Enactment of Local Laws

8. Applicability of subtitle.

Every code county shall proceed as provided in this subtitle in exercising the powers for the enactment, amendment, or repeal of public local laws or for the issuance of bonds under the subtitle "Creation of Public Debt by Code Counties" in this Article.

9. Legislative session.

Every code county, by public local law, shall establish a specified number of days, not to exceed forty-five, in which the Board of County Commissioners may meet in each year for the purpose of enacting public local laws. These legislative days may but need not be consecutive and may be alloted as the legislative body, by public local law determines. The first legislative session shall be held on the first ordinary business day which is sixty days subsequent to the effective date of code home rule status and shall be fifteen days long. These fifteen days shall not count as part of the annual forty-five legislative days. Any legislative day not specified or not determinable by the local law shall be preceded by a notice published in a newspaper of general circulation in the county within a period of from NOT LESS THAN three to ten NOT MORE THAN FOUR-TEEN days prior thereto.

10. Legislative procedure.

- (a) Public meetings. All legislative sessions shall be open to the public.
- (b) Enacting clause. The style of the enacting clause for all bills shall be "Be it enacted by" and all public local laws shall be passed by original bill.
- (c) Titles. Each public local law enacted shall embrace but one subject, and that shall be described in its title; and no public local law, or section of public local law, shall be repealed, revised, or amended by reference to its title only.
- (d) Procedure for passing bills. A bill may be introduced by any member of the Board of County Commissioners on any legislative session-day. Not later than the next calendar day following the introduction of a bill the president of the Board of County Commissioners shall schedule a public hearing on the bill, that shall not be less than seven calendar days after its introduction; but the Board of County Commissioners may reject any bill on its introduction without a hearing by a vote of at least four-fifths of its total membership. The hearing may but need not be held on a legislative session-day and may be adjourned from time to time. After the public hearing, a bill may be finally passed on a legislative session-day with or without amendment; but if a bill is amended before final passage, it shall not be passed until it is reprinted or reproduced as amended.
- (e) Procedure for passing emergency bills. Upon introduction of an emergency bill the president of the Board of County Commissioners shall schedule a public hearing thereon, which shall not be less than three calendar days after its introduction. The public hearing may but need not be held on a legislative session-day and may be adjourned from time to time. After public hearing, the bill