

## CHAPTER 2025-222

### Committee Substitute for House Bill No. 4001

An act relating to Lee County; amending the Lee County Home Rule Charter to provide requirements for single-member districts; requiring a referendum; providing effective dates.

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

Section 1. Subsection A. of section 2.2 of Article II of the Lee County Home Rule Charter is amended to read:

#### Section 2.2: Legislative Branch

A. The County Commission Composition, Election and Terms of Members

##### (1) Composition and Election

(a) 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 Commissioner for each of the five (5) County Commission districts established pursuant to general law and they shall be elected in a partisan election on a county-wide basis by the electors of the County. Each County Commissioner during the term of office shall reside in the district from which such County Commissioner ran for office, provided that any County Commissioner who is removed from a district by redistricting may continue to serve during the balance of the term of office.

##### (b) Beginning with the 2028 general election:

1. The Board of County Commissioners shall be composed of five (5) members elected in single-member districts serving staggered terms of four (4) years.

2. The conversion of electoral method from at large to single-member districts shall not alter the preexisting staggering of terms, such that the term of office for the Commissioners serving in Districts 2 and 4 will continue until the 2030 general election.

##### (2) Terms of County Commissioners

No Commissioner shall serve more than three (3) consecutive terms on the Board. No previous term in office which is in progress as of November 2014 shall be considered a term of service for purposes of the limitations contained herein.

#### Section 2. Referendum election.—

(1) A referendum on the adoption of section 1 of this act shall be held on November 3, 2026, the 2026 general election.

(2) The ballot title for the referendum question shall be in substantially the following form: "REFERENDUM PROVIDING FOR THE STRUCTURE OF THE COUNTY LEGISLATIVE BRANCH."

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

Shall Chapter 2025- , Laws of Florida, which amends the Lee County Home Rule Charter to provide that, beginning with the 2028 general election, the Board of County Commissioners shall be composed of five members elected in single-member districts, become effective?

( ) YES.

( ) NO.

(4) The referendum shall be conducted by the Supervisor of Elections of Lee County in accordance with the Florida Election Code.

Section 3. This act shall take effect only upon its approval by a majority vote of those qualified electors of Lee County voting in a referendum to be held in conjunction with the 2026 general election, except that this section and section 2 shall take effect upon becoming a law.

Approved by the Governor June 11, 2025.

Filed in Office Secretary of State June 11, 2025.