

By the Committee on Environmental Preservation and Conservation; and Senator Alexander

592-2065-07

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A bill to be entitled

An act relating to the Southwest Florida Water Management District; amending s. 373.073, F.S.; increasing the number of governing board members of the district; revising the residency requirements for vacancies on the governing board of the district; providing an effective date.

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

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

373.073 Governing board.--

(1)(a) The governing board of each water management district shall be composed of 9 members who shall reside within the district, except that the Southwest Florida Water Management District shall be composed of 13 ~~11~~ members who shall reside within the district. Members of the governing boards shall be appointed by the Governor, subject to confirmation by the Senate at the next regular session of the Legislature, and the refusal or failure of the Senate to confirm an appointment creates a vacancy in the office to which the appointment was made. The term of office for a governing board member is 4 years and commences on March 2 of the year in which the appointment is made and terminates on March 1 of the fourth calendar year of the term or may continue until a successor is appointed, but not more than 180 days. Terms of office of governing board members shall be staggered to help maintain consistency and continuity in the

1 exercise of governing board duties and to minimize disruption
2 in district operations.

3 (2) Membership on governing boards shall be selected
4 from candidates who have significant experience in one or more
5 of the following areas, including, but not limited to:
6 agriculture, the development industry, local government,
7 government-owned or privately owned water utilities, law,
8 civil engineering, environmental science, hydrology,
9 accounting, or financial businesses. Notwithstanding the
10 provisions of any other general or special law to the
11 contrary, vacancies in the governing boards of the water
12 management districts shall be filled according to the
13 following residency requirements, representing areas
14 designated by the United States Water Resources Council in
15 United States Geological Survey, River Basin and Hydrological
16 Unit Map of Florida--1975, Map Series No. 72:

17 (e) Southwest Florida Water Management District:

- 18 1. Two members shall reside in Hillsborough County.
19 2. One member shall reside in the area consisting of
20 Hillsborough and Pinellas Counties.
21 3. Two members shall reside in Pinellas County.
22 4. One member shall reside in Manatee County.
23 5. Two members ~~One member~~ shall reside in Polk County.
24 6. One member shall reside in Pasco County.
25 7. One member shall be appointed at large from Levy,
26 Marion, Citrus, Sumter, Hernando, and Lake Counties.
27 8. One member shall be appointed at large from
28 ~~Sarasota~~, Hardee, DeSoto, ~~Charlotte~~, and Highlands Counties.
29 9. One member shall be appointed at large from Levy,
30 Marion, Citrus, Sumter, Hernando, Lake, Sarasota, Hardee,
31 DeSoto, Charlotte, and Highlands Counties.

1 10. One member shall be appointed at large from
2 Sarasota and Charlotte Counties.

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4 ~~A No~~ county described in subparagraph 7., subparagraph 8., ~~or~~
5 subparagraph 9., or subparagraph 10. may not shall have more
6 than one member on the governing board.

7 Section 2. This act shall take effect upon becoming a
8 law.

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10 STATEMENT OF SUBSTANTIAL CHANGES CONTAINED IN
11 COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR
12 Senate Bill 1776

13 Increases the number of governing board members of the
14 Southwest Florida Water Management District from 11 to 13.
15 Requires that, at a minimum, one board member appointed at
16 large reside in Sarasota and Charlotte Counties. Specifies
17 that, of the 5 appointed at large members, no more than one
18 representative from Sarasota, Charlotte, Levy, Marion, Citrus,
19 Sumter, Hernando, Lake, Hardee, DeSoto, or Highlands counties
20 may be on the governing board.
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