up for election in the
 44 year 2004 and staggered from that point forward.

45 (2) In accordance with section 101.161, Florida Statutes,
 46 and subsection (1), the Supervisor of Elections of Lee County
 47 shall place the title and substance of the referendum on the
 48 ballot as follows:

49 ELECTION OF LEE COUNTY SCHOOL BOARD MEMBERS
 50 TO PROVIDE FOR SINGLE-MEMBER REPRESENTATION

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

54 Yes

55 No



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56 Section 2. If the electors approve such election of
57 district school board members, the five single-member residence
58 areas must be drawn by the district school board, and the
59 district school board shall provide for the orderly transition
60 to such election of district school board members in the general
61 election of 2006. All five school board seats will be up for
62 reelection in the general election of 2006 and staggered from
63 that date forward.

64 Section 3. This act shall take effect upon approval of a
65 majority vote of those qualified electors of Lee County voting
66 in a referendum to be held by the supervisor of elections in
67 conjunction with the next general, special, or other election,
68 exclusive of primaries, to be held in Lee County, except that
69 this section and section 1 shall take effect upon becoming a
70 law.