

CHAMBER ACTION

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

3
4 **Committee Substitute**

5 Remove the entire bill and insert:

6 A bill to be entitled

7 An act relating to Lee County; amending the Lee County
8 Home Rule Charter to provide for the election of
9 commissioners from single districts; providing for the
10 creation of districts; providing an exception; providing
11 for a referendum; providing a ballot statement; providing
12 for the staggering of commissioner terms; providing an
13 effective date.

14
15 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

16
17 Section 1. Section 2.2 A. of Article II of the Lee County
18 Home Rule Charter is amended to read:

19 Section 2.2: Legislative Branch

20 A. The County Commission. The governing body of the
21 County shall be a board of County Commissioners composed of five
22 (5) members serving staggered terms of four (4) years. There
23 shall be one Commissioner for each of the (5) County Commission

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24 | districts established pursuant to general law and they shall be
 25 | elected in a partisan election by the electors of their
 26 | districts ~~on a county-wide basis by the electors of the County.~~
 27 | Each County Commissioner during the term of office shall reside
 28 | in the district from which such County Commissioner ran for
 29 | office, provided that any County Commissioner who is removed
 30 | from a district by redistricting may continue to serve during
 31 | the balance of the term. Districts must be contiguous, separate,
 32 | and equal by population at the time of redistricting.

33 | Section 2. In accordance with the requirements of section
 34 | 101.161, Florida Statutes, and section 3, the Supervisor of
 35 | Elections of Lee County shall place the title and substance of
 36 | the referendum on the ballot as follows:

37 | ELECTION OF LEE COUNTY COMMISSION

38 | MEMBERS TO PROVIDE FOR SINGLE-MEMBER REPRESENTATION

39 | Shall the election of Lee County Commission members be changed
 40 | so that commissioners are elected by the people who live in
 41 | their districts, rather than countywide?

42 | Yes

43 | No

44 | Section 3. The referendum shall be placed on the 2004
 45 | general election ballot. Upon the approval of the countywide
 46 | referendum, all county commission seats will be up for election
 47 | in the year 2006 and staggered from that point on.

48 | Section 4. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law,
 49 | except that section 1 shall take effect only upon its approval
 50 | by a majority vote of those qualified electors of Lee County
 51 | voting in a referendum to be held by the Lee County Board of

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52 | County Commissioners in conjunction with the next regular
53 | general, special, or other election, exclusive of primaries, in
54 | accordance with the provisions of law relating to elections
55 | currently in force and this act.