

1                   A bill to be entitled  
2           An act relating to elections; amending s. 20.10, F.S.;  
3           revising responsibilities of the Secretary of State;  
4           providing that the Secretary of State shall be  
5           elected; amending s. 97.012, F.S.; requiring the  
6           Secretary of State to provide signature matching  
7           training to supervisors of elections and county  
8           canvassing boards; providing requirements for such  
9           training; prohibiting such persons from comparing  
10          voter signatures until receiving such training;  
11          amending s. 97.052, F.S.; authorizing a supervisor of  
12          elections to provide certain notifications by e-mail;  
13          conforming provisions to changes made by the act;  
14          repealing s. 97.055, F.S., relating to the closure of  
15          registration books for an election; repealing s.  
16          97.0555, F.S., relating to late registration to vote;  
17          creating s. 97.0556, F.S.; providing that a person who  
18          meets certain requirements may register to vote and  
19          cast a ballot on election day or at an early voting  
20          site; amending s. 97.057, F.S.; requiring the  
21          Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles to  
22          provide the opportunity to preregister to vote to  
23          certain individuals; amending s. 98.077, F.S.;  
24          providing methods by which a registered voter may  
25          update his or her signature on file in the statewide

26 voter registration system; removing provisions  
27 relating to a deadline for receipt of a signature  
28 update; creating s. 100.51, F.S.; providing that  
29 General Election Day is a paid holiday; providing that  
30 any elector may absent himself or herself from service  
31 or employment at a specified time on a General  
32 Election Day and may not be penalized for such  
33 absence; creating s. 101.016, F.S.; requiring the  
34 Division of Elections to maintain a strategic  
35 elections equipment reserve of voting systems that may  
36 be deployed in certain circumstances; authorizing the  
37 department to contract with certain entities for a  
38 specified purpose; amending s. 101.048, F.S.;

39 providing that a person may cast a provisional vote in  
40 the county in which the voter claims to be registered;  
41 requiring a supervisor of elections to immediately  
42 notify a person of a nonmatching signature and allow  
43 such person to cure the ballot within a reasonable  
44 amount of time; conforming provisions to changes made  
45 by the act; amending s. 101.151, F.S.; requiring a  
46 ballot to include the office title of Secretary of  
47 State in a specific order relative to other office  
48 titles; providing that the names of candidates for  
49 each office shall be ordered randomly; requiring the  
50 Department of State to adopt rules prescribing uniform

51 ballots for statewide use; requiring the department  
52 rules to graphically depict sample ballot forms for  
53 statewide use; amending s. 101.5612, F.S.; requiring a  
54 supervisor of elections to annually conduct specified  
55 tests of voting systems; requiring a supervisor of  
56 elections to annually file a report containing  
57 specified information with the Secretary of State;  
58 amending s. 101.62, F.S.; providing that a request for  
59 a vote-by-mail ballot is sufficient to receive such  
60 ballot for all elections until the request is  
61 cancelled; revising the date by which a supervisor of  
62 elections shall mail a vote-by-mail ballot to each  
63 absent qualified voter; amending s. 101.64, F.S.;  
64 providing that a supervisor shall enclose a postage  
65 paid mailing envelope with each vote-by-mail ballot;  
66 providing that vote-by-mail ballot voter certificates  
67 may require a voter's signature or the last four  
68 digits of the voter's social security number;  
69 conforming provisions to changes made by the act;  
70 amending s. 101.65, F.S.; revising instructions that  
71 shall be included with each vote-by-mail ballot to  
72 provide that a vote-by-mail ballot must be postmarked  
73 or dated no later than the date of the election;  
74 conforming provisions to changes made by the act;  
75 amending 101.657, F.S.; requiring a supervisor of

