

1 A bill to be entitled
 2 An act relating to the North Sumter County Hospital
 3 District; providing a popular name; providing district
 4 purpose; providing district boundaries; providing for a
 5 board of trustees as the governing body of the district;
 6 prescribing the powers and duties of the board; providing
 7 for compensation and meetings of the board; authorizing
 8 the board to levy and collect an annual ad valorem tax
 9 upon taxable property within the district; providing for a
 10 referendum; providing for purpose of the tax; providing
 11 for a method for such levy; providing for an annual
 12 report; providing for financial disclosure; providing for
 13 liens and foreclosure of liens; providing for
 14 severability; providing an effective date.

15
 16 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

17
 18 Section 1. Establishment of district; boundaries.--

19 (1) This act may be referred to by the popular name the
 20 "North Sumter County Hospital District Act."

21 (2) There is created and established as an independent
 22 special taxing district of the state a hospital district in
 23 Sumter County to be known as the "North Sumter County Hospital
 24 District," which shall comprise and include the territory within
 25 Sumter County described as follows:

26
 27 BEGIN AT THE NORTHEAST CORNER OF SECTION 1, TOWNSHIP
 28 18 SOUTH, RANGE 23 EAST, AND RUN SOUTH ALONG THE

29 EASTERLY BOUNDARY OF RANGE 18 EAST (SAID BOUNDARY
 30 BEING THE EAST LINE OF SAID SUMTER COUNTY) TO THE
 31 CENTERLINE OF STATE ROAD NO. 44; THENCE WESTERLY ALONG
 32 THE CENTERLINE OF STATE ROAD NO. 44 TO ITS
 33 INTERSECTION WITH THE CENTERLINE OF COUNTY ROAD C-44A;
 34 THENCE NORTHWESTERLY ALONG THE CENTERLINE OF COUNTY
 35 ROAD C-44A TO ITS INTERSECTION WITH THE CENTERLINE OF
 36 COUNTY ROAD C-139; THENCE NORTH ALONG THE CENTERLINE
 37 OF COUNTY ROAD C-139 TO ITS INTERSECTION WITH THE
 38 CENTERLINE OF COUNTY ROAD C-466A; THENCE NORTH ALONG
 39 THE CENTERLINE OF COUNTY ROAD C-462 AND ITS NORTHERLY
 40 EXTENSION TO THE CENTERLINE OF COUNTY ROAD C-121;
 41 THENCE NORTH ALONG THE CENTERLINE OF COUNTY ROAD 121
 42 TO THE NORTH LINE OF THE FAIRWAYS AT ROLLING HILLS,
 43 PLAT BOOK 4, PAGE 88, PUBLIC RECORDS OF SUMTER COUNTY,
 44 FLORIDA, EXTENDED WESTERLY; THENCE EAST ALONG SAID
 45 NORTH LINE AND ITS WESTERLY AND EXISTING EXTENSION TO
 46 THE EAST LINE OF SECTION 28, TOWNSHIP 18 SOUTH, RANGE
 47 23 EAST; THENCE NORTH ALONG SAID EAST LINE TO THE
 48 WATERS OF LAKE MIONA; THENCE WESTERLY AND NORTHERLY
 49 ALONG THE WATERS OF LAKE MIONA TO ITS INTERSECTION
 50 WITH THE EASTERLY EXTENSION OF THE NORTHERLY LINE OF
 51 RAVENSWOOD SUBDIVISION (UNRECORDED) LYING IN THE
 52 SOUTHEAST 1/4 OF THE SOUTHEAST 1/4 OF SECTION 20,
 53 TOWNSHIP 18 SOUTH, RANGE 23 EAST; THENCE WEST ALONG
 54 SAID NORTH LINE AND ITS EXTENSION TO THE CENTERLINE OF
 55 COUNTY ROAD 117; THENCE SOUTH ALONG THE CENTERLINE OF
 56 COUNTY ROAD 117 TO THE CENTERLINE OF COUNTY ROAD 114;

57 THENCE WEST ALONG THE CENTERLINE OF COUNTY ROAD 114 TO
 58 THE CENTERLINE OF U.S. HIGHWAY 301; THENCE WEST ALONG
 59 THE CENTERLINE OF COUNTY ROAD 222 TO THE CENTERLINE OF
 60 COUNTY ROAD 223; THENCE NORTH ALONG THE CENTERLINE OF
 61 COUNTY ROAD 223 TO THE CENTERLINE OF COUNTY ROAD 466;
 62 THENCE WEST ALONG THE CENTERLINE OF COUNTY ROAD 466 TO
 63 THE CENTERLINE OF COUNTY ROAD 227; THENCE NORTH ALONG
 64 THE CENTERLINE OF COUNTY ROAD 227 TO THE SOUTH LINE OF
 65 SECTION 2, TOWNSHIP 18 SOUTH, RANGE 22 EAST; THENCE
 66 WEST ALONG THE SOUTH LINE OF SAID SECTION 2 AND THE
 67 SOUTH LINE OF SECTION 3, TOWNSHIP 18 SOUTH, RANGE 22
 68 EAST TO THE WEST LINE OF THE EAST 330.10 FEET OF SAID
 69 SECTION 3; THENCE NORTH ALONG SAID WEST LINE TO THE
 70 NORTH LINE OF TOWNSHIP 18 SOUTH SAID NORTH LINE BEING
 71 THE NORTHERLY BOUNDARY OF SUMTER COUNTY; THENCE EAST
 72 ALONG THE NORTH BOUNDARY OF TOWNSHIP 18 SOUTH AND
 73 ALONG THE NORTH BOUNDARY OF SUMTER COUNTY TO THE POINT
 74 OF BEGINNING.

