

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: Environmental Preservation and Conservation Committee

BILL: CS/SB 1776

INTRODUCER: Committee on Environmental Preservation and Conservation and Senator Alexander

SUBJECT: Southwest Florida Water Management District Governing Board

DATE: March 14, 2007 REVISED: _____

| | ANALYST | STAFF DIRECTOR | REFERENCE | ACTION |
|----|---------|----------------|-----------|--------|
| 1. | Bascom | Kiger | EP | Fav/CS |
| 2. | | | CA | |
| 3. | | | | |
| 4. | | | | |
| 5. | | | | |
| 6. | | | | |

I. Summary:

The committee substitute increases the number of governing board members of the Southwest Florida Water Management District from 11 to 13 and revises the residence requirements. It increases, from 1 to 2, the number of board members that reside in Polk County. It creates a requirement that one board member shall 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 representative on the governing board.

The committee substitute amends subsection (a) of subsection (1) and subsection (e) of subsection (2) of section 373.073, 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
- 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, or Highlands counties may not be represented by more than one board member.

III. Effect of Proposed Changes:

Section 1. Amends subsection (a) of subsection (1) and subsection (e) of subsection (2) of section 373.073, F.S.;

- Increasing the number of governing board members from 11 to 13.
- Increasing the number of board members from Polk County from 1 to 2.
- Requiring, at a minimum, one board member appointed at large reside in Sarasota and Charlotte Counties.
- Clarifying that of the 5 at large board members, appointed from the following counties; Levy, Marion, Citrus, Sumter, Hernando Lake, Sarasota, Hardee, DeSoto, Charlotte, or Highlands, no county may have more than one representative.

Section 2. The committee substitute shall take 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:

C. Government Sector Impact:

VI. Technical Deficiencies:

None.

VII. Related Issues:

None.

VIII. Summary of Amendments:

None.

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