

Senate Bill No. 2670

An act relating to Citrus County Mosquito Control District; codifying the district charter; re-creating the district as an independent special district; providing for a board of commissioners; providing for elections; providing boundaries; providing for construction; providing for repeal of special acts; providing for severability; providing an effective date.

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

Section 1. Chapter 61-1997, Laws of Florida, as amended, is codified, reenacted, amended, and repealed as herein provided.

Section 2. The Citrus County Mosquito Control District is re-created and reenacted to read:

Section 1. Creation and intent.—Upon this act becoming law, the creation of Citrus County Mosquito Control District as an independent special district pursuant to chapter 390, Florida Statutes, (1951) shall be ratified and confirmed. It is further the intent of the Legislature in enacting this law to provide a single, codified, comprehensive special act charter for the district in accordance with section 189.429, Florida Statutes. The district shall operate pursuant to this special act and the provisions of chapter 388, Florida Statutes, as it may be amended from time to time, and all other general laws applicable to independent special districts. It is the intent of this act to preserve all existing district authority as it may be modified pursuant to the provisions of chapter 388, Florida Statutes, this act, and applicable general laws.

Section 2. Minimum charter requirements.—In accordance with section 189.404(3), Florida Statutes, the following subsections shall constitute the charter of Citrus County Mosquito Control District:

(a) The district is organized and exists for all purposes set forth in this act and chapter 388, Florida Statutes, as they may be amended from time to time.

(b) The powers, functions, and duties of the district regarding ad valorem taxation, bond issuance, other revenue-raising capabilities, budget preparation and approval, liens and foreclosure of liens, use of tax deeds and tax certificates as appropriate for non-ad valorem assessments, and contractual agreements shall be as set forth in chapters 170, 189, 197, and 388, Florida Statutes, this act, or any other applicable general or special law, as they may be amended from time to time.

(c) The district was created by the petition process formerly contained in chapter 390, Florida Statutes (1951).

(d) The district's charter may be amended only by special act of the Legislature.

(e) In accordance with chapter 388.101, Florida Statutes, the district is governed by a three-member board. The membership and organization of the board shall be as set forth in this act and chapter 388, Florida Statutes, as they may be amended from time to time.

(f) The compensation of board members shall be governed by this act and chapter 388, Florida Statutes, as they may be amended from time to time.

(g) The administrative duties of the board of commissioners shall be as set forth in this act and chapter 388, Florida Statutes, as they may be amended from time to time.

(h) Requirements for financial disclosure, meeting notices, reporting, public records maintenance, and per diem expenses for officers and employees shall be as set forth in chapters 112, 189, 286, and 388, Florida Statutes, as they may be amended from time to time.

(i) The procedures and requirements governing the issuance of bonds, notes, and other evidence of indebtedness by the district shall be as set forth in chapters 189 and 388, Florida Statutes, and applicable general laws, as they may be amended from time to time.

(j) The procedures for conducting district elections and for qualification of electors shall be pursuant to chapters 189 and 388, Florida Statutes, and applicable general laws as they may be amended from time to time.

(k) The district may be financed by any method established in this act, chapters 189 and 388, Florida Statutes, or any applicable general laws, as they may be amended from time to time.

(l) In accordance with section 388.221, Florida Statutes, the district may continue to levy upon all of the personal and real taxable property in the district a special tax not exceeding 10 mills on the dollar during each year as maintenance tax.

(m) The method for collecting non-ad valorem assessments, fees, service charges, or state matching funds shall be as set forth in chapters 170, 197, and 388, Florida Statutes, as they may be amended from time to time.

(n) The district's planning requirements shall be as set forth in chapters 189 and 388, Florida Statutes, as they may be amended from time to time.

(o) The district's geographic boundary limitations shall be the same as those established for Citrus County in section 7.09, Florida Statutes:

The boundary lines of Citrus County are as follows: Beginning at a point in the thread or center of the Withlacoochee River on the section line dividing sections twelve and thirteen, township twenty-one south, range twenty east; thence on said line west to the southwest corner of section nine, township twenty-one south, range nineteen east; thence north on said section line to township line dividing townships twenty and twenty-one south; thence west on said township line to the Gulf of Mexico; thence north along said gulf, including all islands along said gulf coast, and including the waters of said gulf within the jurisdiction of the

State of Florida, to the most southern outlet of the Withlacoochee River at its mouth, leaving out all the islands in the mouth of said river; thence easterly along the thread of said river to the point of beginning, including all the lands and islands which said river line may enclose.

Section 3. Chapter 59-693, Laws of Florida, Chapter 61-1997, Laws of Florida, and chapter 63-1221, Laws of Florida, are hereby repealed 10 days after the effective date of this act.

Section 4. The provisions of this act shall be liberally construed in order to effectively carry out the purposes of this act in the interest of the public health, welfare, and safety of the citizens served by the district.

Section 5. It is declared to be the intent of the Legislature that if any section, subsection, sentence, clause, phrase, or portion of this act is for any reason held invalid or unconstitutional by any court of competent jurisdiction, such portion shall be deemed a separate, distinct, and independent provision, and such holding shall not affect the validity of the remaining portions hereof.

Section 6. In the event of a conflict of the provisions of this act with the provisions of any other act, the provisions of this act shall control to the extent of such conflict.

Section 7. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law.

Approved by the Governor May 26, 1999.

Filed in Office Secretary of State May 26, 1999.