CS/CS/HB 57 2024

1 A bill to be entitled 2 An act relating to county commissioner term limits; 3 creating s. 124.012, F.S.; establishing term limits 4 for county commissioners; prohibiting specified 5 persons from seeking certain offices until after a 6 specified timeframe; providing applicability; 7 providing construction; requiring certain counties to 8 hold a referendum election on a specified date; 9 providing for the referendum election; providing the form for the ballot title and referendum question; 10 11 providing an effective date. 12 13 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida: 14 Section 124.012, Florida Statutes, is created 15 Section 1. 16 to read: 124.012 Term limits of county commissioners.-17 18 (1) Notwithstanding the terms of any county charter to the 19 contrary, a person may not appear on the ballot for reelection 20 to the office of county commissioner if, by the end of his or 21 her current term of office, the person will have served, or but 22 for resignation would have served, in that office for 8 23 consecutive years. The person may not qualify for or appear on 24 the ballot for a different district seat of the county 25 commission or an at-large county commission seat of the county

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after his or her initial 8-year term of office until 2 years after the end date of his or her initial term.

- (2) The term limits imposed by this section apply to counties in which term limits are not imposed by a county charter as of July 1, 2024, and service of a term of office which commenced before November 5, 2024, may not be counted toward the limitation imposed by this section.
- (3) (a) This section does not supersede any term limit imposed by a county charter which is more restrictive than the term limit imposed by this section and does not authorize a person subject to such term limits to serve an additional 8 consecutive years.
- (b) A county whose charter authorizes county commissioners to serve longer than the limits imposed by this section shall hold a referendum election that coincides with the 2024 general election to determine whether the limits imposed by this section shall apply to such county. In the event such county rejects the term limits imposed by this section, this section does not apply.

Section 2. Referendum election.-

- (1) A charter county whose charter limits county commissioners from serving for a period longer than 8 consecutive years shall hold a referendum election on November 5, 2024.
 - (2) The ballot title for the referendum must be in

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51	substantially the following form:
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53	COUNTY COMMISSIONER TERM LIMITS
54	
55	(3) The referendum question must be in substantially the
56	following form:
57	
58	Should the county prohibit county commissioners from
59	serving longer than 8 consecutive years?
60	
61	() Yes.
62	() No.
63	
64	(4) The referendum election must be conducted by the
65	supervisor of elections for each applicable county in accordance
66	with the Florida Election Code.
67	Section 3. This act shall take effect July 1, 2024.

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