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An act relating to the Campbellton-Graceville Hospital District, Jackson County; providing an exception to general law; providing legislative findings; authorizing the sale of assets by the district; providing for district to wind down its affairs after such sale; repealing certain parts of ch. 61-2290,

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

Laws of Florida; terminating district authority to

impose ad valorem taxes; providing an effective date.

- Section 1. (1) The Legislature finds that prior to the standardization of general law governing the formation, authority, and operation of special districts in 1989, the Legislature created numerous types of special districts by special act.
- by special act had certain elements in common, including a boundary description; the creation of a governing body with the powers of a nonprofit body corporate to administer the authority of the district; the election or appointment by the Governor of individuals to the district governing body variously denominated as supervisors, commissioners, or trustees; enumeration of the purpose and powers of the district; the methods of funding the

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district; and the inclusion of certain powers, such as the power to contract or to issue bonds.

- (3) The Legislature finds that, consistent with the creation of other independent special hospital districts by special act during the period prior to the adoption of the present Florida Constitution in 1968, the Legislature enacted chapter 61-2290, Laws of Florida, creating the Campbellton-Graceville Hospital District in Jackson County. The governing body created for the district was a nonprofit public body corporate and politic called the Campbellton-Graceville Hospital Corporation, the trustees of which are public officers appointed by the Governor to exercise the powers of the district. The purpose of the district and the governing body was to build, erect, equip, maintain, and operate a public hospital in Jackson County.
- (4) The Legislature finds and reconfirms that the intent of ch. 61-2290, Laws of Florida, was to create the Campbellton-Graceville Hospital District as a public unit of special local government for the sole benefit of the people within the boundaries of the district and to provide effective governance for that district, and not to create a private, nonprofit corporation separate and distinct from the district regardless of the terms used in the act, so that the Campbellton-Graceville Hospital Corporation is and has been at all times solely the

board of public officers appointed to exercise the powers and authority of the district.

Graceville Hospital District has been funded wholly or in part by annual ad valorem tax levies authorized in chapter 61-2290,

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

Section 2. Notwithstanding chapter 155, Florida Statutes, or any other general or special law to the contrary, and except as provided in this act, the Campbellton-Graceville Hospital

District may complete the sale of the Campbellton-Graceville

Hospital facility to Northwest Florida Healthcare, Inc., which sale shall comply with the requirements of s. 155.40(7)(a)1.

through 5., Florida Statutes. After payment of all valid liens against the assets being sold and the other valid outstanding debts of the district, all remaining funds shall remain with the district.

Section 3. Notwithstanding s. 155.40, Florida Statutes, or any other general or special law to the contrary, upon completion of the sale of the Campbellton-Graceville Hospital facilities the Campbellton-Graceville Hospital District shall

not be dissolved but shall remain in full operation and possession of all powers to be exercised solely to wind down its affairs.

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

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

Section 5. This act shall take effect only upon the date of an order dismissing or converting to a proceeding under chapter 9 of the United States Bankruptcy Code, 11 U.S.C. ss. 901-946, that case no. 17-40185-KKS pending in the United States Bankruptcy Court for the Northern District of Florida and styled "In re: Campbellton-Graceville Hospital Corporation," except that section 1 and this section shall take effect upon becoming a law.