

1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to the Pine Tree Water Control
3 District, Broward County; amending ch. 2001-320, Laws
4 of Florida; providing an exception to general law;
5 requiring members of the Board of Supervisors be
6 elected through a general election; providing for
7 staggered terms; providing requirements for elections
8 of the board and candidates seeking election;
9 requiring the Supervisor of Elections of Broward
10 County to appoint certain persons, prepare and furnish
11 ballots, designate polling places, and canvass the
12 returns; providing definitions; providing for
13 declaration and certification of election results;
14 providing an effective date.

15
16 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

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18 Section 1. Subsection (1) of section 5 of section 3 of
19 chapter 2001-320, Laws of Florida, is amended to read:

20 Section 5. Board; election; organization; terms of office;
21 vacancy; quorum.—

22 (1) The Board of the District shall be the governing body
23 of the District and shall exercise the powers granted to the
24 District under this Act and under chapters 189 and 298, Florida
25 Statutes. The District is an independent special district as

26 | defined in section 189.012(3) ~~section 189.403(3)~~, Florida
 27 | Statutes. The Board shall consist of five members and,
 28 | notwithstanding any other provision of law to the contrary,
 29 | three members of the Board of Supervisors shall be elected by
 30 | the qualified electors of the District. Election of the Board by
 31 | the qualified electors shall be the exclusive method for the
 32 | elections of the members of the Board of Supervisors. The fourth
 33 | member of the Board of Supervisors shall be appointed by the
 34 | City Commission of the City of Coral Springs and shall serve as
 35 | a member of the Board until replaced. The fifth member of the
 36 | Board of Supervisors shall be appointed by the City Commission
 37 | of the City of Parkland and shall serve as a member of the Board
 38 | until replaced ~~except as otherwise provided herein, each member~~
 39 | ~~shall be elected in compliance with all applicable election laws~~
 40 | ~~by the landowners of the District. Commencing in 1994 and every~~
 41 | ~~2 years thereafter, two members of the Board shall be elected by~~
 42 | ~~the landowners of the District. The member receiving the highest~~
 43 | ~~number of votes shall be elected for a 4 year term and the~~
 44 | ~~member receiving the second highest number of votes shall be~~
 45 | ~~elected for a 2 year term. The fourth and fifth members of the~~
 46 | ~~Board of Supervisors shall be appointed by the City of Coral~~
 47 | ~~Springs City Commission and the City of Parkland City~~
 48 | ~~Commission, respectively, and shall serve as members of the~~
 49 | ~~Board until replaced. All of the members shall be residents of~~
 50 | ~~Broward County and all members shall be residents of Florida and~~

51 ~~shall be landowners within the District.~~

52 (a) The Board shall call an election at which the members
53 of the Board of Supervisors will be elected. Such election shall
54 be held in conjunction with the next general election in
55 November 2024. Candidates may qualify for the offices of Board
56 of Supervisors, designated as seat 1, seat 2, and seat 3, each
57 elected at large within the District. A candidate qualifying for
58 election must be an elector and resident of the District. Each
59 Board member shall be elected by the qualified electors of the
60 District for a term of 4 years, except that, at the first such
61 election, the two members elected to seat 1 and seat 2 shall be
62 elected for a term of 4 years each, and the member elected to
63 seat 3 shall be elected for a term of 2 years. Thereafter, there
64 shall be an election held every 2 years for expiring terms and
65 all members shall be elected for terms of 4 years each. The
66 candidate receiving the most votes for each seat shall be
67 elected. All elected Board members must be qualified electors of
68 the District. Members of the Board of Supervisors as of October
69 1, 2023, shall serve until the certification of the November
70 2024 general election results.

71 (b) Elections of board members by qualified electors held
72 pursuant to this subsection shall be nonpartisan and shall be
73 conducted in the manner prescribed by law for holding general
74 elections. Board members shall assume the office on the second
75 Tuesday following their election.

76 (c) Candidates seeking election to office by qualified
77 electors under this subsection shall conduct their campaigns in
78 accordance with the provisions of chapter 106, Florida Statutes,
79 and shall file qualifying papers and qualify for individual
80 seats in accordance with section 99.061, Florida Statutes.
81 Candidates shall pay a qualifying fee, which shall consist of a
82 filing fee and election assessment or, as an alternative, shall
83 file a petition signed by not less than 1 percent of the
84 qualified electors for the District, and take the oath required
85 in section 99.021, Florida Statutes, with the Supervisor of
86 Elections of Broward County. The amount of the filing fee is 3
87 percent of the annual salary of the office. The amount of the
88 election assessment is 1 percent of the annual salary of the
89 office. The filing fee and election assessment shall be
90 distributed as provided in section 105.031(3), Florida Statutes.

91 (d) The Supervisor of Elections of Broward County shall
92 appoint the inspectors and clerks of elections, prepare and
93 furnish the ballots, designate polling places, and canvass the
94 returns of the election of Board members by qualified electors.
95 The county canvassing board shall declare and certify the
96 results of the election.

97 (e) Subsections (2) and (3) shall apply to a Board of
98 Supervisors elected pursuant to this subsection.

99 (f) The terms "qualifying elector" and "elector" shall
100 mean any person at least 18 years of age who is a citizen of the

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101 United States, a permanent resident of Florida, and a resident
102 of the District who registers with the supervisor of elections
103 of the county in which the District lands are located when the
104 registration books are open.

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