

1 A bill to be entitled
 2 An act relating to the Tierra Verde Fire Control and
 3 Rescue District, Pinellas County; creating and
 4 establishing a fire control and rescue district;
 5 providing district boundaries; providing for a
 6 governing body; prescribing powers of the board;
 7 authorizing the board to establish and maintain
 8 emergency medical services and equipment; authorizing
 9 the board to adopt rules and regulations; providing
 10 procedures for adopting a budget; providing procedures
 11 for assessing and collecting ad valorem assessments;
 12 limiting the responsibility of the tax collector;
 13 providing for payment of expenses; requiring the
 14 treasurer to post a bond; requiring the district to
 15 enter into specified agreements; providing
 16 construction; requiring a referendum.

17
 18 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

19
 20 Section 1. Creation.—Notwithstanding any provision of
 21 chapter 189, Florida Statutes, to the contrary, there is
 22 established the Tierra Verde Fire Control and Rescue District,
 23 an independent special district, hereinafter referred to as the
 24 "district," which shall include the following described lands:
 25

26 A portion of fractional Sections 17, 18, 19, 20, 29,
 27 30, 31, and 32, Township 32 South, Range 16 East,
 28 together with submerged lands and together with
 29 unsurveyed lands, lying in Pinellas County, Florida,
 30 being described as follows:

31
 32 From the Southerly most corner of Lot 5, Block 23,
 33 TIERRA VERDE UNIT ONE, as recorded in Plat Book 57,
 34 Pages 42 through 55, Public Records of Pinellas
 35 County, Florida, as the Point of Commencement; thence
 36 North 30°52'53" East, along the East line of said
 37 Block 23 and the Northeasterly extension thereof,
 38 1,187.95 feet to a point on the center of the main
 39 ship channel of Boca Ciega Bay, the same being the
 40 City Limits of the City of St. Petersburg; thence
 41 along said main ship channel of Boca Ciega Bay and
 42 City Limits of the City of St. Petersburg the
 43 following two courses and distances, (1) North
 44 56°23'06" West 2,350.94 feet, (2) North 24°49'37" West
 45 459.96 feet to the intersection with the Pass-a-Grille
 46 Channel, the same being the City Limits of the City of
 47 St. Pete Beach, said point being the Point of
 48 Beginning; thence along the said Pass-a-Grille Channel
 49 and the City Limits of the City of St. Pete Beach, the
 50 following four courses and distances: (1) South
 51 49°04'05" West 2,741.70 feet, (2) South 38°55'13" West

52 1,201.77 feet, (3) South 21°58'42" West 1,202.38 feet,
 53 (4) South 11°52'59" East 2,549.64 feet; thence
 54 departing said Pass-a-Grille Channel and City Limits
 55 of the City of St. Pete Beach, South 10°50'24" East
 56 2,510.20 feet; thence South 48°30'09" East 740.07
 57 feet; thence South 03°49'00" West 2,557.86 feet;
 58 thence South 37°18'04" East 6,807.92 feet; thence
 59 North 88°30'47" East 173.30 feet, more or less to a
 60 point on the West line of the City Limits of the City
 61 of St. Petersburg; thence along said West line of the
 62 City Limits of the City of St. Petersburg North
 63 00°09'46" West 15,402.33 feet to a point on the
 64 aforesaid main ship channel of Boca Ciega Bay; thence
 65 along said main ship channel of Boca Ciega Bay
 66 continuing along the City Limits of the City of St.
 67 Petersburg, the following two courses and distances:
 68 (1) North 56°23'06" West 2,601.89 feet, (2) North
 69 24°49'37" West 459.96 feet to the Point of Beginning.
 70 Section 2. Governing body.—The district shall be governed
 71 by a board of fire commissioners, which shall consist of five
 72 resident electors of the district elected by a vote of the
 73 electors of the district pursuant to chapter 191, Florida
 74 Statutes.
 75 Section 3. Officers; powers.—Within 60 days after the
 76 election of members of the board, the members shall meet and
 77 elect from the membership a president, a secretary, and a

78 treasurer; provided, however, the same member may be both
79 secretary and treasurer. The district shall have and the board
80 may exercise those general and special powers prescribed by
81 chapter 191, Florida Statutes, or any other applicable general
82 or special law, as may be amended from time to time.

