

The Florida Senate
HOUSE MESSAGE SUMMARY

Prepared By: The Professional Staff of the Committee on Ethics and Elections

[2013h7013.hms.docx]

BILL: CS/HB 7013

INTRODUCER: Appropriations Committee, Ethics and Elections Subcommittee, and Representative Boyd

SUBJECT: Florida Election Code

DATE: May 3, 2013

I. Amendments Contained in Message:

House Amendment 1—240123 (body with title)

II. Summary of Amendments Contained in Message:

House Amendment 1 is a strike all amendment that substantively differs from **Senate Amendment 362928** as follows:

- Removes the provisions authorizing the Secretary of State to place a Supervisor of Elections on "non-compliant" status;
- Requires each Supervisor of Elections to post an election-preparedness report on the Supervisor's website rather than filing with the Board of County Commissioners;
- Eliminates the Presidential Primary Date Selection Committee, providing instead that the primary dates will be on the first Tuesday that the major political parties' rules allow for allocating delegates without penalty;
- Changes the crime of possessing more than two (2) absentee ballots (other than the voter's own ballot or those of immediate family members) from a 3rd Degree felony to a 1st Degree Misdemeanor;
- Provides that the gifts law and honoraria law apply to Committees of Continuous Existence ("CCEs") and reporting individuals or procurement employees through September 30, 2013, when CCEs are de-certified under the campaign finance bill.
- Expands the late voter registration provisions for military voters to include voters who have returned from a "military deployment" or "activation," as opposed to a *combat zone* or *forward-deployed area*.
- Allows voters seeking to cure an absentee ballot without a signature to submit the required affidavit through 5 p.m. on the *day before* the election instead of 5 p.m. on the *Sunday* before, because some Supervisors offices may not be open to receive ballots on that final Sunday.
- Changes the effective date of the bill from July 1, 2013 to January 1, 2014.