Summary of Ordinance

The purpose of this Ordinance is to extend the North Lake County Hospital District for ten (10) years. The North Lake County Hospital District is by law to dissolve at the end of its fiscal year in 2017. The North Lake County Hospital District is an independent special taxing district created to provide a means to pay for indigent care to the residents who reside in the District. If approved, the District will continue to exist for an additional ten (10) years.

ORDINANCE 2016-12

AN ORDINANCE OF LAKE COUNTY, FLORIDA, PROVIDING FOR A CONTINUATION OF THE EXISTING NORTH LAKE COUNTY HOSPITAL DISTRICT IN LAKE COUNTY; PROVIDING FOR APPROVAL OF THE CONTINUATION BY VOTES IN A REFERENDUM; PROVIDING THAT THE CONTINUATION SHALL BE EFFECTIVE FOR A PERIOD OF TEN (10) YEARS BEGINNING OCTOBER 1, 2017; PROVIDING FOR THE REFERENDUM TO BE CONDUCTED IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE GENERAL ELECTION TO BE HELD ON NOVEMBER 8, 2016; PROVIDING BALLOT LANGUAGE; PROVIDING FOR NOTIFICATION TO THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC OPPORTUNITY; AUTHORIZING EXPENDITURES FOR INFORMING THE PUBLIC; PROVIDING FOR SEVERABILITY; PROVIDING A CONFLICT CLAUSE; PROVIDING FOR FILING WITH THE DEPARTMENT OF STATE; AND PROVIDING AN EFFECTIVE DATE.

WHEREAS, Section189.03, Florida Statutes authorizes the creation of independent special districts; and

WHEREAS, Chapter 2012-258, Laws of Florida, creates and establishes the North Lake County Hospital District in Lake County, Florida ("District") as an independent special taxing district; and

WHEREAS, the District acts as a means to pay for medically necessary health care to the qualified residents of the District; and

WHEREAS, Section 14, Chapter 2012-258, Laws of Florida, states that the District shall expire and dissolve at the end of its fiscal year in 2017, without further act of the Legislature; and

WHEREAS, Section 14, Chapter 2012-258, Laws of Florida, allows the District to continue for an additional ten (10) years if a majority of the electors voting in a referendum called for that purpose approve continuation of the District; and

WHEREAS, Section 15 of Chapter 2012-258, Laws of Florida, provides that the Lake County Board of County Commissioners shall call a referendum in conjunction with the general election to be held on November 8, 2016, or such other general election date as provided by general law; and

WHEREAS, continuation of the District would serve a public purpose by allowing indigent care of the residents of Lake County to continue.

NOW THEREFORE, be it obtained by the Board of County Commissioners of Lake County, Florida as follows:

Section 1. **Continuation of the North Lake County Hospital District.** The Board of County Commissioners of Lake County, Florida hereby calls a referendum regarding the continuation of the North Lake County Hospital District ("District").

Section 2. **Referendum.** The North Lake County Hospital District shall not continue unless and until its continuation is approved by a majority of the electors of Lake County voting in a general election as required by this Ordinance.

Section 3. **Duration.** The continuation of the North Lake County Hospital District, if approved by a majority of the electors of Lake County, shall commence on October 1, 2017

and shall remain in place for a period of ten (10) years from October 1, 2017 to September 30, 2027.

Section 4. **Administration.** If approved by a majority of the electors of Lake County, the District shall continue to be administered and organized as provided in Chapter 2012-258, Florida Statutes.

Section 5. **General Election.** The electors of Lake County may vote as to whether the North Lake Hospital District shall be continued as set forth in Chapter 2012-258, Laws of Florida. The Supervisor of Elections of Lake County shall conduct the vote in conjunction with the general election to be held on November 8, 2016. The form of the ballot for said referendum shall be as follows:

CONTINUATION OF THE NORTH LAKE COUNTY HOSPITAL DISTRICT

Shall the independent special district known as the North Lake County Hospital District with authority to levy each year an ad valorem tax not to exceed 1 mill to fund indigent care to qualified residents of the district be continued for another 10 years?

____ **YES**

____ **NO**

Section 6. **Notice of Special Election.** A notice of the special election shall be published in a newspaper of general circulation in Lake County at least twice, once in the fifth week and once in the third week prior to the week of November 8, 2016.

Section 7. **Notice of Passage.** The Clerk of the Board of County Commissioners is directed to notify the Supervisor of Elections and the Department of Economic Opportunity immediately upon the passage of this Ordinance. The Clerk of the Board of County

Commissioners is further directed to notify the Department of Economic Opportunity of the outcome of the referendum election within thirty (30) days of the date of said election. Said notice shall include a copy of this Ordinance and such other information as the Department of Economic Opportunity shall require. The address for the Department of Economic Opportunity, Division of Community Development, Special District Accountability Program, is 107 E. Madison Street, MSC-400, Tallahassee, Florida 32399-6508.

Section 8. **Authorizing Expenditures for Informing the Public.** Public funds and public resources may be utilized to mount an informational campaign regarding the referendum. Such expenditures shall be made in accordance with Section 106.113, Florida Statutes. The Board of County Commissioners of Lake County finds that the expenditure of such funds and the use of such resources is for a public purpose and is an authorized expenditure/use.

Section 9. **Severability.** If any section, sentence, clause, phrase or word of this Ordinance is for any reason held or declared to be unconstitutional, inoperative or void, such holding or invalidity shall not affect the remaining portions of this Ordinance; and it shall be construed to have been the Commissioner's intent to pass this Ordinance without such unconstitutional, invalid or inoperative part therein; and the remainder of this Ordinance, after the exclusion of such part or parts shall be deemed and held to be valid, as if such parts had not been included herein; or if this Ordinance or any provisions thereof shall be held inapplicable to any person, groups of persons, property, kind of property, circumstances or set of circumstances, such holding shall not affect the applicability thereof to any other person, property or circumstances.

Section 10. **Conflict.** Any ordinance or part thereof in conflict with this Ordinance or any part hereof is hereby repealed to the extent of the conflict unless otherwise addressed herein.

Section 11. **Filing with the Department of State.** The Clerk shall be and is hereby directed forthwith to send a certified copy of this Ordinance to the Secretary of State for the State of Florida.

Section 12. **Effective Date.** This ordinance shall take effect as provided for by law.

ENACTED this day of 15 day of March, 2016.

FILED with the Secretary of State the 23 day of March, 2016.

EFFECTIVE March 23, 2016.

ATTEST:

Neil Kelly, Clerk of the
Board of County Commissioners of
Lake County, Florida

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
OF LAKE COUNTY, FLORIDA

Sean M. Parks, Chairman

This 15th day of March 2016.

Approved as to form and legality:

Melanie Marsh, County Attorney