

AN ORDINANCE OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF LEON COUNTY, FLORIDA, AMENDING THE HOME RULE CHARTER OF LEON COUNTY, FLORIDA; ADDING A NEW ARTICLE VI TO PROVIDE FOR COMMUNITY IMPACT ASSESSMENTS; PROVIDING FOR A BALLOT QUESTION TO BE POSED TO THE LEON COUNTY ELECTORATE AT THE GENERAL ELECTION ON NOVEMBER 3, 2026; PROVIDING FOR THE BALLOT QUESTION FORM; PROVIDING FOR FURTHER AUTHORIZATION; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE UPON APPROVAL BY A MAJORITY OF ELECTORS OF THE COUNTY VOTING ON THE REFERENDUM.

RECITALS

WHEREAS, the Board of County Commissioners desires to enact an ordinance amending the Home Rule Charter of Leon County, Florida, by adding Article VI of the Home Rule Charter of Leon County, Florida, relating to Community Impact Assessments; and

BE IT ORDAINED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF LEON COUNTY, FLORIDA, that:

Section 1. Amendment to Charter.

The Home Rule Charter of Leon County, Florida, is hereby amended by adding an article to be numbered Article VI to read as follows:

ARTICLE VI. COMMUNITY IMPACT ASSESSMENTS

Sec. 6.1. Purpose.

Sec. 6.2. Periodic Community Impact Assessment Process.

Sec. 6.3. Board of County Commissioners Review and Response.

Sec. 6.4. Implementation and Legal Compliance.

Sec. 6.1. Purpose.

- (1) The purpose of this article is to provide for the periodic assessments, public reporting, and the Leon County Board of County Commissioners' review of adverse community conditions in historically underserved and vulnerable populations related to the County's historic laws, policies, and practices. This article is intended to inform County decision-making in a manner consistent with applicable state and federal laws.
- (2) By April 1, 2027, the Board of County Commissioners shall adopt an ordinance for implementation of this article, consistent with applicable state and federal laws.

Sec. 6.2. Periodic Community Impact Assessment Process.

- (1) Leon County shall conduct a periodic community impact assessment of adverse community conditions within geographic areas of the County related to historic County laws, policies and practices, subject to appropriation and funding availability.
- (2) The County shall publish the findings of such assessments in a publicly accessible format.

Sec. 6.3. Board of County Commissioners Review and Response.

- (1) The Board of County Commissioners shall review and consider the findings of each Community Impact Assessment during a public meeting.

Sec. 6.4. Implementation and Legal Compliance.

- (1) This article establishes a periodic process for assessment, public reporting, and the Board of County Commissioners' review and does not mandate specific policy outcomes, funding allocations, or preferential treatment for any individual or group.
- (2) Nothing in this article shall be construed to authorize any program, policy, or action inconsistent with applicable state or federal constitutional provisions or statutes, rules, or regulations or any applicable court order.

Section 2. Ballot Question to be Presented to Electorate.

The proposed amendment to the Home Rule Charter of Leon County, Florida, shall be presented to the qualified Leon County electorate by placing the question of whether to adopt the same on the ballot at the general election to be held on November 3, 2026.

Section 3. Ballot Question Form.

The question on the ballot shall be substantially in the following form:

**AFFIRMATION OF COUNTY’S COMMITMENT TO
HISTORICALLY UNDERSERVED AND VULNERABLE
POPULATIONS**

Question

Shall the Home Rule Charter of Leon County, Florida, be amended to provide for a periodic Community Impact Assessment process, public reporting, and Board of County Commissioners’ review and consideration regarding adverse community conditions related to the County’s historic laws, policies, and practices?

Yes for Approval _____

No for Rejection _____

Section 4. Further Authorization.

The Board of County Commissioners of Leon County, Florida, is authorized to adopt all ordinances and take all actions necessary in order for this Charter Amendment referendum to be properly placed on the ballot for the general election of November 3, 2026. Said referendum shall be conducted according to the requirements of law governing referendum elections in the State of Florida.

Section 5. Severability.

If any word, phrase, clause, section, or portion of this Ordinance is declared by any court of competent jurisdiction to be void, unconstitutional, or otherwise unenforceable, then all remaining provisions and portions of this Ordinance shall remain in full force and effect.

Section 6. Effective Date.

This Ordinance shall take effect upon being filed with the Florida Department of State, but shall be of no further force or effect if the proposed Charter Amendment is not duly approved at the November 3, 2026 General Election. The amendment to the Home Rule Charter of Leon County, Florida, as proposed by this Ordinance, shall become effective January 1, 2027, if the Charter

1 Amendment is approved by a “yes” vote by a majority of those duly qualified electors voting on the
2 question posed at the November 3, 2026, referendum.

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4 DONE, ADOPTED, AND PASSED by the Board of County Commissioners of Leon County,
5 Florida, this 17th day of August, 2026.

6
7 LEON COUNTY, FLORIDA

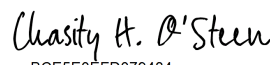
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10 By:  Signed by:
11 648A6D1B8D6D412...
12 Christian Caban, Chairman
13 Board of County Commissioners

14 ATTESTED BY:
15 Gwen Knight, Clerk of Court
16 & Comptroller, Leon County, Florida

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19 By: 178D7E95C3774E4...

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22 Signed by:


23 APPROVED AS TO FORM:
24 Chasity H. O'Steen, County Attorney
25 Leon County Attorney's Office

26 DocuSigned by:
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