

1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to the East Manatee Fire Rescue
3 District, Manatee County; providing for the merger of
4 the Myakka City Fire Control District into the East
5 Manatee Fire Rescue District; revising boundaries;
6 providing an effective date.

7
8 WHEREAS, in April 2019, the Board of Fire Commissioners of
9 the Myakka City Fire Control District, a dependent district of
10 Manatee County created pursuant to Manatee County Ordinance 07-
11 56, and the Board of Fire Commissioners of the East Manatee Fire
12 Rescue District, an independent fire district created by special
13 act, chapter 2005-296, Laws of Florida, began public discussions
14 to merge the dependent district into the independent fire
15 district, and

16 WHEREAS on May 2, 2019, the Manatee County Board of County
17 Commissioners considered the merger of its dependent fire
18 district into the East Manatee Fire Rescue District and the
19 Manatee County Commission voted to support the merger
20 initiative, and

21 WHEREAS, to comply with the Florida constitutional and
22 statutory requirements relating to taxing and regulatory
23 authority, the Myakka City Fire Control District requested the
24 Manatee County Supervisor of Elections to place the following
25 referendum on the August 2020 ballot before the qualified

26 | electors of the Myakka City Fire Control District:

27 |

28 | Myakka City Fire Control District

29 | Merger and Taxation Referendum

30 | Shall the Myakka City Fire Control District, a dependent
 31 | special district of Manatee County, be merged into the East
 32 | Manatee Fire Rescue District, an independent special
 33 | district, and become subject to the East Manatee Fire
 34 | Rescue District's jurisdiction and authority, including the
 35 | authority under Chapter 191, Florida Statutes, to levy an
 36 | ad valorem tax in an amount no greater than 1 mil annually?

37 | YES-For _____

38 | NO-Against _____

39 | WHEREAS, on August 18, 2020, a majority of the Myakka City
 40 | Fire Control District's qualified electors voted in favor of the
 41 | referendum to authorize the merger of the Myakka City Fire
 42 | Control District into the East Manatee Fire Rescue District and
 43 | the imposition of an ad valorem tax for such fire rescue
 44 | services, and

45 | WHEREAS, on August 25, 2020, following the certification of
 46 | the referendum results, the Manatee County Board of County
 47 | Commissioners reaffirmed the county's approval of the merger of
 48 | the Myakka City Fire Control District into the East Manatee Fire
 49 | Rescue District, and

50 | WHEREAS, effective October 1, 2020, in anticipation of the

51 merger of the two fire departments, the Myakka City Fire Control
52 District and the East Manatee Fire Rescue District entered into
53 an interlocal agreement to facilitate the cross-training of
54 employees within both fire departments so that the firefighter
55 personnel from each fire department could become acclimated with
56 the equipment, facilities, protocols, and service areas of both
57 the Myakka City Fire Control District and the East Manatee Fire
58 Rescue District, and

59 WHEREAS, to complete the merger of the Myakka City Fire
60 Control District into the East Manatee Fire Rescue District the
61 East Manatee Fire Rescue District's Special Act, chapter 2005-
62 296, Laws of Florida, must be amended to incorporate the Myakka
63 City Fire Control District's geographical boundaries into the
64 East Manatee Fire Rescue District's jurisdictional boundaries
65 and Manatee County must dissolve the Myakka City Fire Control
66 District through the adoption of an appropriate county
67 ordinance, and

68 WHEREAS, the East Manatee Fire Rescue District is seeking
69 an amendment to the East Manatee Fire Rescue District's Special
70 Act during the 2021 Legislative Session to authorize the merger
71 of the Myakka City Fire Control District into its jurisdictional
72 boundaries effective October 1, 2021, and

73 WHEREAS, upon the passage of an amendment to the East
74 Manatee Fire Rescue District's Special Act, the Myakka City Fire
75 Control District and the East Manatee Fire Rescue District

76 anticipate requesting Manatee County's authorization to dissolve
 77 the Myakka City Fire Control District through the passage of an
 78 appropriate Manatee County Ordinance effective October 1, 2021,
 79 and

