

## CHAPTER 2022-233

### House Bill No. 497

An act relating to the Lee County School District, Lee County; providing legislative findings; repealing the Lee County School Board resolution which provides for an appointed superintendent of schools; providing for an elected superintendent of schools; providing for a referendum; providing effective dates.

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

Section 1. Legislative findings.—The Legislature finds that on June 11, 1974, the Lee County School Board adopted a resolution to change the position of the Lee County Superintendent of Schools from an elected position to a position appointed by the Lee County School Board and that said resolution was approved by vote of the electors during the November 5, 1974, general election.

Section 2. Repeal of resolution.—Pursuant to Section 5, Article IX of the State Constitution, the resolution of the Lee County School Board dated June 11, 1974, described in section 1 of this act, is repealed. The Lee County Superintendent of Schools shall be elected in a partisan election to a term of 4 years by vote of the qualified electors residing in Lee County, beginning with the general election in 2024.

Section 3. Referendum election.—

(1) The referendum election called for by this act shall be held on November 8, 2022, the 2022 General Election.

(2) The ballot title for the referendum question shall be in substantially the following form:

REPEALING RESOLUTION PROVIDING FOR AN APPOINTED, RATHER THAN AN ELECTED, SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS.

(3) The referendum question shall be placed on the ballot in substantially the following form:

Currently, by resolution of the Lee County School Board, the Superintendent of Schools for the Lee County School District is an appointed, rather than an elected, position. Shall Chapter 2022- , Laws of Florida, which repeals the aforesaid resolution and provides that the Superintendent of Schools shall no longer be appointed by the Lee County School Board, but rather shall be elected in a partisan election by vote of qualified electors residing in Lee County for a term of 4 years, beginning with the 2024 general election, become effective?

( ) Yes.

( ) No.

(4) In the event this question is answered affirmatively by a majority of the qualified electors voting in the referendum, the resolution shall be repealed. The referendum election shall be conducted by the Supervisor of Elections of Lee County in accordance with the Florida Election Code.

Section 4. This act shall take effect upon its approval by a majority vote of the qualified electors of Lee County voting in a referendum conducted in accordance with the provisions of law relating to elections currently in force, except this section and section 3 shall take effect upon becoming a law.

Approved by the Governor May 3, 2022.

Filed in Office Secretary of State May 3, 2022.