

1 A bill to be entitled

2 An act relating to North Springs Improvement District,
3 Broward County; amending ch. 2005-341, Laws of
4 Florida, as amended; revising a definition; revising
5 the number of board members; requiring members to be
6 residents of the district; providing designated seats
7 for supervisors; providing for repeal unless reviewed
8 and saved from repeal by the Legislature; providing an
9 exception to general law; requiring that the board of
10 supervisors be elected by the qualified electors of
11 the district; providing definitions; providing
12 requirements for a referendum; providing effective
13 dates.

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

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17 Section 1. Effective November 5, 2030, subsection (1) of
18 section 5 of section 3 of chapter 2005-341, Laws of Florida, as
19 amended by chapter 2007-285, Laws of Florida, is amended to
20 read:

21 Section 5. Board; election; organization; terms of office;
22 quorum; report and minutes.—

23 (1) The board of the district shall be the governing body
24 of the district and shall exercise the powers granted to the
25 district under this act and under chapter 298, Florida Statutes.

26 The board shall consist of five ~~three~~ members and, except as
 27 otherwise provided herein, each member shall hold office for a
 28 term of 4 years and until his or her successor shall be chosen
 29 and shall qualify. A majority of the members of the board shall
 30 be residents of Broward County, and all members shall be
 31 residents of the state. All members of the board shall be
 32 residents of landowners ~~within~~ the district.

33 Section 2. Subsection (11) of section 4 and subsections
 34 (2) and (9) of section 5 of section 3 of chapter 2005-341, Laws
 35 of Florida, as amended by chapter 2007-285, Laws of Florida, are
 36 amended to read:

37 Section 4. Definitions.—Unless the context shall indicate
 38 otherwise, the following words as used in this act shall have
 39 the following meanings:

40 (11) "Qualified elector" and "elector" mean ~~means~~ any
 41 person at least 18 years of age who is a citizen of the United
 42 States, a permanent legal ~~legal~~ resident of the state, and a resident
 43 of the district and who registers to vote with the supervisor of
 44 elections of the county in which the district lands are located
 45 when the registration books are open ~~Supervisor of Elections of~~
 46 ~~Broward County.~~

47 Section 5. Board; election; organization; terms of office;
 48 quorum; report and minutes.—

49 (2) In the month of June of each fourth year commencing
 50 June of 1972, there shall be held a meeting of the landowners of

51 | the district at the office of the district in Broward County,
52 | for the purpose of electing three supervisors for said district.
53 | One supervisor, designated as seat 1, shall be elected solely by
54 | those landowners owning property within the city limits of the
55 | City of Parkland, and this supervisor must be a landowner who
56 | owns property within the city limits of the City of Parkland.
57 | One supervisor, designated as seat 2, shall be elected solely by
58 | those landowners owning property within the city limits of the
59 | City of Coral Springs, and this supervisor must be a landowner
60 | who owns property within the city limits of the City of Coral
61 | Springs. One supervisor, designated as seat 3, shall be elected
62 | at large by all landowners of the district, regardless of where
63 | his or her property is located. Candidates for each supervisor
64 | position will be nominated during the meeting of landowners, and
65 | the nominee who receives the highest number of votes for a
66 | supervisor position shall be declared elected. Notice of said
67 | landowners' meeting shall be published once a week for 2
68 | consecutive weeks in a newspaper in Broward County which is in
69 | general circulation within the district, the last of said
70 | publication to be not less than 14 days nor more than 28 days
71 | before the date of the election. The landowners when assembled
72 | at such meeting shall organize by electing a chair that shall
73 | conduct the meeting. At such meeting each landowner shall be
74 | entitled to cast one vote per acre of land owned by him or her
75 | and located within the district. A landowner may vote in person

76 or by proxy in writing. Fractions of an acre shall be treated as
77 1 acre, entitling the landowner to one vote with respect
78 thereto. This subsection is repealed November 5, 2030, unless
79 reviewed and saved from repeal by the Legislature.

80 (9) (a) Notwithstanding any provision of general law to the
81 contrary, the board shall be elected solely by the qualified
82 electors of the district. ~~The board of supervisors may, upon~~
83 ~~vote of a majority of the board, determine to convert to a board~~
84 ~~of supervisors elected by the qualified electors of the~~
85 ~~district. Upon the call of an election for such purpose by the~~
86 ~~board as provided in paragraph (b), election of the board by the~~
87 ~~qualified electors shall thereafter be the exclusive method for~~
88 ~~the election of the members of the board of supervisors.~~

89 ~~(b) Upon vote of the board of supervisors pursuant to~~
90 ~~paragraph (a),~~ The board shall call an election at which the
91 members of the board of supervisors will be elected. Such
92 election shall be held in conjunction with the next general
93 election in November. Candidates may qualify for the offices of
94 board of supervisors seat 1, seat 2, and seat 3, each elected at
95 large within the district. A candidate qualifying for election
96 to seat 1 must be an elector and resident of the City of
97 Parkland. A candidate qualifying for election to seat 2 must be
98 an elector and resident of the City of Coral Springs. A
99 candidate qualifying for election to seat 3 must be an elector
100 and resident of the district. Beginning in 2030, candidates may

