

STATE OF FLORIDA

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR EXECUTIVE ORDER NUMBER 20-194

(Special Election – Bay County Commission, District 4)

WHEREAS, on June 23, 2020, Keith Baker resigned from his position as Bay County Commissioner, District 4 (a copy of his resignation letter is attached); and

WHEREAS, at the time of Keith Baker's resignation more than 28 months remained in his term of office; and

WHEREAS, a vacancy in the office of County Commissioner with more than 28 months remaining in the term of office shall be governed by Article IV, section 1(f) of the Florida Constitution and section 100.111, Florida Statutes; and

WHEREAS, section 100.111(1)(a), Florida Statutes, provides that a vacancy in an office which is required to be filled pursuant to Article IV, section 1(f) of the Florida Constitution, that has 28 months or more remaining in the term of office, shall be filled at the next general election for the unexpired portion of the term; and

WHEREAS, section 100.111(1)(c), Florida Statutes, provides that when the vacancy occurs prior to the primary election but after qualifying, and time does not permit party nominations to be made in conjunction with the primary election, the Governor may call a special primary election; and

WHEREAS, the Secretary of State and Supervisor of Elections for Bay County have consulted on the appropriate timeline for a special election to fill the unexpired portion of the term of office vacated by Keith Baker; and

WHEREAS, I, as Governor, have consulted with the Secretary of State and under the circumstances deem it in the best interest of the citizens of Bay County to issue an order declaring the date the special election shall be held; and

WHEREAS, due to the unpredictable circumstances of Keith Baker's resignation after the date of qualifying, there will not be sufficient time between a special primary election and the general election to fill the vacancy at the "next general election," as required by section 100.111(1)(a), Florida Statutes, and, therefore, a special election is required.

NOW, THEREFORE, I RON DESANTIS, as Governor of Florida, in obedience to my solemn constitutional duty to take care that the laws be faithfully executed, and pursuant to the Constitution and laws of the State of Florida, do hereby promulgate the following Executive Order, to take immediate effect:

Section 1. A Special Election shall be held for the office of Bay County Commission, District 4 to fill the unexpired term created by the resignation of Keith Baker.

Section 2. A Special Primary Election shall be held during the November General Election on November 3, 2020.

Section 3. A Special Election shall be held on January 19, 2021, if necessary, to select the Bay County Commissioner for District 4.



IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Florida to be affixed at Tallahassee, this 11th day of August, 2020.



RON DESANTIS, GOVERNOR

ATTEST:



SECRETARY OF STATE

FILED
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DEPARTMENT OF STATE
TALLAHASSEE, FLORIDA