

## Senate Bill No. 1636

An act relating to Hillsborough County; amending section 18 of chapter 96-519, Laws of Florida, relating to the Civil Service Act; deleting provisions that prohibit a classified employee from serving in an elected public office; authorizing such service in the absence of a conflict in the performance of duties or a conflict of interest; requiring that the appointing authority determine whether any such conflict exists; authorizing a classified employee to file a grievance or appeal if the employee disagrees with a finding relating to a conflict in the performance of duties; providing an effective date.

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

Section 1. Section 18 of chapter 96-519, Laws of Florida, is amended to read:

Section 18. Restriction on individual qualifying for public office.—No subordinate personnel need resign upon qualifying for any compensated, elected public office unless such individual is seeking to qualify for a public office which is currently held by an individual who has the authority to appoint, employ, promote, or otherwise supervise that subordinate personnel and who has qualified as a candidate for reelection to that public office. No subordinate personnel of the county administrator need resign upon qualifying for any compensated, elected public office unless such individual is seeking to qualify for a position on the board of county commissioners in which the incumbent has qualified as a candidate for reelection. However, any such personnel shall take a leave of absence without pay from employment during the period in which the person is seeking election to public office. A classified employee may serve in an elected public office if service in such elected office does not conflict with the performance of the employee's duties in the classified service or present a conflict of interest between the elected office and the classified position. If a classified employee is elected, the appointing authority where that employee is employed shall determine whether the employee's service in public office conflicts with the performance of his or her duties with the appointing authority. If the employee disagrees with any finding that relates to a conflict with the performance of duties, the employee may file a grievance or appeal under the applicable processes. Employment in the classified service shall terminate upon election to any compensated, elected public office.

Section 2. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law.

Approved by the Governor June 11, 1999.

Filed in Office Secretary of State June 11, 1999.