101 qualify for the offices of board of supervisors seat 4 and seat
102 5, each elected at large within the district. A candidate
103 qualifying for election to seat 4 or seat 5 must be an elector
104 and resident of the district. Each board member shall be elected
105 by the qualified electors of the district for a term of 4 years,
106 except as otherwise provided by law ~~that, at the first such~~
107 ~~election, the two members elected to seat 1 and seat 2 shall be~~
108 ~~elected for a term of 4 years, and the member elected to seat 3~~
109 ~~shall be elected for a term of 2 years. Thereafter, there shall~~
110 ~~be an election held every 2 years for expiring terms and all~~
111 ~~members shall be elected for terms of 4 years each.~~ The
112 candidate receiving the most votes for each seat shall be
113 elected. ~~All elected board members must be qualified electors of~~
114 ~~the district.~~

115 (b) ~~(e)~~ Elections of board members by qualified electors
116 held pursuant to this subsection shall be nonpartisan and shall
117 be conducted in the manner prescribed by law for holding general
118 elections. Board members shall assume the office on the second
119 Tuesday following their election.

120 (c) ~~(d)~~ Candidates seeking election to office by qualified
121 electors under this subsection shall conduct their campaigns in
122 accordance with the provisions of chapter 106, Florida Statutes,
123 and shall file qualifying papers and qualify for individual
124 seats in accordance with section 99.061, Florida Statutes.
125 Candidates shall pay a qualifying fee, which shall consist of a

126 filing fee and election assessment or, as an alternative, shall
 127 file a petition signed by not less than 1 percent of the
 128 qualified electors of the district, and take the oath required
 129 in section 99.021, Florida Statutes, with the Supervisor of
 130 Elections of Broward County. The amount of the filing fee is 3
 131 percent of \$4,800. The amount of the election assessment is 1
 132 percent of \$4,800. The filing fee and election assessment shall
 133 be distributed as provided in section 105.031 (3), Florida
 134 Statutes.

135 (d)~~(e)~~ The Supervisor of Elections of Broward County shall
 136 appoint the inspectors and clerks of elections, prepare and
 137 furnish the ballots, designate polling places, and canvass the
 138 returns of the election of board members by qualified electors.
 139 The county canvassing board shall declare and certify the
 140 results of the election.

141 ~~(f) The provisions of subsections (3), (4), (5), (6), and~~
 142 ~~(7) shall apply to a board of supervisors elected pursuant to~~
 143 ~~this subsection.~~

144 Section 3. Effective June 1, 2026, the board of
 145 supervisors seat 3 shall be elected by a majority vote of the
 146 qualified electors of the district for a 4-year term during the
 147 next general election.

148 Section 4. Effective June 1, 2028, the board of
 149 supervisors seat 2 shall be elected by a majority vote of the
 150 qualified electors of the district for a 4-year term during the

151 next general election.

152 Section 5. Effective November 5, 2030:

153 (1) The board of supervisors seat 1, shall be elected by a
154 majority vote of the qualified electors of the district for a 4-
155 year term during the next general election.

156 (2) The board of supervisors seat 4, shall be elected by a
157 majority vote of the qualified electors of the district for a 2-
158 year term. Thereafter, all terms shall be for a period of 4
159 years.

160 (3) The board of supervisors seat 5, shall be elected by a
161 majority vote of the qualified electors of the district for a 4-
162 year term.

163 Section 6. Referendum election.-

164 (1) The referendum election called for by this act shall
165 be held on November 5, 2024, the 2024 General Election.

166 (2) The ballot title for the referendum question shall be
167 in substantially the following form:

168 "AMENDING DISTRICT CHARTER PROVIDING FOR ELECTION OF
169 DISTRICT SUPERVISORS BY MAJORITY OF ALL QUALIFIED ELECTORS"

170 (3) The referendum question shall be placed on the ballot
171 in substantially the following form:

172 "Shall Chapter 2021- , Laws of Florida, amending the
173 North Springs Improvement District Charter, providing that
174 the members of the District Board of Supervisors shall be
175 elected by majority vote of all qualified electors of the

176 | district instead of just landowners for four year terms,
 177 | with staggered elections every two years beginning in
 178 | November 2026, with two additional seats elected in 2030,
 179 | become effective?"

180 | () YES.

181 | () NO.

182 | (4) In the event this question is answered affirmatively
 183 | by a majority of the qualified voters voting in the referendum,
 184 | the charter amendment will take effect. The referendum election
 185 | shall be conducted by the Supervisor of Elections of Broward
 186 | County in accordance with the Florida Election Code.

187 | Section 7. This act shall take effect upon its approval by
 188 | a majority vote of the qualified electors of the North Springs
 189 | Improvement District voting in a referendum conducted in
 190 | accordance with the provisions of law relating to elections
 191 | currently in force, except that section 1 shall take effect on
 192 | November 5, 2030, if approved by a majority vote of the
 193 | qualified electors of the North Springs Improvement District
 194 | voting in a referendum and this section and section 6 shall take
 195 | effect upon becoming a law.