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1 A bill to be entitled  
 2 An act relating to district school board membership;  
 3 creating s. 1001.3615, F.S.; requiring that district  
 4 school boards consist of nine members in counties where  
 5 the population exceeds a certain number; providing for  
 6 single-member and at-large districts; requiring  
 7 nonpartisan elections; providing for the election of a  
 8 chair and vice chair of the school board; providing for 4-  
 9 year terms of office and staggered terms of members;  
 10 permitting changes in the boundaries of school board  
 11 member residence areas and providing the procedure for  
 12 publication of those changes; providing an effective date.

13  
 14 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

15  
 16 Section 1. Section 1001.3615, Florida Statutes, is created  
 17 to read:

18 1001.3615 Election of district school board members in  
 19 counties in which the population exceeds 2 million.-

20 (1) Notwithstanding ss. 1001.36, 1001.361, and 1001.362,  
 21 in a county in which the population exceeds 2 million people,  
 22 the district school board shall consist of nine members. Seven  
 23 of the nine members shall reside one in each of seven residence  
 24 areas, the areas together covering the entire district and as  
 25 nearly equal in population as practicable, according to the most  
 26 recent decennial census, and each shall be elected only by the  
 27 qualified electors who reside in the same residence area as the  
 28 member. Two of the nine members shall be elected from the county

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29 at large. Members shall be elected in a nonpartisan election as  
 30 provided in chapter 105.

31 (2) Notwithstanding s. 1001.371, the school board members  
 32 elected at large shall serve as the chair and vice chair of the  
 33 school board. The ballots for the office of chair and vice chair  
 34 shall state: "Chair of the School Board" followed by a list of  
 35 candidates who have qualified for that office or, when  
 36 appropriate, "Vice Chair of the School Board" followed by a list  
 37 of candidates who have qualified for that office. The candidate  
 38 who receives the highest number of votes in the general election  
 39 shall be elected to the office for which the candidate has  
 40 qualified.

41 (3) All members shall be elected for 4-year terms, but the  
 42 terms shall be staggered so that, alternately, one more or one  
 43 less than half of the members elected from residence areas and,  
 44 if applicable, one of the members elected at large from the  
 45 entire district are elected every 2 years. Any member may be  
 46 elected to an initial term of less than 4 years if necessary to  
 47 achieve or maintain such system of staggered terms.

48 (4) In odd-numbered years, the district school board may  
 49 change the boundaries of the residence areas at any meeting of  
 50 the district school board.

51 (a) The changes in boundaries shall be shown by resolution  
 52 spread upon the minutes of the district school board, shall be  
 53 recorded in the office of the clerk of the circuit court, and  
 54 shall be published at least once in a newspaper published in the  
 55 district within 30 days after the adoption of the resolution,  
 56 or, if there is no newspaper published in the district, shall be

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57 posted at the county courthouse door for 4 weeks after the  
58 adoption of the resolution. A certified copy of the resolution  
59 shall be transmitted to the Department of State.

60 (b) A change in a residence area that affects the  
61 residence qualifications of an incumbent member does not  
62 disqualify the incumbent member during the term for which he or  
63 she is elected.

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