

## House Bill No. 1611

An act relating to the Greater Seminole Area Special Recreation District, Pinellas County; providing for codification of special laws relating to the district; providing legislative intent; codifying, reenacting, and amending chapters 80-584, 84-515, 84-516, 86-445, 88-445, Laws of Florida; describing district boundaries; providing for the district commissioners, their appointment and powers; repealing chapters 80-584, 84-515, 84-516, 86-445, 88-445, Laws of Florida; providing for liberal construction; providing for severability; providing an effective date.

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

Section 1. Pursuant to section 189.429, Florida Statutes, this act constitutes the codification of all special acts relating to the Greater Seminole Area Special Recreation District, an independent special district and public corporation of the state. It is the intent of the Legislature in enacting this law to provide a single, comprehensive special act charter for the district, including all current legislative authority granted to the district by its several enactments and any additional authority granted by this act.

Section 2. Chapters 80-584, 84-515, 84-516, 86-445, and 88-445, Laws of Florida, are codified, reenacted, amended, and repealed as provided in this act.

Section 3. The Greater Seminole Area Special Recreation District is re-created, and the charter for the district is re-created and reenacted to read:

Section 1. All of the lands hereinafter described shall be part of an independent special recreational district, a public corporation, having the powers and duties herein set forth under the name of Greater Seminole Area Special Recreation District. The land so to be incorporated being described as follows:

All lands and territory lying within the boundaries as set forth below:

From a point at the intersection of the center lines of County Road 595A, a/k/a 113th Street N. and Duhme Road, and Florida 694, a/k/a Walsingham Road, as a POB (point of beginning); run westerly along said center line of Florida 694, a/k/a Walsingham Road, to the center line of Boca Ciega Bay; thence run south and southeasterly along a said center line of Boca Ciega Bay to a point where, if extended, the center line of 54th Avenue N. would intersect with the center line of Boca Ciega Bay; thence run easterly to a point where, if extended, the center line of 54th Avenue N. would intersect with the center line of Long Bayou; thence run northwesterly and north along the center line of Long Bayou and Lake Seminole to a point where, if extended, the center line of 122nd Avenue North would intersect with the center line of Lake Seminole; thence westerly along the center line of 122nd

Avenue North until its intersection with the center line of County Road 595A, a/k/a 113th Street North and Duhme Road; thence southerly along the center line of County Road 595A, a/k/a 113th Street North and Duhme Road, to the POB or the point where the center line of the County Road 595A, a/k/a 113th Street North and Duhme Road, intersects with the center line of Florida 694, a/k/a Walsingham Road, all in Pinellas County, Florida. However, any portion of the current boundaries of the City of Largo are excluded.

Section 2. The business and affairs of the district shall be conducted and administered by a board of seven commissioners who, upon their qualification, shall serve for a period of 4 years.

Section 3. Such seven commissioners shall serve for terms of 4 years each and shall be appointed as follows: five commissioners shall be appointed by the Board of County Commissioners of Pinellas County, two in 1988 and three in 1990 and every 4 years subsequent thereto, and two commissioners shall be appointed by the City Council of the City of Seminole, one in 1988 and one in 1990 and every 4 years subsequent thereto. Any commissioner may be appointed to succeed himself or herself. All commissioners shall be registered voters residing within the district and shall have resided within the district for at least 1 year prior to appointment. If any commissioner shall cease to reside anywhere within the district or fails to attend at least 50 percent of the duly called commissioners meetings in any one fiscal year, his or her office shall be declared vacant and he or she shall be disqualified from further service. The appropriate appointing entity shall within 60 days of such vacancy appoint a successor to fill any unexpired term in the office of any commissioner.

Section 4. The district, by and through its commissioners, may enter into a management contract with any association or organization whose programs are intended to serve the recreational needs of the residents of the district.

Section 5. Pursuant to referendum approval by the voters of the district, the district had the right, power and authority to levy ad valorem taxes not to exceed one-half mill against the taxable real estate situated in the district. Such levy was for 3 years only. Property taxes determined and levied under this section were certified to the County Property Appraiser and extended, assessed, and collected in like manner as provided by law for regular property taxes for the county and municipalities. The proceeds under this section were remitted by the County Tax Collector to the Board of Commissioners of the district for use in accomplishing the purposes of this act.

Section 6. The district may acquire, hold title to, divest itself of, and lease real and personal property within, adjacent to, or contiguous to the district.

Section 7. The funds derived from the tax provided in this act were used for the purchase of that parcel of real property owned by the Board of Public Instruction of Pinellas County, Florida, and leased by the Seminole Youth Athletic Association or its successor and further described as Parcel No. 606, Pinellas Farms, located in the south ½, 21-30-15, Pinellas County, Florida, and further described as follows:

The South ½ of the northeast ¼ of southwest ¼ of Section 21, Township 30 South, Range 15 East, less the east sixty (60) feet thereof conveyed to Tampa and Gulf Coast Railroad Company for railroad right-of-way, Pinellas County, Florida.

Section 8. The proceeds of the tax and the funds of the district shall be deposited in the name of the district in a bank authorized to receive deposits of county funds, which bank shall be designated by a resolution of the board of commissioners. The designation of the bank and deposit of funds therein shall be by the exercise of due care and diligence on the part of the board of commissioners for the safekeeping of funds. Funds of the district may be disbursed only by check. The board of commissioners, as mentioned in this act, shall not have any power and authority to borrow money for the purposes of the district.

Section 9. All funds derived from the tax described herein shall be used solely for the purchase of that parcel of real estate described in Section 7, including any legal or other expenses incident thereto. Surplus funds after the purchase of such parcel of land may not be used for any purposes other than the administration of the affairs and business of the district, including the construction, care, maintenance, upkeep and operation of any recreational land and facilities as the board may determine to be in the best interest of the district. The Board of Commissioners shall not influence the finances of any existing recreational organization or association.

Section 10. The board shall handle duties usually pertaining to, vested in, and encumbered upon like officers. A record shall be kept of all meetings of the board, and in such meetings the concurrence of a majority of the board members shall be necessary to any affirmative action by the board. The board may adopt such rules and regulations as it may deem necessary in and about the transaction of its business and in carrying out the provisions of this act.

Section 11. The special recreation district shall exist until dissolved by law.

Section 12. The word “district” means the special recreation district hereby organized, and the words “board” and “board of commissioners” mean the board of commissioners of and for the special recreation district hereby created, when used in this act, unless otherwise specified.

Section 13. The provisions of this act shall be liberally construed to effect the business of this act.

Section 4. Chapters 80-584, 84-515, 84-516, 86-445, and 88-445, Laws of Florida, are repealed.

Section 5. This act shall be construed as remedial and shall be liberally construed to promote the purpose for which it is intended.

Section 6. If any provision of this act or its application to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the invalidity does not affect other provisions or applications of the act which can be given effect without the invalid

provision or application, and to this end the provisions of this act are declared severable.

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

Approved by the Governor June 10, 2003.

Filed in Office Secretary of State June 10, 2003.