1	A bill to be entitled
2	An act relating to the North Brevard County Hospital
3	District, Brevard County; amending chapter 2003-362,
4	Laws of Florida; revising the appointment and
5	membership of the district board; requiring the board
6	to determine the operating budget and estimated
7	revenues of the district; removing provisions relating
8	to ad valorem taxation; revising disposition of assets
9	and liabilities in the event of dissolution of the
10	district; requiring the district to conduct a
11	valuation; requiring the district to solicit bids for
12	the sale of district assets; providing for transfer;
13	providing for dissolution of the district; providing
14	that offices and terms of members of the board shall
15	end on a certain date; providing an exception;
16	prohibiting certain actions relating to district
17	assets; providing an effective date.
18	
19	Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:
20	
21	Section 1. Sections 2, 6, and 17 of section 3 of chapter
22	2003-362, Laws of Florida, are amended, and section 24 is added
23	to that section, to read:
24	Section 2. The governing body authority of the district
25	shall be known as the North Brevard County Hospital District
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26 Board. The board shall constitute a body politic and a body 27 corporate; it may adopt and use a common seal; it may contract 28 and be contracted with; and it may sue and be sued in its 29 corporate name or in the corporate name of the district. 30 The board shall be composed of five nine members appointed 31 32 by the Governor. All members shall be qualified electors of the district. The Governor shall issue a public notice soliciting 33 34 citizen nominations for board members within 120 days after the 35 effective date of this act. The nomination solicitation period shall remain open for at least 30 days after the date of the 36 37 public notice. The Governor shall appoint initial members to the 38 board from among the nominees within 60 days after the close of 39 the nomination solicitation period. The initial terms of office 40 for the five members shall commence at upon their appointment, 41 with terms designated as follows: three members shall serve 42 until October 1, 2026, and two members shall serve until October 43 1, 2028. The Governor shall have a citizen nomination 44 solicitation period for at least 30 days and appoint members for 45 subsequent terms from among the nominees. Members appointed for subsequent terms shall be appointed for 4-year terms commencing 46 47 on October 1 of the year in which they are appointed. If a 48 member is appointed to complete an unexpired term, the member's 49 term shall commence at the time of appointment and shall 50 continue through the remainder of the unexpired term. The

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51	Governor shall fill any vacancy for the unexpired portion of a
52	term within 60 days after the vacancy occurs if the remainder of
53	the term exceeds 90 days. The office of each member shall be
54	designated specifically by number as member one through nine.
55	The office of each member shall be for a term of 4 years
56	beginning on the first day of January. Each member shall serve
57	until his or her successor is appointed by the appropriate
58	governing body as hereinafter provided. Any vacancy occurring in
59	any office of a member shall be filled by the appropriate
60	governing body in the manner provided herein for regular
61	appointments for the remainder of the unexpired term of office.
62	All board members shall reside within the boundaries of the
63	district.
64	
65	Board members one, two, and three shall be appointed by the
66	City Council of the City of Titusville.
67	
68	Board members four, five, and seven shall be appointed by
69	the Board of County Commissioners of Brevard County.
70	
71	Board members six, eight, and nine shall be appointed by
72	the Board of County Commissioners of Brevard County subject to
73	confirmation by the City Council of the City of Titusville.
74	
75	In the event any board member ceases to reside within the
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boundaries of the district, the office of such member shall be

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77 deemed vacant as of the date of such change in residence. 78 79 Any board member may be removed from office in the event a 80 request for removal for violation of policies and procedures established by the board is approved by two-thirds of the 81 82 membership of the board and in the event the majority of the 83 governing body responsible for appointing such member approves 84 of such removal without the necessity of any requirement of 85 advice and consent as provided herein for an appointment.

86 Section 6. It shall be the duty of the board, no not later 87 than July 15, to determine the operating budget and estimated 88 revenues for amount required during the ensuing fiscal year for 89 the purpose of establishing, constructing, equipping, operating, maintaining, repairing, or leasing of the hospital or hospitals, 90 91 or for the payment of debt service and reserves on bonds, notes, or other obligations issued by the district, or reserves 92 93 therefor, or for any one or more of the above purposes. Such 94 determination shall be by resolution of the board and it shall 95 be the duty of the chair and the secretary of the board to 96 certify to the Board of County Commissioners of Brevard County 97 the amount required, which shall be provided by an ad valorem 98 tax levied by the Board of County Commissioners of Brevard 99 County on all taxable real and personal property in the district for the ensuing fiscal year for the hospital fund. The Board of 100