75 Section 2. Purpose of the district.--The purpose of the
 76 North Sumter County Hospital District as a governmental entity
 77 is to ensure continued hospital services for the residents of
 78 the North Sumter County Hospital District, referred to in this
 79 act as the "district."

80 Section 3. Membership and organization of the governing
 81 board of the district.--

82 (1) GENERAL.--

83 (a) The North Sumter County Hospital District shall be
 84 governed by a board of trustees composed of five persons

85 appointed by the Governor. The term of office of each trustee
86 shall be 6 years and a trustee may serve more than one term. The
87 initial terms shall be measured from the date this act becomes
88 law. The trustees must reside within the North Sumter County
89 Hospital District as defined in section 1. Each trustee
90 shall serve until his or her successor is appointed and
91 qualified. Any member of the board of trustees may be removed by
92 the Governor at any time for cause, in which event such vacancy
93 or vacancies thereby occurring shall be filled by appointment by
94 the Governor. Vacant trustee seats created for reasons other
95 than by removal shall be filled through appointment by the
96 Governor; appointees shall serve until expiration of the term
97 for which they are appointed.

98 (b) The members of the board of trustees shall serve
99 without pay. Each member shall give a bond to the Board of
100 County Commissioners of Sumter County for the use and benefit of
101 the North Sumter County Hospital District for the faithful
102 performance of his or her duties in the sum of \$1,000 with a
103 surety company qualified to do business in this state as surety,
104 which bond shall be approved and accepted by the Clerk of the
105 Circuit Court of Sumter County. The premiums on such bond shall
106 be paid by the district as part of the expenses of the district.

107 (c) Three of the trustees shall constitute a quorum, and a
108 vote of a majority of the trustees in attendance at a meeting is
109 necessary for the transaction of any business of the district.
110 The board of trustees may select from among its membership a
111 chair, vice chair, secretary, and treasurer. The board of
112 trustees shall cause true and accurate minutes and records to be

113 | kept of all business transacted by the board and shall keep
 114 | full, true, and complete books of account and minutes, which
 115 | minutes and books shall be open and subject to inspection at all
 116 | reasonable times during normal business hours. Any person
 117 | desiring to do so may obtain a copy of the minutes and books of
 118 | accounts or such portions thereof as he or she may desire upon
 119 | payment of the costs of reproduction.

120 | (2) ANNUAL MEETING.--The annual meeting shall be held
 121 | during the month of January of each year at such time and place
 122 | within the district as is determined by the board of trustees.
 123 | The schedule and notice of this annual meeting shall be
 124 | published as provided in section 189.417, Florida Statutes. The
 125 | agenda at the annual meeting of the board of trustees shall
 126 | include, but is not limited to:

127 | (a) Call to order.

128 | (b) Presentation and approval of minutes of the last
 129 | annual meeting and of any special meeting held since that
 130 | meeting.

131 | (c) Financial report.

132 | (d) Presentation of the annual report of the board of
 133 | trustees.

134 | (e) Transaction of any business that may properly be
 135 | brought before the board.

136 | (f) Election of officers of the board of trustees.

137 | (3) SPECIAL MEETINGS.--Special meetings of the board of
 138 | trustees may be called at any time by the chair or upon the
 139 | written request of four members of the board of trustees. The

140 notice for any special meeting of the board of trustees shall be
141 published as provided in section 189.417, Florida Statutes.

142 Section 4. Powers, functions, and duties.--

143 (1) EMINENT DOMAIN.--The North Sumter County Hospital
144 District, through its board of trustees, has the power of
145 eminent domain.

146 (2) GENERAL POWERS.--The Board of Trustees of the North
147 Sumter County Hospital District has all the powers of a body
148 corporate, including the power to sue and be sued under the name
149 of the North Sumter County Hospital District; to contract and be
150 contracted with; to adopt and use a common seal; and to acquire,
151 purchase, hold, lease, and convey such real and personal
152 property as the board of trustees deems proper or expedient to
153 carry out the purposes of this act.

154 (3) AD VALOREM TAXATION.--The Board of Trustees of the
155 North Sumter County Hospital District may levy an ad valorem tax
156 in the district of up to 1 mill on the dollar of the value of
157 all nonexempt property within that area of Sumter County which
158 comprises the North Sumter County Hospital District, provided,
159 however, that the hospital district shall have no authority to
160 levy such ad valorem tax unless such authority has been approved
161 in a referendum by a majority vote of the electors residing
162 within the district voting on the question. Such referendum
163 shall be held not later than December 31, 2006, and conducted
164 upon a resolution adopted by the board of trustees and in
165 accordance with applicable Florida Statutes. Such tax shall be
166 paid into the district fund.

