

1 A bill to be entitled

2 An act relating to the South Indian River Water Control  
3 District, Palm Beach County; amending sections (1) and (2)  
4 of Section 3 of Section 3 of Chapter 2001-313, Laws of  
5 Florida relating to Board of Supervisors elections,  
6 referenda and tabulation of votes; Providing for an  
7 effective date.

8 Be it enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

9 Section 1. Sections (1) and (2) of Section 3 of Section (3) are deleted in their entirety and  
10 replaced by the following language:

11 Section 3. Board of Supervisors; elections.—

12 (1) The Board of Supervisors of the South Indian River Water Control District shall consist  
13 of five members. Members of the board shall be elected for three years. Beginning with  
14 the election of two members in 2016, one member to be elected shall reside west of Canal  
15 18 and one member shall reside east of Canal 18. In 2017, the member to be elected shall  
16 be a resident of the district. In 2018, one member to be elected shall reside west of Canal  
17 18 and one member shall reside east of Canal 18. Thereafter, two members of the board  
18 shall always reside east of Canal 18, two members shall reside west of Canal 18 and one  
19 member shall be elected at large. Beginning with the 2016 election, all candidates for the  
20 board must be landowners and residents of the district on the date of qualification and  
21 maintain ownership and residence through the term or terms of office served. Failure to  
22 maintain residency shall automatically disqualify a supervisor from serving on the board  
23 and the remaining members of the board shall by resolution remove the board member

24 and appoint a landowner resident of the district to serve the remainder of the disqualified  
25 supervisor's term. Residency status shall be determined by the addresses given on a  
26 supervisor's driver's license, voter registration card or other official identification which  
27 shall be submitted to the district manager at the time of qualification or requalification of  
28 a candidate for election to the Board. Any challenge to the continuing residency of a  
29 sitting board member shall be initiated by the challenger in the Circuit Court for Palm  
30 Beach County.

31 (2) For Board of Supervisors elections, and all referenda conducted by the district, the board  
32 shall appoint a forensic auditor to tabulate all ballots and report results to the Board of  
33 Supervisors as soon as practicable after the election. The forensic auditor appointed by  
34 the board shall not be otherwise employed by the District, any member of the Board or a  
35 resident of the District nor shall the auditor be related by blood or marriage to any board  
36 member or district resident.

37 (3) The forensic auditor will safeguard the tabulated ballots and any interested landowner  
38 may examine the ballots under the supervision of the auditor and a resident observer  
39 appointed by the board so that any landowner may have an opportunity to contest the  
40 election by filing objections with the Board of Supervisors concerning any ballot believed  
41 to be incorrect or improper. All objections must be filed with the board no later than one  
42 week from the date of the election. Any appeal of a Board decision shall be by certiorari  
43 to the Circuit Court for Palm Beach County.

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