

1 A bill to be entitled
 2 An act relating to the North St. Lucie River Water
 3 Control District, St. Lucie County; codifying,
 4 amending, reenacting, and repealing special acts
 5 relating to the district; providing a charter for the
 6 district; providing district boundaries; providing
 7 purpose; providing for a governing board and its
 8 membership, compensation, and duties; providing
 9 requirements for financial disclosure, meeting
 10 notices, reporting, public records maintenance, and
 11 per diem expenses; providing for the issuance of
 12 bonds; providing for elections; authorizing the levy
 13 of taxes, non-ad valorem assessments, fees, and
 14 service charges; providing for termination of the
 15 district; providing for construction and severability;
 16 repealing chapters 7973 (1919), 8896 (1921), 9635
 17 (1923), 11129 (1925), 12106 (1927), 12108 (1927),
 18 12109 (1927), 14773 (1931), 14774 (1931), 14775
 19 (1931), 16089 (1933), 22111 (1943), 22714 (1945),
 20 26790 (1951), 28379 (1953), 28647 (1953), 57-842, 65-
 21 1225, 69-1544, 96-529, and 2012-237, Laws of Florida;
 22 providing an effective date.

23
 24 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

25
 26 Section 1. Pursuant to s. 189.429, Florida Statutes, this
 27 act constitutes the codification of all special acts and court
 28 decrees relating to the North St. Lucie River Water Control

29 District. It is the intent of the Legislature in enacting this
 30 act to provide a single, comprehensive special act charter for
 31 the district, including all current legislative authority
 32 granted to the district by its several legislative enactments
 33 and any additional authority granted by this act. It is the
 34 further intent of the Legislature that this act preserve all
 35 district authority in addition to any authority contained in
 36 chapter 298, Florida Statutes.

37 Section 2. Chapters 7973 (1919), 8896 (1921), 9635 (1923),
 38 11129 (1925), 12106 (1927), 12108 (1927), 12109 (1927), 14773
 39 (1931), 14774 (1931), 14775 (1931), 16089 (1933), 22111 (1943),
 40 22714 (1945), 26790 (1951), 28379 (1953), 28647 (1953), 57-842,
 41 65-1225, 69-1544, 96-529, and 2012-237, Laws of Florida, are
 42 amended, codified, reenacted, and repealed as herein provided.

43 Section 3. The North St. Lucie River Water Control
 44 District is re-created, and the charter for such district is re-
 45 created and reenacted to read:

46 Section 1. Status and boundaries of North St. Lucie River
 47 Water Control District.—The North St. Lucie River Water Control
 48 District is declared to be an independent water control district
 49 and a public corporation of the state pursuant to chapters 189
 50 and 298, Florida Statutes, and the lands lying within the area
 51 described as follows in St. Lucie County shall constitute the
 52 North St. Lucie River Water Control District:

53
 54 Commencing at the Northwest corner of Section 4,
 55 Township 35 South, Range 38 East, thence run East
 56 along the line dividing Townships 34 and 35 to the

57 Northeast corner of Section 5, Township 35 South,
 58 Range 40 East; thence run South along Section lines to
 59 the Northeast corner of Section 20, Township 35 South,
 60 Range 40 East; then East along Section lines to the
 61 Northeast corner of Section 21, Township 35 South,
 62 Range 40 East; thence run South along Section lines to
 63 the Northeast corner of Section 4, Township 36 South,
 64 Range 40 East; thence run East along the township line
 65 to the Northeast corner of Section 3, Township 36
 66 South, Range 40 East; thence run South along Section
 67 lines to the Southeast corner of Section 15, Township
 68 36 South, Range 40 East; thence run West along section
 69 line to the Southwest corner of Section 16, Township
 70 36 South, Range 38 East; thence run North along
 71 section lines to the point of beginning;

72
 73 EXCEPTING therefrom the South 1/2 of Sections 1, 2 and
 74 3, of Township 36 South, Range 39 East; and south 1/2
 75 of North 1/2 of Southwest 1/4 of the Southeast 1/4 and
 76 South 1/2 of Southwest 1/4 of Southeast 1/4, and East
 77 1/2 of Southeast 1/4 Section 4, Township 36 South,
 78 Range 39 East; East 1/2 of Section 9, South Township
 79 36 South, Range 39 East; all of Sections 10 to 16
 80 inclusive of Township 36 South, Range 39 East; the
 81 Southwest 1/4 of Southwest 1/4 of Section 5, Township
 82 36 South, Range 40 East; Lots 6 to 16 inclusive in the
 83 Southwest 1/4 and Lots 9 to 16 inclusive in the
 84 Southeast 1/4, Section 6, Township 36 South, Range 40

85 East; all of Section 7, 8, 17 and 18, Township 36
 86 South, Range 40 East; the Northwest 1/4 and that part
 87 of the West 3/4 of the South 1/2 lying West of St.
 88 Lucie River, Section 16, Township 36 South, Range 40
 89 East.

