1   A bill to be entitled

2   An act relating to North Springs Improvement District,

3   Broward County; amending ch. 2005-341, Laws of

4   Florida, as amended; providing an exception to general

5   law; requiring that the board of supervisors be

6   elected by the qualified electors of the district;

7   providing definitions; providing an effective date.

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

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11   Section 1. Section 5 of section 3 of chapter 2005-341,

12   Laws of Florida, as amended by chapter 2007-285, Laws of

13   Florida, is amended to read:

14   Section 5. Board; election; organization; terms of office;

15   quorum; report and minutes.—

16   (1) The board of the district shall be the governing body

17   of the district and shall exercise the powers granted to the

18   district under this act and under chapter 298, Florida Statutes.

19   The board shall consist of three members and, except as

20   otherwise provided herein, each member shall hold office for a

21   term of 4 years and until his or her successor shall be chosen

22   and shall qualify. A majority of the members of the board shall

23   be residents of Broward County, and all members shall be

24   residents of the state. All members of the board shall be

25   landowners within the district.

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26   (2) In the month of June of each fourth year commencing
27 June of 1972, there shall be held a meeting of the landowners of
28 the district at the office of the district in Broward County,
29 for the purpose of electing three supervisors for said district.
30 One supervisor shall be elected solely by those landowners
31 owning property within the city limits of the City of Parkland,
32 and this supervisor must be a landowner who owns property within
33 the city limits of the City of Parkland. One supervisor shall be
34 elected solely by those landowners owning property within the
35 city limits of the City of Coral Springs, and this supervisor
36 must be a landowner who owns property within the city limits of
37 the City of Coral Springs. One supervisor shall be elected at
38 large by all landowners of the district, regardless of where his
39 or her property is located. Candidates for each supervisor
40 position will be nominated during the meeting of landowners, and
41 the nominee who receives the highest number of votes for a
42 supervisor position shall be declared elected. Notice of said
43 landowners' meeting shall be published once a week for 2
44 consecutive weeks in a newspaper in Broward County which is in
45 general circulation within the district, the last of said
46 publication to be not less than 14 days nor more than 28 days
47 before the date of the election. The landowners when assembled
48 at such meeting shall organize by electing a chair that shall
49 conduct the meeting. At such meeting each landowner shall be
50 entitled to cast one vote per acre of land owned by him or her

51 ~~and located within the district. A landowner may vote in person~~
52 ~~or by proxy in writing. Fractions of an acre shall be treated as~~
53 ~~1 acre, entitling the landowner to one vote with respect~~
54 ~~thereto.~~
55   (2)~~(3)~~ Each supervisor, before entering upon his or her
56 official duties, shall take and subscribe to an oath of office
57 as prescribed in section 298.13, Florida Statutes.
58   (3)~~(4)~~ All supervisors shall hold office for the terms for
59 which they are elected or appointed and until their successors
60 shall be chosen and qualify. In case of a vacancy in the office
61 of any supervisor, the remaining supervisor or supervisors (even
62 though less than a quorum) may fill such vacancy by appointment
63 of a new supervisor or supervisors for the unexpired term of the
64 supervisor who vacated his or her office.
65   (4)~~(5)~~ As soon as practicable after each election, the
66 board shall organize by choosing one of their number president
67 of the board and by electing a secretary, who need not be a
68 member of the board.
69   (5)~~(6)~~ A majority of the members of the board shall
70 constitute a quorum.
71   (6)~~(7)~~ The board shall keep a permanent record book
72 entitled "Record of Proceedings of North Springs Improvement
73 District," in which shall be recorded minutes of all meetings,
74 resolutions, proceedings, certificates, bonds given by all
75 employees, and any and all corporate acts, which book shall at

