

HB 1297

2014

1 A bill to be entitled

2 An act relating to the Lealman Special Fire Control  
3 District, Pinellas County; amending chapter 2000-426,  
4 Laws of Florida, as amended; providing for future  
5 annexation of certain unincorporated territory;  
6 providing an effective date.

7  
8 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

9  
10 Section 1. Section 11 of section 1 of chapter 2000-426,  
11 Laws of Florida, as amended by chapter 2012-251, Laws of  
12 Florida, is amended to read:

13 Section 11. Annexation of territories by municipalities.—

14 (1) For the purposes and requirements of this Act, after  
15 the annexation by a municipality of any unincorporated area  
16 within the Lealman Special Fire Control District, the annexed  
17 area shall be treated as lying within the corporate boundaries  
18 of the annexing municipality and shall not be subject to a levy  
19 of the ad valorem tax that is authorized by this Act.

20 (2) Notwithstanding section 171.093, Florida Statutes, if  
21 a municipality annexes any unincorporated territory situated  
22 within the defined boundaries of the District from the effective  
23 date of this Act ~~until July 1, 2016,~~ the District shall continue  
24 as the primary provider of fire, rescue, and emergency medical  
25 services for the annexed territory. Any municipality that  
26 annexes such territory may levy any applicable taxes,

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27 assessments, or fees on the annexed territory but must, by May 1  
28 of each subsequent year after such annexation, pay the District  
29 for its services in an amount equal to the amount of taxes,  
30 assessments, or fees which would have been collected by the  
31 District from the annexed territory during that year had the  
32 territory not been annexed, using the millage rate in effect on  
33 the effective date of this act, or any lower rate that may be  
34 levied by the District. Such payments shall continue in  
35 perpetuity unless the District is relieved of all fire, rescue,  
36 or emergency medical service responsibility in the annexed  
37 territory, with the exception of an isolated response to a local  
38 or areawide disaster, such as a hazardous material incident,  
39 tornado, hurricane, or major fire. If litigation is required to  
40 enforce the provisions of this Act, the prevailing party shall  
41 be entitled to an award of attorney fees and costs. ~~This~~  
42 ~~subsection shall not apply to annexations of unincorporated~~  
43 ~~territory situated within the defined boundaries of the District~~  
44 ~~after July 1, 2016.~~

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