

1 A bill to be entitled

2 An act relating to the North Springs Improvement District, Broward  
 3 County; amending ch. 2005-341, Laws of Florida, as amended;  
 4 providing an exception to general law; requiring that the board of  
 5 supervisors be elected by the qualified electors of the district;  
 6 providing a definition; providing an effective date.

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

8 Section 1. Subsections (1), (2), and (9) of section 5 of section 3 of chapter 2005-  
 9 341, Laws of Florida, as amended, are amended to read:

10 Section 5. Board; election; organization; terms of office; quorum; report and  
 11 minutes.—

12 (1) The board of the district shall be the governing body of the district and shall  
 13 exercise the powers granted to the district under this act and under chapter 298, Florida  
 14 Statutes. The board shall consist of three members and, except as otherwise provided  
 15 herein, each member shall hold office for a term of 4 years and until his or her successor  
 16 shall be chosen and shall qualify. ~~A majority of the members of the board shall be residents~~  
 17 ~~of Broward County, and all members shall be residents of the state. All members of the~~  
 18 ~~board shall be landowners within the district.~~

19 ~~(2) — In the month of June of each fourth year commencing June of 1972, there~~  
 20 ~~shall be held a meeting of the landowners of the district at the office of the district in Broward~~  
 21 ~~County, for the purpose of electing three supervisors for said district. One supervisor shall~~  
 22 ~~be elected solely by those landowners owning property within the city limits of the City of~~  
 23 ~~Parkland, and this supervisor must be a landowner who owns property within the city limits~~  
 24 ~~of the City of Parkland. One supervisor shall be elected solely by those landowners owning~~  
 25 ~~property within the city limits of the City of Coral Springs, and this supervisor must be a~~  
 26 ~~landowner who owns property within the city limits of the City of Coral Springs. One~~  
 27 ~~supervisor shall be elected at large by all landowners of the district, regardless of where his~~  
 28 ~~or her property is located. Candidates for each supervisor position will be nominated during~~  
 29 ~~the meeting of landowners, and the nominee who receives the highest number of votes for a~~  
 30 ~~supervisor position shall be declared elected. Notice of said landowners' meeting shall be~~  
 31 ~~published once a week for 2 consecutive weeks in a newspaper in Broward County which is~~  
 32 ~~in general circulation within the district, the last of said publication to be not less than 14~~  
 33 ~~days nor more than 28 days before the date of the election. The landowners when assembled~~  
 34 ~~at such meeting shall organize by electing a chair that shall conduct the meeting. At such~~  
 35 ~~meeting each landowner shall be entitled to cast one vote per acre of land owned by him or~~

36 ~~her and located within the district. A landowner may vote in person or by proxy in writing.~~  
 37 ~~Fractions of an acre shall be treated as 1 acre, entitling the landowner to one vote with respect~~  
 38 ~~thereto.~~

39 (9) (a) ~~The board of supervisors may, upon vote of a majority of the board,~~  
 40 ~~determine to convert to a board of supervisors elected by the qualified electors of the~~  
 41 ~~district. Upon the call of an election for such purpose by the board as provided in paragraph~~  
 42 ~~(b), election of the board by the qualified electors shall thereafter be the exclusive method~~  
 43 ~~for the election of the members of the board of supervisors.~~

44 (a) ~~(b)~~ Notwithstanding any provision of law to the contrary, the board of supervisors  
 45 shall be elected by the qualified electors of the district. Election of the board by the qualified  
 46 electors of the district shall be the exclusive method for the election of the members of the  
 47 board of supervisors. Upon the vote of the board of supervisors pursuant to paragraph (a),  
 48 The board shall call an election at which the members of the board of supervisors will be  
 49 elected. Such election shall be held in conjunction with the next general election in  
 50 November. Candidates may qualify for the offices of board of supervisors seat 1, seat 2,  
 51 and seat 3, each elected at large within the district. A candidate qualifying for election to  
 52 seat 1 must be an elector and resident of the City of Parkland. A candidate qualifying for  
 53 election to seat 2 must be an elector and resident of the City of Coral Springs. A candidate  
 54 qualifying for seat 3 must be an elector and resident of the district. Each board member  
 55 shall be elected by the qualified electors of the district for a term of 4 years, except that, at  
 56 the first such election, the two members elected to seat 1 and seat 2 shall be elected for a  
 57 term of 4 years, and the member elected to seat 3 shall be elected for a term of 2 years.  
 58 Thereafter, there shall be an election held every 2 years for expiring terms and all member  
 59 shall be elected for terms of 4 years each. The candidate receiving the most votes for each  
 60 seat shall be elected. All elected board members must be qualified electors of the district.

61 (b) Members of the board of supervisors as of October 1, 2023, shall serve until  
 62 the certification of the November 2024 general election results.

63 (c) The terms “qualified elector” and “elector” mean any person at least 18  
 64 years of age who is a citizen of the United States, a permanent resident of Florida, and a  
 65 resident of the district who registers with the supervisor of election of the county in which  
 66 the district lands are located when the registration books are open.

67 (d) ~~(e)~~ Elections of board members by qualified electors held pursuant to this

68 subsection shall be nonpartisan and shall be conducted in the manner prescribed by law for  
 69 holding general elections. Board members shall assume the office on the second Tuesday  
 70 following their election.

71 (e) ~~(d)~~ Candidates seeking election to office by qualified electors under this  
 72 subsection shall conduct their campaigns in accordance with the provisions of chapter 106,  
 73 Florida Statutes, and shall file qualifying papers and qualify for individual seats in  
 74 accordance with section 99.061, Florida Statutes. Candidates shall pay a qualifying fee,  
 75 which shall consist of a filing fee and election assessment or, as an alternative, shall file a  
 76 petition signed by not less than 1 percent of the qualified electors of the district, and take  
 77 the oath required in section 99.021, Florida Statutes, with the Supervisor of Elections of  
 78 Broward County. The amount of the filing fee is 3 percent of \$4,800. The amount of the  
 79 election assessment is 1 percent of \$4,800. The filing fee and election assessment shall be  
 80 distributed as provided in section 105.031 (3), Florida  
 81 Statutes.

82 (f) ~~(e)~~ The Supervisor of Elections of Broward County shall appoint the inspectors  
 83 and clerks of elections, prepare and furnish the ballots, designate polling places, and  
 84 canvass the returns of the election of board members by qualified electors. The county  
 85 canvassing board shall declare and certify the results of the election.

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

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