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101	County Commissioners of Brevard County, upon being furnished a
102	certified copy of the resolution of the board regarding the
103	amount required for its stated purposes, shall levy the
104	necessary ad valorem taxes on all the taxable real and personal
105	property within the district to raise the required amount,
106	provided such millage shall not exceed 5 mills on the dollar of
107	the assessed valuation of the taxable real and personal property
108	situated in the district in Brevard County, less all such
109	property exempt from taxation by the Florida Constitution; and
110	further provided that the board, in issuing any bonds, notes, or
111	other obligations as hereinafter provided, may covenant with the
112	holders of such bonds, notes, or other obligations that such
113	holders shall have a first lien on all such ad valorem taxes
114	levied for the payment of such bonds, notes, or other
115	obligations. The resolution of the board above shall be adopted
116	and a certified copy thereof shall be filed with the Board of
117	County Commissioners of Brevard County <u>no later</u> not less than 10
118	days <u>from the adoption of the resolution</u> prior to the time fixed
119	by law for the levy of general county taxes.
120	Section 17. In the event of dissolution of the district,
121	the residual assets <u>and liabilities</u> of the district <u>shall</u> may
122	only be transferred to one or more organizations which are
123	exempt organizations as described in Section 501(c)(3) or
124	Section 170(c)(2) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 (or any
125	other corresponding provisions of any future Internal Revenue

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126 Law) and which shall have as their primary purpose those same 127 health care responsibilities as then performed by the district, 128 together with other public needs of the district, and shall be 129 required to provide the same annual percentage of charity care, 130 indigent care, and Medicaid care, based on gross revenues, that 131 was provided by the public hospital and reported to the Health 132 Care Cost Containment Board in its most recent reporting cycle, 133 and which shall be jointly approved by the district One (1) 134 Commissioner of the Brevard County Board of County Commissioners 135 and four-fifths vote of the City Council of the City of 136 Titusville.

137

138 Notwithstanding the foregoing, in no event shall the board 139 sell the hospital facilities without first receiving the 140 approval by a majority vote of the duly qualified electors who 141 reside within the district and who vote in the election. Prior 142 to any such sale, such qualified electors shall, by affirmative 143 vote, consent to such sale of the hospital facilities, which 144 consent must also approve the terms and conditions of tho 145 and the disposition of the sale proceeds. The vote on this issue 146 may be received at a general or special election to be held 147 within the district, which shall not be called until notice 148 thereof has been published in a newspaper of general circulation 149 within the district once a week for 4 consecutive weeks next prior to the week during which the general or special election 150

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151	will be held. If a majority of the electors who vote in the
152	general or special election vote in favor of the sale of the
153	hospital facilities and if they approve the terms and conditions
154	of the sale, then in that event, the board shall have the
155	authority to consummate the sale upon the terms and conditions
156	thus approved by the electors. In the event that the duly
157	qualified electors do not ratify and approve the sale along with
158	its terms and conditions, the board shall not have the authority
159	to consummate the sale of the hospital facilities.
160	Section 24. (a) On or after October 1, 2024, the board
161	shall adopt a resolution to commence a valuation of the
162	district's assets. The board shall contract with an independent
163	entity that has at least 5 years of experience conducting
164	comparable evaluations of hospital organizations similar in size
165	and function to conduct the valuation according to applicable
166	industry best practices. The independent entity may not have any
167	current affiliation with or financial involvement in the
168	district, any support corporation of the district, the Jess
169	Parrish Medical Foundation, Inc., or any member of the board.
170	The valuation must be completed and a final report presented to
171	the board no later than 180 days after the date on which the
172	valuation is commenced. The final report shall be published on
173	the district's website. The final report must include a
174	statement signed by the chair of the board and the chief
175	executive officer of the independent entity conducting the
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176	valuation that, based on each person's reasonable knowledge and
177	belief, the contents and conclusions of the valuation are true
178	and correct.
179	(b) No later than 30 days after the date on which the
180	board receives the final report, the board must adopt a
181	resolution commencing the process of soliciting bids for the
182	district's assets. The resolution must be made available
183	simultaneously to all potential bidders, must include the time
184	and date for the receipt of bids and of the public opening, and
185	must include all applicable contractual terms and conditions,
186	including the criteria to be used in determining acceptability
187	and relative merit of the bid. The resolution shall establish a
188	minimum acceptable bid for the district's assets based on a
189	commercially reasonable value and require bidders to enter into
190	an enforceable commitment that programs and services provided by
191	the district for indigent care must be continued in perpetuity,
192	unless otherwise agreed to by the Board of County Commissioners
193	of Brevard County.
194	(c) Upon completion of the sale of the district's assets,
195	all liabilities and any proceeds from the sale shall be
196	transferred to the Board of County Commissioners of Brevard
197	County. Proceeds received by the board of county commissioners
198	pursuant to this section shall first be used to satisfy all
199	liabilities of the former district.
200	(d) No later than 30 days after the complete transfer of
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201 assets and liabilities as provided in paragraph (c), the 202 district shall notify the Florida Department of Commerce. The 203 district shall be dissolved automatically upon receipt of the notice by the department. 204 205 Section 2. The offices and terms of all members of the 206 North Brevard County Hospital District Board existing as of the 207 effective date of this act shall end as of the effective date of 208 this act, but such members may continue to serve until a 209 successor in office is appointed and qualified. Until successors 210 are appointed and qualified to replace all of the members of the 211 board existing as of the effective date of this act, board 212 members, officers, and employees of the district may not sell, 213 dispose of, encumber, transfer, or expend the assets of the 214 district as such assets existed as of October 1, 2023, other 215 than in the ordinary course of business. 216 Section 3. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law.

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