

CHAPTER 2022-257

Committee Substitute for House Bill No. 1493

An act relating to Alachua County; amending the Alachua County Home Rule Charter to require the election of county commissioners in single-member districts; providing for a referendum; providing effective dates.

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

Section 1. Section 2.2(A) of Article II of the Alachua County Home Rule Charter is amended to read:

Sec. 2.2. - Legislative branch.

A. The county commission. The governing body of the county shall be a board of county commissioners composed of five (5) members serving staggered terms of four (4) years. There shall be one (1) commissioner for each of the five (5) county commission districts established pursuant to general law and they shall be elected by the qualified electors of that district ~~on a countywide basis by the electors of the county~~. Each candidate for the office of county commissioner shall reside within the district from which such candidate seeks election at the time of qualifying to run for that office, and during the term of office each commissioner shall reside in the district from which such commissioner ran for office, provided that any commissioner who is removed from a district by redistricting may continue to serve during the balance of the term of office.

Section 2. 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:

AMENDING THE COUNTY CHARTER TO PROVIDE FOR COUNTY COMMISSIONER ELECTIONS IN SINGLE-MEMBER DISTRICTS

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

Shall the five members of the board of county commissioners of Alachua County, Florida, be elected to office from single-member districts by electors residing in each of those districts only?

() YES.

() NO.

(4) In the event this question is answered affirmatively by a majority of the qualified electors voting in the referendum, the charter amendment will take effect. The referendum election shall be conducted by the Supervisor of Elections of Alachua County in accordance with the Florida Election Code.

Section 3. This act shall take effect upon its approval by a majority vote of the qualified electors of Alachua County voting in a referendum conducted in accordance with the provisions of law relating to elections currently in force, except this section and section 2 shall take effect upon becoming a law.

Approved by the Governor June 20, 2022.

Filed in Office Secretary of State June 20, 2022.