91 Section 2. Minimum charter requirements.-In accordance
 92 with s. 189.404(3), Florida Statutes, the following are the
 93 minimum requirements for the charter of the North St. Lucie
 94 River Water Control District:

95 (1) The district is organized and exists for all purposes
 96 set forth in this act and chapter 298, Florida Statutes.

97 (2) The district's charter may be amended only by special
 98 act of the Legislature.

99 (3) In accordance with chapter 189, Florida Statutes, this
 100 act, and ss. 298.11 and 298.12, Florida Statutes, the governing
 101 board of the district shall be designated the "Board of
 102 Supervisors of the North St. Lucie River Water Control District"
 103 and shall be composed of three persons, who shall be qualified
 104 to hold such office if they are landowners within the district,
 105 residents of the state, and citizens of the United States,
 106 elected on a one-acre, one-vote basis by the landowners in the
 107 district; however, landowners owning less than one acre in the
 108 aggregate shall be entitled to one vote. Landowners owning more
 109 than one acre shall be entitled to one additional vote for any
 110 fraction of an acre greater than one-half acre owned, when a
 111 landowner's acreage has been aggregated for purposes of voting.
 112 The membership and organization of the governing board shall be

HB 981

2013

113 as set forth in this charter and chapter 298, Florida Statutes,
114 provided this charter controls with respect to any
115 inconsistency.

116 (4) The compensation of the governing board members shall
117 be governed by this act and chapter 298, Florida Statutes.

118 (5) The administrative duties of the governing board shall
119 be as set forth in this act and chapters 189 and 298, Florida
120 Statutes.

121 (6) Requirements for financial disclosure, meeting
122 notices, reporting, public records maintenance, and per diem
123 expenses for district officers and employees shall be as set
124 forth in chapters 112, 189, 190, 286, and 298, Florida Statutes,
125 and all other applicable general laws of the state.

126 (7) The procedures and requirements governing the issuance
127 of bonds, notes, and other evidence of indebtedness by the
128 district shall be as set forth in chapters 189 and 298, Florida
129 Statutes, and applicable general laws.

130 (8) The procedures for conducting district elections or
131 referenda and for qualification of electors shall be pursuant to
132 chapters 189 and 298, Florida Statutes; however, a quorum for
133 purposes of holding the annual meeting or any special meetings
134 shall consist of those landowners present in person or
135 represented by proxy at said meeting.

136 (9) The district may be financed by any method established
137 in this act, chapter 298, Florida Statutes, and other applicable
138 general laws of the state.

139 (10) The district is authorized to assess and levy a
140 minimum maintenance tax in an amount not to exceed \$25 per year

HB 981

2013

141 upon each tract or parcel of land within said district without
142 regard to the net assessment of benefits assessed.

143 (11) The methods for collecting non-ad valorem
144 assessments, fees, or service charges shall be as set forth in
145 chapters 197 and 298, Florida Statutes, and other applicable
146 general laws of the state.

147 (12) The district's planning requirements shall be as set
148 forth in chapters 189 and 298, Florida Statutes.

149 (13) The district's geographic boundary shall be as set
150 forth in this act.

151 Section 3. Existence.—The district shall exist until
152 December 31, 2111.

153 Section 4. Provisions of other laws made applicable.—The
154 North St. Lucie River Water Control District hereby created
155 shall be an independent water control district and a public
156 corporation of this state. The provisions of state law
157 applicable to water control districts or subdistricts which are
158 embodied in chapter 298, Florida Statutes, so far as not
159 inconsistent with this act, are declared to be applicable to the
160 North St. Lucie River Water Control District. The North St.
161 Lucie River Water Control District shall have all of the powers
162 and authorities conferred in this act and chapter 298, Florida
163 Statutes.

164 Section 5. Severability.—If any provision of this act or
165 the application thereof to any person or circumstance is held
166 invalid, the invalidity shall not affect other provisions or
167 applications of the act which can be given effect without the
168 invalid provision or application, and to this end the provisions

HB 981

2013

169 of this act are declared severable.

170 Section 6. Construction.—This act shall be construed as a
171 remedial act and shall be liberally construed to promote the
172 purpose for which it is intended.

173 Section 4. Chapters 7973 (1919), 8896 (1921), 9635 (1923),
174 11129 (1925), 12106 (1927), 12108 (1927), 12109 (1927), 14773
175 (1931), 14774 (1931), 14775 (1931), 16089 (1933), 22111 (1943),
176 22714 (1945), 26790 (1951), 28379 (1953), 28647 (1953), 57-842,
177 65-1225, 69-1544, 96-529, and 2012-237, Laws of Florida, are
178 repealed.

179 Section 5. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law.