

By Senator Gruters

23-01841-20

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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 on the boards of special  
5       neighborhood improvement districts; requiring local  
6       planning ordinances to specify the number of directors  
7       and provide for 4-year staggered terms; requiring that  
8       directors be landowners in the proposed area and be  
9       subject to certain taxation; making technical changes;  
10      providing an effective date.

11  
12 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

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

17       163.511 Special neighborhood improvement districts;  
18       creation; referendum; board of directors; duration; extension.—

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

25       (f) Provides for the appointment of a three-member board of  
26       directors, a five-member board of directors, or a seven-member  
27       ~~three-member~~ board of directors for the district, the members of  
28       which must be elected to staggered terms of 4 years. 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 after ~~of the~~ approval of the creation of  
46 a special neighborhood improvement district, if the district is  
47 in a municipality, a majority of the governing body of the  
48 municipality, 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  
51 ~~herein for staggered terms of 3 years. The initial appointments~~  
52 ~~shall be as follows: one for a 1-year term, one for a 2-year~~  
53 ~~term, and one for a 3-year term.~~ Each director shall hold office  
54 until his or her successor is appointed and qualified unless the  
55 director ceases to be qualified to act as a director or is  
56 removed from office. Vacancies on the board shall be filled for  
57 the unexpired portion of a term in the same manner as the  
58 initial appointments were made.

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Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2020.