

LEON COUNTY ORDINANCE NO. 26- ⁰⁶

AN ORDINANCE OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF LEON COUNTY, FLORIDA, AMENDING THE HOME RULE CHARTER OF LEON COUNTY, FLORIDA; AMENDING SECTION 1.6., ENTITLED "RELATION TO MUNICIPAL ORDINANCES."; 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 Article I, Section 1.6. of the Home Rule Charter of Leon County, Florida, relating to Relation to Municipal Ordinances.

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

Section 1. Amendment to Charter.

Article I, Section 1.6. of the Home Rule Charter of Leon County, Florida, is hereby amended to read as follows:

Sec. 1.6. Relation to municipal ordinances.

- (1) Except as otherwise provided by law or this Charter, County ordinances adopted after January 1, 2027, shall prevail over municipal ordinances ~~shall prevail over County ordinances to the extent in the event of any conflict~~ within the boundaries of the municipality. To the extent that a county ordinance and a municipal ordinance shall cover the same subject without conflict, then both the municipal ordinance and the county ordinance shall be effective, each being deemed supplemental to the other.

(2) *Minimum Environmental Regulations.* County ordinances shall establish minimum standards, procedures, requirements and regulations for the protection of the environment and shall be effective within the unincorporated and incorporated areas of the County. Such standards, procedures, requirements and regulations shall include, but shall not be limited to, tree protection, landscaping, aquifer protection, stormwater, protection of conservation and preservation features, and such other environmental standards as the Board of County Commissioners determines to be necessary for the protection of the public health, safety, and welfare of the citizens throughout Leon County. Standards shall be designed to place emphasis on supporting healthy natural systems occurring in the environment. However, nothing contained herein shall prohibit a municipality from adopting ordinances, standards, procedures, requirements or regulations establishing a more stringent level of environmental protection within the incorporated area of the County.

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:

COUNTY ORDINANCES TO PREVAIL OVER MUNICIPAL ORDINANCES AS PROPOSED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Question

Shall the Leon County Charter be amended to provide that County ordinances adopted after January 1, 2027, shall prevail over conflicting municipal ordinances in the event of conflict, to the extent permitted by law, so that the County may establish regulations and standards on matters affecting residents in both incorporated and unincorporated areas?

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

DONE, ADOPTED, AND PASSED by the Board of County Commissioners of Leon County, Florida, this 9th day of June, 2026.

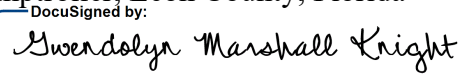
LEON COUNTY, FLORIDA

Signed by:

By: 
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 Christian Caban, Chairman
 Board of County Commissioners

ATTESTED BY:

Gwen Knight, Clerk of Court
 & Comptroller, Leon County, Florida

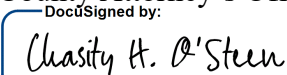
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APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Chasity H. O'Steen, County Attorney
 Leon County Attorney's Office

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