

BILL

ORIGINAL

YEAR

1 A bill to be entitled
 2 An act relating to Hillsborough County Public Schools,
 3 Hillsborough County; providing legislative findings;
 4 providing for an elected superintendent of schools;
 5 requiring a referendum; providing effective dates.

6
 7 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:
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9 **Section 1.** Findings of fact.—The Legislature finds that
 10 the Superintendent of Schools for Hillsborough County Public
 11 Schools was changed from an elected position to an appointed
 12 position pursuant to a referendum held during the November 8,
 13 1966 general election in accordance with Section 2B, Article XII
 14 of the State Constitution of 1885.

15 **Section 2.** Transition to elected superintendent.—Pursuant
 16 to Section 5, Article IX and Section 5, Article XII of the State
 17 Constitution, the Superintendent of Schools for Hillsborough
 18 County Public Schools shall be elected in a partisan election to
 19 a term of 4 years by vote of the qualified electors residing in
 20 Hillsborough County, beginning with the general election in
 21 2028.

22 **Section 3.** Referendum election.—
 23 (1) As required by Section 5, Article IX of the State
 24 Constitution, during the 2026 general election, there shall be
 25 held a referendum election concerning whether section 2 shall

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26 | become a law.

27 | (2) The ballot title for the referendum question shall be
 28 | in substantially the following form:

30 | PROVIDING FOR AN ELECTED, RATHER THAN AN APPOINTED,
 31 | SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS

33 | (3) The referendum question shall be placed on the ballot
 34 | in substantially the following form:

35 | Shall Chapter 2026- , Laws of Florida, which provides that the
 36 | Superintendent of Schools for Hillsborough County Public Schools
 37 | shall no longer be appointed by the School Board, but shall be
 38 | elected in a partisan election for a term of 4 years, beginning
 39 | with the 2028 general election, become effective?

40 | () Yes.

41 | () No.

42 | (4) The referendum election shall be conducted by the
 43 | Supervisor of Elections of Hillsborough County in accordance
 44 | with the Florida Election Code.

45 | **Section 4.** This act shall take effect upon becoming a law,
 46 | except that section 2 shall take effect only upon approval by a
 47 | majority vote of those qualified electors of Hillsborough County
 48 | voting in a referendum to be held in conjunction with the 2026
 49 | general election.