76   reasonable times be opened to the inspection of any landowner,
77   taxpayer, resident, or bondholder of the district, and such
78   other persons as the board may determine to have a proper
79   interest in the proceedings of the board. Such record book shall
80   be kept at any office or other regular place of business
81   maintained by the board in Broward County.
82   (7)(8) Whenever any election shall be authorized or
83   required by this act to be held by the landowners at any
84   particular or stated time or day, and if for any reasons such
85   election is not held at such time or on such day, then in such
86   event the power or duty to hold such election shall not cease or
87   lapse, but such election shall be held thereafter when
88   practicable, and in accordance with the procedures provided by
89   this act.
90   (8)(a)(9)(a) Notwithstanding any provision of law to the
91   contrary, the board shall be elected by the qualified electors
92   of the district. The board shall be elected solely by the
93   qualified electors of the district. The board of supervisors
94   may, upon vote of a majority of the board, determine to convert
95   to a board of supervisors elected by the qualified electors of
96   the district. Upon the call of an election for such purpose by
97   the board as provided in paragraph (b), election of the board by
98   the qualified electors shall thereafter be the exclusive method
99   for the election of the members of the board of supervisors.
100   (b) Upon vote of the board of supervisors pursuant to

101 ~~paragraph (a),~~ The board shall call an election at which the
102 members of the board of supervisors will be elected. Such
103 election shall be held in conjunction with the next general
104 election in November. Candidates may qualify for the offices of
105 board of supervisors seat 1, seat 2, and seat 3, each elected at
106 large within the district. A candidate qualifying for election
107 to seat 1 must be an elector and resident of the City of
108 Parkland. A candidate qualifying for election to seat 2 must be
109 an elector and resident of the City of Coral Springs. A
110 candidate qualifying for election to seat 3 must be an elector
111 and resident of the district. Each board member shall be elected
112 by the qualified electors of the district for a term of 4 years,
113 except that, at the first such election, the two members elected
114 to seat 1 and seat 2 shall be elected for a term of 4 years, and
115 the member elected to seat 3 shall be elected for a term of 2
116 years. Thereafter, there shall be an election held every 2 years
117 for expiring terms and all members shall be elected for terms of
118 4 years each. The candidate receiving the most votes for each
119 seat shall be elected. All elected board members must be
120 qualified electors of the district.
121   (b) Members of the board, as of October 1, 2023, shall
122 serve until the certification of the November 2024 general
123 election results.
124   (c) The terms "qualified elector" and "elector" mean any
125 person at least 18 years of age who is a citizen of the United

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126 States, a permanent resident of this state, and a resident of
127 the district who registers with the supervisor of election of
128 the county in which the district lands are located when the
129 registration books are open.
130   (d)(c) Elections of board members by qualified electors
131 held pursuant to this subsection shall be nonpartisan and shall
132 be conducted in the manner prescribed by law for holding general
133 elections. Board members shall assume the office on the second
134 Tuesday following their election.
135   (e)(d) Candidates seeking election to office by qualified
136 electors under this subsection shall conduct their campaigns in
137 accordance with the provisions of chapter 106, Florida Statutes,
138 and shall file qualifying papers and qualify for individual
139 seats in accordance with section 99.061, Florida Statutes.
140 Candidates shall pay a qualifying fee, which shall consist of a
141 filing fee and election assessment or, as an alternative, shall
142 file a petition signed by not less than 1 percent of the
143 qualified electors of the district, and take the oath required
144 in section 99.021, Florida Statutes, with the Supervisor of
145 Elections of Broward County. The amount of the filing fee is 3
146 percent of $4,800. The amount of the election assessment is 1
147 percent of $4,800. The filing fee and election assessment shall
148 be distributed as provided in section 105.031 (3), Florida
149 Statutes.
150   (f)(e) The Supervisor of Elections of Broward County shall

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151 appoint the inspectors and clerks of elections, prepare and
152 furnish the ballots, designate polling places, and canvass the
153 returns of the election of board members by qualified electors.
154 The county canvassing board shall declare and certify the
155 results of the election.
156   (g)(f) The provisions of subsections (2)-(6) (3), (4),
157 (5), (6), and (7) shall apply to a board of supervisors elected
158 pursuant to this subsection.
159   Section 2. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law.

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