

1 A bill to be entitled

2 An act relating to public officers and employees;
3 amending s. 112.326, F.S.; authorizing the electors of
4 a political subdivision to impose additional or more
5 stringent standards of conduct and disclosure
6 requirements upon the political subdivision's officers
7 and employees; providing that a respondent is entitled
8 to a public hearing upon a finding of probable cause
9 of a violation of a local ethics ordinance; requiring
10 a local ethics ordinance to establish certain
11 procedures; providing construction; providing an
12 effective date.

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

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16 Section 1. Section 112.326, Florida Statutes, is amended
17 to read:

18 112.326 Additional requirements by political subdivisions
19 and agencies not prohibited. ~~Nothing in~~ This part does not
20 prohibit the electors or act shall prohibit the governing body
21 of a ~~any~~ political subdivision, by ordinance, or agency, by
22 rule, from imposing upon its own officers and employees
23 additional or more stringent standards of conduct and disclosure
24 requirements than those specified in this part, if ~~provided that~~
25 those standards of conduct and disclosure requirements do not
26 otherwise conflict with ~~the provisions of~~ this part. If a local

27 ethics agency, board, or commission determines that probable
28 cause exists to believe a violation of a local ethics ordinance
29 occurred, the respondent is entitled to a public hearing. The
30 local ethics ordinance shall establish procedures concerning
31 request for, and waiver of the right to, a public hearing. The
32 respondent may elect to have the public hearing conducted by the
33 local ethics agency, board, or commission, or by a hearing
34 officer who is not a member of the local ethics agency, board,
35 or commission. This section does not prohibit a respondent and
36 the local ethics agency, board, or commission from entering into
37 a stipulation or consent agreement to resolve the allegations.

38 Section 2. This act shall take effect October 1, 2014.