80 WHEREAS, the merger of the Myakka City Fire Control
 81 District into the East Manatee Fire Rescue District has been
 82 supported by Manatee County, the Myakka City Fire Control
 83 District, and the East Manatee Fire Rescue District governing
 84 boards as a means of improving government efficiency, enhancing
 85 levels of service, providing additional resources, and
 86 delivering cost-effective fire rescue services in eastern
 87 Manatee County, and

88 WHEREAS, the merger of the Myakka City Fire Control
 89 District into the East Manatee Fire Rescue District will serve a
 90 public purpose, provide tax savings for the residents in eastern
 91 Manatee County, and has been supported and approved by the
 92 qualified voters within the Myakka City area of eastern Manatee
 93 County, NOW, THEREFORE,

94
 95 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

96
 97 Section 1. Section 2 of section 3 of chapter 2000-404,
 98 Laws of Florida, as amended by chapter 2005-296, Laws of
 99 Florida, is amended to read:

100 Section 2. Jurisdiction.—The lands to be incorporated

101 within the East Manatee Fire Rescue District are described as
102 follows:

103
104 Begin at the intersection of the centerlines of the
105 Manatee River and the Braden River; thence easterly
106 along the centerline of the Manatee River to the
107 intersection of the Rye Road bridge; thence northerly
108 along the centerline of Rye Road to a point of
109 intersection of the North section line of Section 24
110 Township 34 South, Range 19 East; thence easterly to
111 the Northeast corner of Section 24; thence southerly
112 along the east line of said Section 24 to the
113 centerline of Lake Manatee; thence easterly to S.R.
114 64; thence westerly along the centerline of S.R. 64 to
115 old S.R. 675; thence south along the centerline of
116 S.R. 675 and its southerly extension to the line
117 dividing Manatee County and Sarasota County which same
118 point being the Southeast corner of Section 33,
119 Township 35 South, Range 20 East; thence westerly
120 along said dividing line to point being the
121 intersection of the line dividing Manatee and Sarasota
122 Counties and the Southerly extension of the West
123 right-of-way line of Interstate I-75, said point being
124 located in Section 36 Township 35 South Range 18 East;
125 thence northerly along said west right-of-way line to

126 | the centerline of the Braden River; thence westerly
 127 | and northerly along said centerline to the centerline
 128 | of the Manatee River, also being the point of
 129 | beginning; specifically excluding all lands lying and
 130 | situate within the corporate limits of the City of
 131 | Bradenton.

132 |
 133 | ALSO
 134 |
 135 | Begin at the Southeast corner of Section 36, Township
 136 | 37 S., Range 22 E., being also the Southeast corner of
 137 | Manatee County then Westerly along the Manatee County
 138 | line to the Southwest corner of Section 31, Township
 139 | 37 S., Range 21 E., then Northerly along the Manatee
 140 | County line to the Southwest corner of Section 31,
 141 | Township 35 S., Range 21 E., then Westerly along the
 142 | Manatee County line to the Southwest corner of Section
 143 | 34, Township 35 S., Range 20 E., then Northerly along
 144 | the west section line to the intersection of SR 70 and
 145 | CR 675 (Waterbury Road), then Northerly along CR 675
 146 | to the intersection with SR 64, then Easterly along SR
 147 | 64 approximately one quarter mile to the intersection
 148 | with the west section line of Section 34, Township 34
 149 | S., Range 20 E., then Northerly along the west section
 150 | line to the Northwest corner of Section 34, Township

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151 34 S., Range 20 E., then Easterly along the section
152 lines to the Northeast corner of Section 36, Township
153 34 S., Range 21 E., then Northerly along the section
154 line to the Northwest corner of Section 31, Township
155 34 S., Range 22 E., the Easterly along the section
156 lines to the Northeast corner of Section 36, Township
157 34 S., Range 22 E., then Southerly along the Eastern
158 Manatee County line to the Point of Beginning.

159

160 Section 2. This act shall take effect October 1, 2021.