

1                                   A bill to be entitled  
 2           An act relating to Jackson County; making legislative  
 3           findings; authorizing the sale of assets by the  
 4           Campbellton-Graceville Hospital District as an  
 5           exception to general law; providing an effective date.  
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7 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:  
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9           Section 1. Legislative Findings. The Florida Legislature  
 10 finds:

11           1. Prior to the standardization of the statutes governing  
 12 the formation, authority, and operation of special districts in  
 13 1989, the Legislature created numerous types of special  
 14 districts by special act.

15           2. Many special districts created by special act had  
 16 certain elements in common, including a boundary description,  
 17 the creation of a governing body with the powers of a non-profit  
 18 body corporate to administer the authority of the district, the  
 19 election or appointment by the Governor of individuals to the  
 20 district governing body variously denominated as supervisors,  
 21 commissioners, or trustees, enumeration of the purpose and  
 22 powers of the district, the methods of funding the district, and  
 23 the inclusion of certain powers such as the power to contract or  
 24 to issue bonds.

25           3. Consistent with the creation of other independent

26 special hospital districts by special act during the period  
 27 prior to the adoption of the present Florida Constitution in  
 28 1968, the Legislature enacted chapter 61-2290, Laws of Florida,  
 29 creating the Campbellton-Graceville Hospital District in Jackson  
 30 County, Florida. The governing body created for the district was  
 31 a non-profit public body corporate and politic called the  
 32 Campbellton-Graceville Hospital Corporation, the trustees of  
 33 which are public officers appointed by the Governor to exercise  
 34 the powers of the district. The purpose of the district and the  
 35 governing body was to build, erect, equip, maintain, and operate  
 36 a public hospital in Jackson County.

37 4. The Legislature finds and reconfirms the intent of ch.  
 38 61-2290, Laws of Florida, was to create the Campbellton-  
 39 Graceville Hospital District as a public unit of special local  
 40 government for the sole benefit of the people within the  
 41 boundaries of the district, to provide effective governance for  
 42 that district, and not to create a private, non-profit  
 43 corporation separate and distinct from the district regardless  
 44 of the terms used in the act, so that the Campbellton-Graceville  
 45 Hospital Corporation is and has been at all times solely the  
 46 board of public officers appointed to exercise the powers and  
 47 authority of the district.

48 5. The Legislature further finds the Campbellton-Graceville  
 49 Hospital District has been funded wholly or in part by annual ad  
 50 valorem tax levies authorized in chapter 61-2290, Laws of

51 Florida, and as a consequence all property associated with the  
52 Campbellton-Graceville Hospital, real, personal, or mixed,  
53 including intangible personal property such as claims and causes  
54 of action, are derived solely from the taxing district and  
55 remain held and managed in trust for the constituents of the  
56 taxing district.

57 Section 2. Notwithstanding chapter 155, Florida Statutes,  
58 or any other general or special law to the contrary, and except  
59 as provided in this act, the Campbellton-Graceville Hospital  
60 District may complete the sale of the Campbellton-Graceville  
61 Hospital facility to Northwest Florida Healthcare, Inc., which  
62 sale shall comply with the requirements of section  
63 155.40(7)(a)1. through 5., Florida Statutes. After payment of  
64 all valid liens against the assets being sold and the other  
65 valid outstanding debts of the district, all remaining funds  
66 shall remain with the District.

67 Section 3. Notwithstanding section 155.40, Florida  
68 Statutes, or any other general or special law to the contrary,  
69 upon completion of the sale of the Campbellton-Graceville  
70 Hospital facilities the Campbellton-Graceville Hospital District  
71 shall not be dissolved but shall remain in full operation and  
72 possession of all powers to be exercised solely to wind up its  
73 affairs.

74 Section 4. On the date the Campbellton-Graceville Hospital  
75 District closes on the sale of the Campbellton-Graceville

76 | Hospital facilities, sections 4 and 5 of chapter 61-2290, Laws  
77 | of Florida, are repealed and the authority of the Board of  
78 | County Commissioners of Jackson County to impose any ad valorem  
79 | taxes for the maintenance and operation of the Campbellton-  
80 | Graceville Hospital is terminated.

81 |       Section 5. This act shall take effect only upon the date  
82 | of an order dismissing or converting to a proceeding under  
83 | chapter 9 of the United States Bankruptcy Code, 11 U.S.C. ss.  
84 | 901 - 946, that Case Number 17-40185-KKS pending in the United  
85 | States Bankruptcy Court for the Northern District of Florida and  
86 | styled "In re: Campbellton-Graceville Hospital Corporation,"  
87 | except section 1 and this section 5 shall be effective upon  
88 | becoming a law.