

By Senator Gruters

23-00495-19

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1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to special neighborhood improvement
3 districts; amending s. 163.511, F.S.; revising the
4 number of directors allowed for the boards of special
5 neighborhood improvement districts; requiring local
6 planning ordinances to specify director term lengths
7 and provide for staggered terms; requiring that
8 directors be landowners in, rather than residents of,
9 the proposed area and be subject to certain taxation;
10 removing obsolete language; providing an effective
11 date.

12
13 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

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15 Section 1. Paragraph (f) of subsection (1) and subsections
16 (7) and (8) of section 163.511, Florida Statutes, are amended to
17 read:

18 163.511 Special neighborhood improvement districts;
19 creation; referendum; board of directors; duration; extension.-

20 (1) After a local planning ordinance has been adopted
21 authorizing the creation of special neighborhood improvement
22 districts, the governing body of a municipality or county may
23 declare the need for and create special residential or business
24 neighborhood improvement districts by the enactment of a
25 separate ordinance for each district, which ordinance:

26 (f) Provides for the appointment of a three-, five-, or
27 seven-member ~~3-member~~ board of directors for the district, the
28 members of which must be elected to staggered terms. The number
29 of appointed directors must be specified in the ordinance.

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30 (7) The business and affairs of a special neighborhood
31 improvement district shall be conducted and administered by a
32 board of three, five, or seven directors who must ~~shall~~ be
33 landowners in residents of the proposed area and who are subject
34 to ad valorem taxation in the district. Upon their appointment
35 and qualification and in January of each year, the directors
36 shall organize by electing from their number a chair and a
37 secretary, and may also employ staff and legal representatives
38 as deemed appropriate, who shall serve at the pleasure of the
39 board and may receive such compensation as ~~shall be~~ fixed by the
40 board. The secretary shall keep a record of the proceedings of
41 the district and is the ~~shall be~~ custodian of all books and
42 records of the district. The directors may ~~shall~~ not receive any
43 compensation for their services or, ~~nor may they~~ be employed by
44 the district.

45 (8) Within 30 days of the approval of the creation of a
46 special neighborhood improvement district, if the district is in
47 a municipality, a majority of the governing body of the
48 municipality, ~~or,~~ or, if the district is in the unincorporated area
49 of the county, a majority of the county commission, ~~shall~~
50 appoint the ~~three~~ directors provided for under this section, as
51 specified in the local planning ordinance herein for staggered
52 terms of 3 years. The initial appointments shall be as follows:
53 one for a 1-year term, one for a 2-year term, and one for a 3-
54 year term. Each director shall hold office until his or her
55 successor is appointed and qualified unless the director ceases
56 to be qualified to act as a director or is removed from office.
57 Vacancies on the board shall be filled for the unexpired portion
58 of a term in the same manner as the initial appointments were

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59 made.

60 Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2019.