

1 A bill to be entitled
 2 An act relating to Okaloosa Gas District, Okaloosa,
 3 Santa Rosa, and Walton Counties; amending ch. 2000-
 4 443, Laws of Florida; revising the territorial limits
 5 and area of service of the district to include all of
 6 Santa Rosa County and all of Walton County; providing
 7 an exception; revising the membership of the Board of
 8 Directors to include one member appointed by each of
 9 the Board of County Commissioners of Santa Rosa and
 10 Walton Counties; revising the director's fee for each
 11 meeting attended by a member of the Board of
 12 Directors; providing an effective date.

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

15
 16 Section 1. Sections 3 and 8 of section 2 of chapter 2000-
 17 443, Laws of Florida, are amended to read:

18 Section 3. Area of service.—The territorial limits and
 19 area of service of the District shall be Okaloosa County,
 20 Florida, and the following described areas in Santa Rosa County,
 21 Florida, and Walton County, Florida, to-wit:

22 (1) In Santa Rosa County, all of Santa Rosa County ~~an area~~
 23 ~~20 miles wide,~~ extending from the eastern boundary of Santa Rosa
 24 County, to the western boundary of said county, ~~the center line~~
 25 ~~of which shall be the presently existing transmission line of~~

26 | ~~the District,~~ excepting, however, from the above described area
 27 | of Santa Rosa County:

28 | (a) The area within the corporate limits of the Town of
 29 | Milton and the surrounding territory presently served by the gas
 30 | distribution system of said town;

31 | (b) The area adjacent to State Highway 87 (Brewton
 32 | Highway) from the intersection of said highway and the
 33 | transmission line of the District northerly along said highway
 34 | for a distance of 2 miles;

35 | (c) The area adjacent to the New Chumuckla Highway from
 36 | the intersection of said highway and State Highway 87 (Brewton
 37 | Highway) westerly along said New Chumuckla Highway for a
 38 | distance of 2 miles; ~~and~~

39 | (d) The area adjacent to said Highway and the transmission
 40 | line of the District east of Milton, in a westerly direction
 41 | along said Highway 90 to the corporate limits of the Town of
 42 | Milton;~~-~~

43 | (e) The area within the corporate limits of the City of
 44 | Gulf Breeze and the area from the eastern boundary of the
 45 | corporate limits of the City of Gulf Breeze extending easterly
 46 | approximately 11 miles to the line defined as the eastern
 47 | boundary of Sections 4, 9, 16, 21 and 28 of Township 2 South,
 48 | Range 27 West, which extends north and south from Santa Rosa
 49 | Sound to East Bay;

50 | (f) The area from the line defined as the eastern boundary

51 of Sections 4, 9, 16, 21 and 28 of Township 2 South, Range 27
52 West, which extends north and south from Santa Rosa Sound to
53 East Bay, and extending easterly to the line starting at the
54 intersection US Highway 98 and Shannon Drive, going due south to
55 Santa Rosa Sound, thence turning due north continuing to Manatee
56 Road; thence turning west until the intersection of Basswood
57 Drive; thence turning north until intersecting the Tom King
58 Bayou tributary south of Cove Road; thence following this branch
59 northwest to Tom King Bayou, thence north to East Bay is
60 presently claimed as a service area by the District and by the
61 City of Gulf Breeze and shall not be deemed to be included or
62 excluded as a service area for the District. The service rights
63 for this area shall be determined by a final nonappealable order
64 of the Florida Public Service Commission or any successor
65 agency; and

66 (g) The area within the corporate limits of the Town of
67 Jay and the existing customers presently served by the gas
68 distribution system of said town.

69 (2) In Walton County, all of Walton County extending from
70 the eastern boundary of Walton County to the western boundary of
71 said county, excepting, however, from the above described area
72 of Walton County, the area within the corporate limits of the
73 City of DeFuniak Springs and the existing customers presently
74 served by the gas distribution system of said city ~~the area~~
75 shall be all of that portion of Walton County lying south of

76 | ~~Highway 20 and 10 miles north of Highway 20.~~

77 |
 78 | The District may acquire a supply of gas either within or
 79 | without the District's territorial limits and area of service
 80 | and may transport and transmit gas from the point of such
 81 | acquisition to the system or systems of the District. The
 82 | District may also sell and transport gas for delivery beyond the
 83 | territorial limits and area of service of the District and
 84 | acquire, finance, operate, maintain, extend, and improve gas
 85 | transmission lines, laterals, and facilities beyond the
 86 | territorial limits and area of service of the District for such
 87 | purposes and also for the purpose of making direct sales to
 88 | industrial and institutional users and to line tap commercial
 89 | and residential users, but the District shall not acquire,
 90 | construct, own, or operate any gas distribution system in any
 91 | area other than within Santa Rosa, Okaloosa, or Walton Counties
 92 | ~~the territorial limits and area of service of the District as~~
 93 | ~~provided in this section, unless authorized by special act of~~
 94 | ~~the Legislature to do so.~~

95 | Section 8. The Board of Directors.—The District shall have
 96 | a Board of Directors, consisting of one member of each member
 97 | municipality and one member appointed by the Board of County
 98 | Commissioners of Okaloosa, Santa Rosa, and Walton Counties
 99 | ~~County~~, to represent the interest of the unincorporated areas
 100 | and the interest of the nonmember cities. The member for each

101 member municipality shall be appointed by the governing body of
 102 such member municipality and the Board of County Commissioners
 103 of the respective counties ~~Okaloosa County~~ shall appoint one
 104 member from each county. The member shall serve for a term of 4
 105 years and until his or her successor is appointed in like manner
 106 and qualified. Appointments to fill a vacancy shall be for the
 107 unexpired term. The representative of each municipality may, but
 108 need not be, the mayor or chief executive officer of such
 109 municipality and the member appointed by the Board of County
 110 Commissioners ~~of Okaloosa County~~ may, but need not be, an
 111 elected official, except and provided that no member of the
 112 Board of County Commissioners ~~of Okaloosa County~~ shall serve in
 113 such capacity. The members of the Board of Directors shall serve
 114 without compensation, except that they shall be reimbursed for
 115 actual expenses incurred in and about the performance of their
 116 duties thereunder and, at the discretion of the Board of
 117 Directors, they may be paid a director's fee of not exceeding
 118 \$244 ~~\$25~~ for each directors' meeting attended by them, not
 119 exceeding one meeting during each calendar month. The appointing
 120 authority may remove any member of the Board of Directors within
 121 the term for which such member shall have been appointed for
 122 malfeasance or misfeasance in office or other just cause after
 123 giving to such member a copy of the charges against him or her
 124 and an opportunity to be heard in his or her defense.

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