

**The Florida Senate**  
**PROFESSIONAL STAFF ANALYSIS AND ECONOMIC IMPACT STATEMENT**

(This document is based on the provisions contained in the legislation as of the latest date listed below.)

Prepared By: Community Affairs Committee

BILL: CS/SB 1776

INTRODUCER: Environmental Preservation and Conservation Committee and Senators Alexander, Baker and others

SUBJECT: Southwest Florida Water Management District Governing Board

DATE: March 26, 2007      REVISED: \_\_\_\_\_

	ANALYST	STAFF DIRECTOR	REFERENCE	ACTION
1.	Bascom	Kiger	EP	<b>Fav/CS</b>
2.	Herrin	Yeatman	CA	<b>Favorable</b>
3.	_____	_____	_____	_____
4.	_____	_____	_____	_____
5.	_____	_____	_____	_____
6.	_____	_____	_____	_____

**I. Summary:**

The committee substitute (CS) increases the number of governing board members of the Southwest Florida Water Management District from 11 to 13 and revises the residency requirements. It increases, from 1 to 2, the number of board members that reside in Polk County. It requires one board member to be appointed at large from Sarasota and Charlotte Counties. Finally, it specifies that Sarasota, Charlotte, Levy, Marion, Citrus, Sumter, Hernando, Lake, Hardee, DeSoto, or Highlands Counties may not have more than one member on the governing board.

The CS amends section 373.073 of the Florida Statutes.

**II. Present Situation:**

Presently, eleven members of the Southwest Florida Water Management District Governing Board are selected from candidates who have significant experience, including but not limited to, the following areas:

- Agriculture;
- Development;
- Local government;
- Water utilities;
- Law;
- Civil engineering;

- Environmental science;
- Hydrology;
- Accounting; or
- Financial business.

Vacancies for governing board members are to be filled according to residency requirements, representing areas designated by the United States Water Resources Council in United States Geological Survey, River Basin and Hydrological Unit Map of Florida – 1975, Map Series No. 72, as follows:

- Two members from Hillsborough County.
- One member from Hillsborough or Pinellas Counties.
- Two members from Pinellas County.
- One member from Manatee County.
- One member from Polk County.
- One member from Pasco County.
- One member, appointed at large, from Levy, Marion, Citrus, Sumter, Hernando, or Lake Counties.
- One member, appointed at large, from Sarasota, Hardee, DeSoto, Charlotte, or Highlands Counties.
- One member, appointed at large, from Levy, Marion, Citrus, Sumter, Hernando, Lake, Sarasota, Hardee, DeSoto, Charlotte, or Highlands Counties.

Levy, Marion, Citrus, Sumter, Hernando, Lake, Sarasota, Hardee, DeSoto, Charlotte, and Highlands Counties may not have more than one member on the governing board.

### **III. Effect of Proposed Changes:**

The CS amends section 373.073, F.S., to revise the membership of the Southwest Florida Water Management District by:

- Increasing the number of governing board members from 11 to 13;
- Increasing the number of board members residing in Polk County from 1 to 2;
- Requiring one board member appointed at large to reside in Sarasota or Charlotte Counties; and
- Clarifying that Levy, Marion, Citrus, Sumter, Hernando Lake, Sarasota, Hardee, DeSoto, Charlotte, or Highlands Counties may not have more than one member on the governing board.

The CS takes effect upon becoming a law.

**IV. Constitutional Issues:**

## A. Municipality/County Mandates Restrictions:

None.

## B. Public Records/Open Meetings Issues:

None.

## C. Trust Funds Restrictions:

None.

**V. Economic Impact and Fiscal Note:**

## A. Tax/Fee Issues:

None.

## B. Private Sector Impact:

None.

## C. Government Sector Impact:

Section 373.079, F.S., authorizes the reimbursement of travel expenses, subsistence, lodging, and other expenses incurred on official business for members of a water management district's governing board. This CS adds two additional members to the Southwest Florida Water Management District.

**VI. Technical Deficiencies:**

None.

**VII. Related Issues:**

None.



## **VIII. Summary of Amendments:**

None.

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This Senate Professional Staff Analysis does not reflect the intent or official position of the bill's introducer or the Florida Senate.

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