

1                                   A bill to be entitled  
 2           An act relating to the Southwest Florida Water Management  
 3           District; amending s. 373.073, F.S.; increasing the number  
 4           of governing board members of the district; revising the  
 5           residency requirements for vacancies on the governing  
 6           board of the district; providing for appointment of  
 7           additional members and members to offices that have  
 8           revised residency requirements; providing an effective  
 9           date.

10

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

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13           Section 1. Paragraph (a) of subsection (1) and paragraph  
 14           (e) of subsection (2) of section 373.073, Florida Statutes, are  
 15           amended to read:

16           373.073 Governing board.--

17           (1) (a) The governing board of each water management  
 18           district shall be composed of 9 members who shall reside within  
 19           the district, except that the Southwest Florida Water Management  
 20           District shall be composed of 13 ~~11~~ members who shall reside  
 21           within the district. Members of the governing boards shall be  
 22           appointed by the Governor, subject to confirmation by the Senate  
 23           at the next regular session of the Legislature, and the refusal  
 24           or failure of the Senate to confirm an appointment creates a  
 25           vacancy in the office to which the appointment was made. The  
 26           term of office for a governing board member is 4 years and  
 27           commences on March 2 of the year in which the appointment is  
 28           made and terminates on March 1 of the fourth calendar year of

29 | the term or may continue until a successor is appointed, but not  
 30 | more than 180 days. Terms of office of governing board members  
 31 | shall be staggered to help maintain consistency and continuity  
 32 | in the exercise of governing board duties and to minimize  
 33 | disruption in district operations.

34 | (2) Membership on governing boards shall be selected from  
 35 | candidates who have significant experience in one or more of the  
 36 | following areas, including, but not limited to: agriculture, the  
 37 | development industry, local government, government-owned or  
 38 | privately owned water utilities, law, civil engineering,  
 39 | environmental science, hydrology, accounting, or financial  
 40 | businesses. Notwithstanding the provisions of any other general  
 41 | or special law to the contrary, vacancies in the governing  
 42 | boards of the water management districts shall be filled  
 43 | according to the following residency requirements, representing  
 44 | areas designated by the United States Water Resources Council in  
 45 | United States Geological Survey, River Basin and Hydrological  
 46 | Unit Map of Florida--1975, Map Series No. 72:

- 47 | (e) Southwest Florida Water Management District:
- 48 | 1. Two members shall reside in Hillsborough County.
  - 49 | 2. One member shall reside in the area consisting of  
 50 | Hillsborough and Pinellas Counties.
  - 51 | 3. Two members shall reside in Pinellas County.
  - 52 | 4. One member shall reside in Manatee County.
  - 53 | 5. Two members ~~One member~~ shall reside in Polk County.
  - 54 | 6. One member shall reside in Pasco County.
  - 55 | 7. One member shall be appointed at large from Levy,  
 56 | ~~Marion~~, Citrus, Sumter, ~~Hernando~~, and Lake Counties.

57 8. One member shall be appointed at large from ~~Sarasota,~~  
 58 ~~Hardee, DeSoto, Charlotte,~~ and Highlands Counties.

59 9. One member shall be appointed at large from ~~Levy,~~  
 60 ~~Marion and, Citrus, Sumter,~~ Hernando, ~~Lake, Sarasota, Hardee,~~  
 61 ~~DeSoto, Charlotte,~~ and Highlands Counties.

62 10. One member shall be appointed at large from Sarasota  
 63 and Charlotte Counties.

64  
 65 ~~No county described in subparagraph 7., subparagraph 8., or~~  
 66 ~~subparagraph 9. shall have more than one member on the governing~~  
 67 ~~board.~~

68 Section 2. Appointments to the new offices as members of  
 69 the Southwest Florida Water Management District which are  
 70 created under section 1 of this act shall be made as follows:

71 (1) The new at-large member for Levy, Citrus, Sumter, and  
 72 Lake Counties shall be appointed to a term of office commencing  
 73 after expiration of the term of the person serving as the at-  
 74 large member for Levy, Marion, Citrus, Sumter, Hernando, and  
 75 Lake Counties on the effective date of this act.

76 (2) The new at-large member for Marion and Hernando  
 77 Counties shall be appointed to a term of office commencing after  
 78 expiration of the term of the person serving as the at-large  
 79 member for Levy, Marion, Citrus, Sumter, Hernando, Lake,  
 80 Sarasota, Hardee, DeSoto, Charlotte, and Highlands Counties on  
 81 the effective date of this act.

82 (3) The new at-large member for Hardee, DeSoto, and  
 83 Highlands Counties shall be appointed to a term of office  
 84 commencing after expiration of the term of the person serving as

85 the at-large member for Sarasota, Hardee, DeSoto, Charlotte, and  
86 Highlands Counties.

87 (4) The new at-large member created for Sarasota and  
88 Charlotte Counties and the new member residing in Polk County  
89 shall be appointed as soon as possible in 2007 to terms of  
90 office which expire on March 1, 2011.

91 Section 3. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law.