83 Section 4. Emergency medical and rescue response
84 services.—The Tierra Verde Fire Control and Rescue District is
85 authorized to establish and maintain emergency medical and
86 rescue response services and acquire and maintain rescue,
87 medical, and other emergency equipment, subject to the
88 provisions of chapter 401, Florida Statutes.

89 Section 5. Rules and regulations.—The board is authorized
90 to adopt rules and regulations for the prevention of fires, fire
91 control, and rescue work within the district. Such rules and
92 regulations, after being adopted by the board and copies thereof
93 signed by the president and the secretary, and posted on the
94 district website and in at least three public places within the
95 district, one of which must be the fire station or such similar
96 place wherein the firefighting and rescue equipment is normally
97 kept, after 10 days shall have the force and effect of law.

98 Section 6. Budget.—For the purposes of carrying into
99 effect this act, the board shall annually prepare, consider, and
100 adopt a district budget pursuant to the applicable requirements
101 of chapter 200, Florida Statutes, as may be amended from time to
102 time.

103 Section 7. Taxing authority.—The district board may fix
104 and cause to be levied on all taxable property of the district,
105 a millage sufficient to meet the requirements of the adopted
106 budget; provided, however, 2 mills is the maximum that can be
107 levied in any 1 year, as authorized herein.

108 Section 8. Assessment and collection of taxes.—Taxes
109 herein provided for shall be assessed and collected in the same
110 manner and form as provided for the assessment and collection of
111 county taxes.

112 Section 9. Tax collector's responsibility.—When such taxes
113 as provided for herein shall have been collected by the Tax
114 Collector of Pinellas County, he or she shall, on or before the
115 10th day of each month, report to the secretary of the board the
116 collections made for the preceding month and remit the same to
117 the treasurer of the board and take a receipt for the same from
118 the treasurer. Thereupon the tax collector shall be relieved
119 from all other and further liability as to the amount so paid to
120 the treasurer of the board.

121 Section 10. Expenses.—All warrants for the payment of
122 labor, equipment, and other expenses of the board, and in
123 carrying into effect this act and the purposes thereof, shall be
124 payable by the treasurer of the board on accounts and vouchers
125 approved and authorized by the board.

126 Section 11. Treasurer's bond.—The treasurer of the board,
127 when entering upon his or her duties, shall give a good and
128 sufficient bond to the Governor in the sum of \$5,000 for the

129 faithful performance of his or her duties as treasurer, the
130 premium for such bond to be paid from district funds.

131 Section 12. Emergency medical services; first responder
132 services.—The district shall enter into an agreement with the
133 Pinellas County Emergency Medical Services Authority for
134 automatic aid in the provision of emergency medical services and
135 first responder services. Such agreement shall comply with the
136 provisions of the Automatic Aid/Closest Unit Response Agreement
137 dated October 16, 1990. However, any agreement shall include
138 provisions for actual cost recovery by the district for first
139 responder services to Fort DeSoto Park.

140 Section 13. Automatic aid.—The district shall enter into
141 the Automatic Aid/Closest Unit Response Agreement dated October
142 16, 1990, within 1 year after this act takes effect.

143 Section 14. Construction.—This act shall be construed as
144 remedial and shall be liberally construed to promote the purpose
145 for which it is intended.

146 Section 15. This act shall take effect only upon its
147 approval by a majority vote of those qualified electors of the
148 Tierra Verde Fire Control and Rescue District, as described in
149 section 1, voting in a referendum to be held in accordance with
150 the provisions of law relating to elections currently in force,
151 except that this section shall take effect upon becoming a law.