

4. *Notice of intent.*

Upon determination by the Board of County Commissioners that the Board will formally consider adopting the code form of home rule, the Board shall make known this intent by publication of notice that the Board is considering the adoption of the code form of home rule. The notice shall contain dates, times, and place or places of public hearings thereon. The notice shall be published in at least one newspaper of general circulation in the county not less than three times, at weekly intervals, within a period of not more than thirty days prior to the first public hearing.

5. *Public hearing.*

The Board of County Commissioners shall hold at least two public hearings on the proposal to adopt code home rule status. The hearings may be held in the courthouse or at some other appropriate place or places in the county. At these hearings the residents and taxpayers, or either, within the county shall be given the opportunity to be heard on the proposal to adopt code home rule status.

6. *Resolution.*

Within sixty days following the last public hearing, the Board of County Commissioners shall make a decision on having code home rule status. Adoption of code home rule status shall be done by resolution, passed as in the usual course of considering resolutions, by at least a two-thirds majority of all members elected to the Board of County Commissioners. The resolution shall state that the county shall operate under Article 11F of the Constitution, subject to approval at referendum. A certified copy of the resolution shall be sent to the Board of Supervisors of Elections for the county.

7. *Referendum.*

The Board of Supervisors of Elections, at the next regular Congressional election and in accordance with requirements as to time, notice, and form in Article 33 of this Code, shall submit the question of code home rule status to the registered voters of the county for their adoption or rejection. The ballots or voting machine labels, as the case may be, shall contain the words "For Adoption of Code Home Rule Status" and "Against Adoption of Code Home Rule Status." If a majority of those who vote on the question cast their votes in favor of adoption, the Board of County Commissioners publicly shall so proclaim within ten days after receiving a certification of the votes from the Board of Supervisors of Elections; and on the thirtieth day following the public proclamation the county shall become a code home rule county. If a majority of those persons who vote on the question cast their votes against adoption, the Board of County Commissioners likewise shall so proclaim, and in this event the proposal is rejected at that election.

7A.

AFTER HAVING BECOME A CODE COUNTY ACCORDING TO THE PROCEDURE REQUIRED IN THIS SUB-TITLE, ANY SUCH COUNTY MAY ELECT TO RETURN TO ITS FORM OF GOVERNMENT PRIOR TO THE ADOPTION OF CODE COUNTY STATUS BY FOLLOWING THE SAME PROCEDURE REQUIRED HEREUNDER FOR THE ADOPTION OF SUCH STATUS.