A bill to be entitled

An act relating to the Florida Keys Aqueduct Authority, Monroe County; amending chapter 76-441, Laws of Florida, as amended; revising membership of the board of directors of the authority; providing that members be elected in nonpartisan elections rather than appointed; providing an effective date.

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

Section 1. Subsection (1) of section 4 of chapter 76-441, Laws of Florida, as amended by chapter 84-484, Laws of Florida, is amended to read:

Section 4. Board of directors; organization; qualifications; term of office; quorum; annual meeting, report, and minutes.—

(1) (a) In order to qualify to have their names placed on the ballot, candidates shall submit petitions with the signatures of 3 percent of the total number of registered voters in the district. Until December 31, 1984, the board of directors of the Florida Keys Aqueduct Authority shall consist of the members of the governing board of the South Florida Water Management District which is authorized and empowered to exercise those powers granted to the Florida Keys Aqueduct Authority. The provisions of ss. 373.196-373.1962, Florida Statutes shall not limit the exercise of the powers granted hereunder. Within 30 days after the act becomes a law, the Governor shall appoint a resident of Monroe County to serve as a

voting member of the Florida Keys Aqueduct Authority board of directors, subject to all rights, privileges, duties and responsibilities of other board members. Such member shall be in addition to the nine regular members of the board of directors. The board shall elect one of its members as chairperson chairman and shall choose some suitable person as secretary-treasurer, who may or may not be a member of the board, and who may be required to execute a bond for the faithful performance of his or her duties as the board may determine. A majority of the members of the board shall constitute a quorum. No vacancy in the board shall impair the right of a quorum to exercise all the rights and perform all of the duties of the board. All members of the board shall be required to be bonded. Beginning December 31, 1984, the board of directors of the Florida Keys Aqueduct Authority shall be as prescribed in paragraphs (b) and (c).

(b) The board of directors of the Florida Keys Aqueduct Authority shall be the governing body of the authority and shall, subject to the provisions of this act, exercise the powers granted to the authority under this act. Beginning December 31, 1984, The board of directors shall consist of nine members: four members of the South Florida Water Management District, appointed by the Covernor as transition members of the governing body of the authority, and five regular members who shall each represent one of five districts which shall be coterminous with the districts of the Board of County Commissioners of Monroe County. Each regular member of the board of directors shall be a registered elector within Monroe County and shall have been a resident of the district for 6 months

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before prior to the date of his or her election appointment. The regular members shall be elected in nonpartisan elections appointed by the Governor for terms of 4 years each and the transition members shall be appointed by the Governor for terms of one and one-half years each, except that any appointment to fill a vacancy shall be for the unexpired portion of the term. Of the regular members of the board of directors who assume office on December 31, 1984, two shall be appointed for a term of 2 years each and three shall be appointed for a term of 4 years each. The board shall elect any one of its members as chairperson chairman and shall also elect any one of its members as secretary-treasurer. A majority of the members of the board shall constitute a quorum. No vacancy in the board shall impair the right of a quorum to exercise all the rights and perform all of the duties of the board. All members of the board shall be required to be bonded. Any vacancy occurring on the board shall be filled by appointment by the Governor for the duration of the unexpired term. The four transition members shall be voting members of the board, subject to all rights, privileges, duties and responsibilities of board membership.

- (c) Each board member in office on the effective date of this act shall remain in office until the expiration of his or her term, at which time the position shall be filled by a member elected by the electors of Monroe County. Beginning July 1, 1986, the board of directors shall consist solely of the five regular members appointed by the Governor as provided in paragraph (b) of this subsection.
 - (d) A vacancy in the board occasioned by resignation,

removal, or otherwise shall be reported to the Governor, who shall fill such vacancy by appointment. Any vacancy that is not filled 30 days before the first day of the qualifying period for the next general election shall be filled at that election by electing a member to serve for the remainder of the term in which such vacancy occurred. Any appointments made by the Governor to fill vacancies shall hold office until the next general election, and at such election, vacancies shall be filled by the election of a member to serve for the remainder of the term in which the vacancy occurred.

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