

1 A bill to be entitled
 2 An act relating to special district accountability;
 3 amending s. 189.061, F.S.; requiring the Department of
 4 Economic Opportunity to exclude inactive special
 5 districts from the official list of special districts;
 6 amending s. 189.062, F.S.; requiring the department to
 7 remove special districts declared inactive from the
 8 official list of special districts; amending s.
 9 189.071, F.S.; making conforming changes; amending s.
 10 189.072, F.S.; making conforming changes; providing an
 11 effective date.

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

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 15 Section 1. Subsection (7) is added to section 189.061,
 16 Florida Statutes, to read:

17 189.061 Official list of special districts.—

18 (7) The official list shall exclude all districts declared
 19 inactive as provided in s. 189.062.

20 Section 2. Subsection (6) is added to section 189.062,
 21 Florida Statutes, to read:

22 189.062 Special procedures for inactive districts.—

23 (6) (a) The department immediately shall remove each special
 24 district declared inactive as provided in this section from the
 25 official list of special districts maintained as provided in s.
 26 189.064.

27 (b) The department shall create a separate list of all
 28 special districts declared inactive as provided in this section
 29 and shall maintain each such district on this inactive list
 30 until the district is declared by the department as resuming
 31 active status, the district is merged as provided in ss. 189.071
 32 or 189.074, or the district is dissolved as provided in ss.
 33 189.071 or 189.072.

34 Section 3. Subsections (2) and (3) of section 189.071,
 35 Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

36 189.071 Merger or dissolution of a dependent special
 37 district.—

38 (2) The merger or dissolution of an active dependent
 39 special district created and operating pursuant to a special act
 40 may be effectuated only by further act of the Legislature unless
 41 otherwise provided by general law.

42 (3) A dependent special district that meets any criteria
 43 for being declared inactive, ~~or that has already been declared~~
 44 ~~inactive,~~ pursuant to s. 189.062 may be dissolved or merged by
 45 special act without a referendum.

46 Section 4. Subsection (3) of section 189.072, Florida
 47 Statutes, is amended to read:

48 189.072 Dissolution of an independent special district.—

49 (3) INACTIVE INDEPENDENT SPECIAL DISTRICTS.—An independent
 50 special district that meets any criteria for being declared
 51 inactive, ~~or that has already been declared inactive,~~ pursuant
 52 to s. 189.062 may be dissolved by special act without a

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53 | referendum. If an inactive independent special district was
54 | created by a county or municipality through a referendum, the
55 | county or municipality that created the district may dissolve
56 | the district after publishing notice as described in s. 189.062.

57 | Section 5. This act shall take effect July 1, 2016.