167 (4) TAX PROCEEDS TO BE USED TO CONTRACT WITH HOSPITALS FOR
168 HEALTH CARE SERVICES.--All future tax proceeds generated from
169 within the North Sumter County Hospital District, less the
170 amount reserved annually by the board, in its discretion, to pay
171 for the maintenance and services of the board, shall be used to
172 contract for health care services with any hospital within the
173 North Sumter County Hospital District licensed pursuant to
174 chapter 395, Florida Statutes. The North Sumter County Hospital
175 District may also contract with any foundation associated with
176 such hospital, provided, however, that any such foundation shall
177 not receive more than 20 percent of any funds made available by
178 the board to use for contracting for health care services.

179 (5) ANNUAL FINANCIAL REPORT.--The Villages Tri-County
180 Medical Center, Inc., and the Villages Regional Hospital
181 Foundation, Inc., shall file annual audited financial statements
182 with the North Sumter County Hospital District.

183 (6) COLLECTION OF TAXES.--It is the duty of the Property
184 Appraiser of Sumter County to assess, and the Tax Collector of
185 Sumter County to collect, the up to 1 mill tax levied by the
186 Board of Trustees of the North Sumter County Hospital District
187 upon the taxable property in the district. The tax collector
188 shall collect such tax as levied by the board of trustees in the
189 same manner as other taxes are collected and shall pay the same
190 over to the Board of Trustees of the North Sumter County
191 Hospital District within the time and in the manner prescribed
192 by law for the payment of taxes to the county depository. It is
193 the duty of the Department of Revenue to assess all such
194 property in accordance with section 193.085, Florida Statutes.

195 The amount of each county or state tax and the taxes for the
 196 district shall be assessed by the officer respectively as are
 197 county taxes upon such property, and such tax shall be remitted
 198 by the collecting officer to the Board of Trustees of the North
 199 Sumter County Hospital District. All such taxes shall be held by
 200 the Board of Trustees of the North Sumter County Hospital
 201 District and paid out by said board for purposes of this act.

202 (7) EXPENSES.--The Board of Trustees of the North Sumter
 203 County Hospital District may pay from the funds of the district
 204 all expenses of the organization of such board of trustees and
 205 all expenses necessarily incurred in the development of the
 206 district, as well as all other reasonable and necessary
 207 expenses, including the fees and expenses of a certified public
 208 accountant and an attorney as needed in the transaction of the
 209 business of the district in carrying out and accomplishing the
 210 purposes of this act. The board shall include in its annual
 211 budget a reserve in an amount deemed necessary by the board for
 212 its yearly expenses.

213 (8) FINANCIAL DISCLOSURE, NOTICE, AND REPORTING
 214 REQUIREMENTS.--At least once every year, the Board of Trustees
 215 of the North Sumter County Hospital District shall make and file
 216 with the Clerk of the Circuit Court of Sumter County a complete
 217 financial statement of all moneys received and distributed by
 218 the board since the development of the district as to the first
 219 statement so filed, and since the last statement so filed as to
 220 any other year. Such statements shall also show the several
 221 sources from which the funds were received and shall show the
 222 balance on hand at the time of the making of such statement. The

223 statement shall show the complete statement of the financial
224 condition of the district. Notice of the statement shall be
225 filed with the Clerk of the Circuit Court of Sumter County and
226 published in a newspaper regularly published in Sumter County,
227 and the statement shall be made available at all reasonable
228 times for inspection and copying. The Board of Trustees of the
229 North Sumter County Hospital District shall comply with all
230 financial disclosure and reporting requirements provided in
231 general law.

232 (9) PREPARATION OF BUDGET.--The Board of Trustees of the
233 North Sumter County Hospital District shall prepare an annual
234 balanced budget in accordance with generally accepted accounting
235 practices and in the manner prescribed by section 189.418,
236 Florida Statutes.

237 (10) LIENS AND FORECLOSURES.--Liens and foreclosure of
238 liens resulting from failure to pay ad valorem taxation shall be
239 treated as liens and foreclosures resulting from other ad
240 valorem taxes.

241 Section 5. Amendments to the charter.--This act may only
242 be amended by action of the Legislature.

243 Section 6. Construction of act.--It is intended that the
244 provisions of this act be liberally construed for accomplishing
245 the purposes authorized and provided for by this act.

246 Section 7. Comprehensive planning.--Except as may
247 otherwise be required by general law, comprehensive planning is
248 not required by this act.

249 Section 8. If any provision of this act or its application
250 to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the invalidity

251 shall not affect other provisions or applications of the act
252 which can be given effect without the invalid provision or
253 application, and to this end the provisions of this act are
254 declared severable.

255 Section 9. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law.