

1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to Lee County; amending chapter 2000-
3 384, Laws of Florida; revising the boundaries of the
4 Iona-McGregor Fire Protection and Rescue Service
5 District; repealing chapters 2000-422 and 2008-275,
6 Laws of Florida, relating to the Fort Myers Beach Fire
7 Control District; providing for the merger of the
8 districts; providing for transition of the governing
9 body; transferring assets and liabilities of the Fort
10 Myers Beach Fire Control District to the Iona-McGregor
11 Fire Protection and Rescue Service District; requiring
12 a referendum; providing effective dates.

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

15
16 **Section 1. Subsection (3) of section 2 of section 3 of**
17 **chapter 2000-384, Laws of Florida, is amended to read:**

18 Section 2. District creation; status; charter amendments;
19 boundaries.—

20 (3) The lands to be included within the district are the
21 following described lands in Lee County:

22
23 In Township 45 South, Range 24 East, the unincorporated
24 portions of Section 2 and 3, all of Sections 9 and 10, the
25 west half (1/2) of the northwest quarter (1/4) and the

26 west half (1/2) of the southwest quarter (1/4) of Section
27 11, all of Sections 15 and 16, the east half (1/2) of
28 Section 17, all of sections 20, 21, 22, 27, 28, 29, 30, 31,
29 32, 33, 34, and in Township 46 South, Range 24 East, that
30 portion of Section 2 lying west of the waters of Hendry
31 Creek, all of sections 3, 4, 5, 6, the north half (1/2) of
32 7, all of sections 8, 9, 10, those portions of sections 11
33 and 14 lying west of the waters of Hendry Creek, all of
34 sections 15, 16, 17, 22, that portion of Section 23 lying
35 west of the waters of Hendry Creek, and in Township 45
36 South, Range 23 East, the south half (1/2) of Section 25,
37 the south half (1/2) of Section 27, the southeast quarter
38 (1/4) of Section 28, all of sections 33, 34, 35, 36, and
39 in Township 46 South, Range 23 East, all of Sections 1, 2,
40 3, 4, 9, 10, 11, and 12 less and except the southeast
41 quarter (1/4) thereof, the west half (1/2) of 13, and the
42 east half (1/2) of 14 ~~less and except that portion located~~
43 ~~within the territorial limits, of the Fort Myers Beach Fire~~
44 ~~Control District, and less and except that portion of all~~
45 the above described lands located within the municipal
46 boundaries of the City of Fort Myers.

47
48 TOGETHER WITH

49
50 All that part of Lee County that is located and situated

51 within San Carlos Island; Estero Island; Easterly One-Half
52 (1/2) of Section 13, Township 46 South, Range 23 East;
53 Section 18, Township 46 South, Range 24 East; and section
54 7, Township 46 South, Range 24 East except that part which
55 is located and situated north of the old railroad grade.

56 **Section 2.** Chapters 2000-422 and 2008-275, Laws of
57 Florida, are repealed.

58 **Section 3.** Transition.—

59 (1) As of the effective date of this act, the Fort Myers
60 Beach Fire Control District is merged into the Iona-McGregor
61 Fire Protection and Rescue Service District. The Board of
62 Commissioners of the Iona-McGregor Fire Protection and Rescue
63 Service District, as provided in this act and chapter 2000-384,
64 Laws of Florida, shall serve as the governing body of the
65 district and is authorized to exercise all powers that may be
66 exercised by the board pursuant to chapter 2000-384, Laws of
67 Florida.

68 (2) Notwithstanding s. 191.005, Florida Statutes, and
69 chapter 97-340, Laws of Florida, from the effective date of this
70 act until the next general election, the governing body of the
71 Iona-McGregor Fire Protection and Rescue Service District shall
72 be composed of the five members of the Iona-McGregor Fire
73 Protection and Rescue Service District Board of Commissioners as
74 of the effective date of this act and the two members of the
75 governing board of the Fort Myers Beach Fire Control District

76 elected pursuant to chapter 2000-422, Laws of Florida, whose
77 terms expire at the 2028 general election.

78 (3) All assets and liabilities, including any pension
79 liabilities, of the Fort Myers Beach Fire Control District as of
80 the effective date of this act shall be transferred to the Iona-
81 McGregor Fire Protection and Rescue Service District.

82 **Section 4. Referendum.**

83 (1) The referendum election called for by this act shall
84 be held on November 3, 2026, concurrent with the 2026 general
85 election.

86 (2) The ballot title for the referendum question shall be
87 in substantially the following form:

88
89 MERGER OF FORT MYERS BEACH AND IONA-MCGREGOR FIRE CONTROL AND
90 RESCUE SERVICE DISTRICTS

91 (3) The referendum question shall be placed on the ballot
92 in substantially the following form:

93
94 Shall Chapter 2026- , Laws of Florida, amending the boundaries
95 of the Iona-McGregor Fire Protection and Rescue Service District
96 to include all territories currently included in the Fort Myers
97 Beach Fire Control District, abolishing the Fort Myers Beach
98 Fire Control District, providing for a transitional board, and
99 transferring the assets and liabilities of the Fort Myers Beach
100 Fire Control District to the Iona-McGregor Fire Protection and

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2026

101 Rescue Service District, become effective?

102 () YES.

103 () NO.

104 (4) In the event this question is answered affirmatively
105 by a majority of the qualified voters in each district voting in
106 the referendum, this act shall take effect. The referendum
107 election shall be conducted by the Supervisor of Elections of
108 Lee County in accordance with the Florida Election Code.

109 **Section 5.** This act shall take effect upon its approval by
110 a majority vote of those qualified electors of the Fort Myers
111 Beach Fire Control District and the Iona-McGregor Fire
112 Protection and Rescue Service District voting in a referendum to
113 be held on November 3, 2026, except that this section and
114 section 4 shall take effect upon becoming a law.