

1                                   A bill to be entitled  
 2           An act relating to the City of Lakeland, Polk County;  
 3           amending the Charter of the City of Lakeland;  
 4           clarifying residency, election, and term requirements  
 5           for city commissioners; providing an effective date.

6  
 7   Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

8  
 9           Section 1.   Section 10 of Division I of the Charter of the  
 10          City of Lakeland is amended to read:

11           Section 10.   City Commission.

12  
 13           The city commission shall consist of seven (7) electors of  
 14          the city, including the mayor, elected at large, all of whom  
 15          shall hold office for four (4) years, or until their successors  
 16          take office, unless that term is altered due to a change in  
 17          municipal election dates authorized by this ordinance. One each  
 18          of the commissioners shall have been, for one (1) year prior to  
 19          taking office ~~election~~, a resident of that part of said city  
 20          described as follows:

21  
 22           *District A:* Being that part of said city bounded on  
 23          the east by State Road 35 and on the south by the  
 24          Seaboard Coast Line Railroad tracks, extending  
 25          westerly and northerly to the city limits line;

26           *District B:* That part of said city lying east of State  
 27          Road 35 and north of Seaboard Coast Line Railroad  
 28          tracks, extending easterly and northerly to the city

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29 | limits line;

30 | *District C:* That part of said city lying south of the  
31 | Seaboard Coast Line Railroad tracks and west of State  
32 | Roads 35 and 37 extending westerly and southerly to  
33 | the city limits line;

34 | *District D:* That part of the city lying south of  
35 | Seaboard Coast Line Railroad tracks and east of State  
36 | Roads 35 and 37 extending easterly and southerly to  
37 | the city limits line of the City of Lakeland;

38 |

39 | and two (2) commissioners shall be elected at large, without  
40 | regard to the district in which they may reside. Commissioners  
41 | elected from each of the districts as provided above shall  
42 | remain residents of those respective districts during their  
43 | terms of office. The mayor shall likewise be elected at large.  
44 | The present members of the city commission shall hold office for  
45 | the terms for which they are respectively elected, unless a  
46 | vacancy occurs by death, resignation or removal in accordance  
47 | with the terms of this charter and respective successors to the  
48 | present commissioners shall take office at the first city  
49 | commission meeting in January after their election, or as soon  
50 | thereafter as may be practicable.

51 |

52 | The city commissioners elected from Districts C and D, the  
53 | at large commissioner, and the mayor, whose terms would  
54 | otherwise expire on the first regular city commission meeting in  
55 | the year 2005, shall have their terms respectively extended for  
56 | one (1) year with the election for those offices to be held on

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57 November 1, 2005. In the event a run-off election is required,  
58 it shall then be conducted on December 6, 2005. Those city  
59 commissioners representing Districts ~~District~~ A and B, and the  
60 at large commissioner whose term would have expired on the first  
61 regular city commission meeting in the year 2007, shall have  
62 their terms respectively extended for one (1) year. The election  
63 for those offices shall be held November 6, 2007. In the event a  
64 run-off is required for that election, the run-off election  
65 shall be held on December 4, 2007. Those commissioners elected  
66 pursuant to this section shall take office in accordance with  
67 the provisions of this Charter.

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