

26 (2) Members of the commission ~~so appointed~~ shall annually
27 select one of their members as chair. The ~~Such~~ chair may be
28 removed at any time for sufficient cause, by the affirmative
29 vote of the majority of the members of the commission. If in
30 ~~ease~~ the ~~said~~ office of chair becomes vacant by removal or
31 otherwise, it ~~the same~~ may be filled for the unexpired term at
32 any time by the commission from its members.

33 (3) (a) To ensure statewide representation, one member
34 shall reside full-time within each of the five regions
35 established by the commission. The five regions are as follows:

- 36 1. Northwest Region.
- 37 2. North Central Region.
- 38 3. Northeast Region.
- 39 4. Southwest Region.
- 40 5. South Region.

41 (b) The remaining two members shall be appointed as at-
42 large members, representing the state as a whole.

43 (4) (a) Each regional member must reside full-time within
44 the boundaries of his or her respective region at the time of
45 appointment and throughout his or her term of service.

46 (b) The at-large members are not subject to regional
47 residency requirements but must be residents of this state.

48 (5) (a) Members shall serve staggered terms of 5 years.

49 (b) A vacancy occurring during the term of a member shall
50 be filled in the same manner as the original appointment and for

51 the remainder of the unexpired term.

52 (c) A vacancy for a regional member may not be filled by
53 an individual who resides in the same region as a sitting
54 regional member.

55 (6) (a) The commission is authorized to take all necessary
56 actions to define the geographic boundaries of the five regions.

57 (b) The Governor shall ensure compliance with this section
58 when appointing members to the commission.

59 (7) ~~(3)~~ Commission members shall receive no compensation
60 for their services as such, but shall be reimbursed for travel
61 expenses as provided in s. 112.061.

62 **Section 3. Subsection (1) and paragraph (a) of subsection**
63 **(2) of section 379.3311, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:**

64 379.3311 Police powers of commission and its agents.—

65 (1) The commission, the executive director and the
66 executive director's assistants designated by her or him, and
67 each commission officer are constituted peace officers with the
68 power to make arrests for violations of the laws of this state
69 when committed in the presence of the officer or when committed
70 on lands under the supervision and management of the commission,
71 the department, the Board of Trustees of the Internal
72 Improvement Trust Fund, or the Department of Agriculture and
73 Consumer Services, including state parks, coastal and aquatic
74 managed areas, and greenways and trails. The general laws
75 applicable to arrests by peace officers of this state shall also

76 | be applicable to such director, assistants, and commission
77 | officers. Such persons may enter upon any land or waters of the
78 | state in the same manner and subject to the same requirements as
79 | a law enforcement officer as defined in s. 943.10(1) for
80 | performance of their lawful duties and may take with them any
81 | necessary equipment, and such entry does not constitute a
82 | trespass.

83 | (2) Such officers may enforce throughout the state all
84 | laws relating to game, nongame birds, fish, and fur-bearing
85 | animals and all rules and regulations of the commission relating
86 | to wild animal life, marine life, and freshwater aquatic life,
87 | and in connection with such laws, rules, and regulations, in the
88 | enforcement thereof and in the performance of their duties
89 | thereunder, to:

90 | (a) Go upon all premises in the same manner and subject to
91 | the same requirements as a law enforcement officer as defined in
92 | s. 943.10(1), ~~posted or otherwise;~~

93 | **Section 4.** This act shall take effect July 1, 2025.