76 | elections to provide secure drop boxes in specified  
77 | locations for a specified early voting period into  
78 | which an elector may place his or her vote-by-mail  
79 | ballot; requiring the supervisor to deliver such  
80 | ballots to the county canvassing board; requiring  
81 | certain security monitoring of such secure drop boxes;  
82 | amending s. 101.67, F.S.; removing the requirement  
83 | that absent electors' ballots must be received by the  
84 | supervisor by a specified time on the day of the  
85 | election; amending s. 101.68, F.S.; providing that a  
86 | supervisor of elections shall compare the signature or  
87 | partial social security number with the signature or  
88 | social security number in the registration books or  
89 | precinct register when canvassing a vote-by-mail  
90 | ballot; authorizing the supervisor to provide certain  
91 | notifications by e-mail; requiring the supervisor to  
92 | allow a reasonable amount of time for an elector to  
93 | cure a vote-by-mail ballot if the signature or partial  
94 | security number is omitted or does not match;  
95 | requiring a supervisor to use the signature on a cure  
96 | affidavit to update an elector's signature; conforming  
97 | provisions to changes made by the act; amending s.  
98 | 101.69, F.S.; providing that an elector who has  
99 | returned a vote-by-mail ballot which has been accepted  
100 | by the supervisor is deemed to have cast his or her

101 ballot and is not allowed to vote in person; amending  
102 s. 101.6952, F.S.; providing that an absent voter may  
103 submit a federal write-in absentee ballot or vote-by-  
104 mail ballot; providing when and whether a federal  
105 write-in absentee ballot or vote-by-mail ballot shall  
106 be canvassed; providing that a certain presumption  
107 applies to vote-by-mail ballots received from absent  
108 voters; providing that a vote-by-mail ballot from an  
109 absent voter which is postmarked or dated by a certain  
110 date and received by a certain date shall be counted;  
111 amending s. 101.697, F.S.; providing that the  
112 Department of State shall, if secure electronic means  
113 can be established, adopt rules to authorize a  
114 supervisor of elections to accept a voted ballot by  
115 secure electronic means upon a determination of good  
116 cause; amending s. 102.111, F.S.; prohibiting certain  
117 persons from serving on the Elections Canvassing  
118 Commission; revising the dates by which the commission  
119 shall certify certain election returns; amending s.  
120 102.112, F.S.; revising the deadlines for submission  
121 of county returns to the Department of State;  
122 conforming a cross-reference; amending s. 102.141,  
123 F.S.; prohibiting certain persons from serving on a  
124 county canvassing board; creating s. 102.181, F.S.;  
125 providing that certain persons may file actions

126 against a supervisor of elections for noncompliance  
 127 with the election code; providing that such person is  
 128 entitled to an immediate hearing; providing for the  
 129 waiver of fees and costs and the awarding of attorney  
 130 fees; amending ss. 97.053, 97.0575, and 98.0981, F.S.;  
 131 conforming provisions to changes made by the act;  
 132 providing an effective date.

133

134 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

135

136 Section 1. Subsection (1) of section 20.10, Florida  
 137 Statutes, is amended to read:

138 20.10 Department of State.—There is created a Department  
 139 of State.

140 (1) The head of the Department of State is the Secretary  
 141 of State. The Secretary of State shall be elected ~~appointed by~~  
 142 ~~the Governor, subject to confirmation by the Senate, and shall~~  
 143 ~~serve at the pleasure of the Governor.~~ The Secretary of State  
 144 shall perform the functions conferred by the State Constitution  
 145 upon the custodian of state records.

146 Section 2. Subsection (7) of section 97.012, Florida  
 147 Statutes, is amended, and subsection (17) is added to that  
 148 section, to read:

149 97.012 Secretary of State as chief election officer.—The  
 150 Secretary of State is the chief election officer of the state,

151 and it is his or her responsibility to:

152 (7) Coordinate the state's responsibilities under and  
 153 verify that supervisors of elections are properly implementing  
 154 the National Voter Registration Act of 1993.

155 (17) Provide formal signature matching training to  
 156 supervisors of elections and county canvassing board members.  
 157 Such training must include a presumption that signatures match  
 158 and specified criteria that shall be used to determine whether  
 159 signatures do not match. A supervisor of elections or a county  
 160 canvassing board member may not compare any voter signatures in  
 161 order to determine if they match until he or she has received  
 162 such training.

163 Section 3. Subsection (6) of section 97.052, Florida  
 164 Statutes, is amended to read:

165 97.052 Uniform statewide voter registration application.—

166 (6) If a voter registration applicant fails to provide any  
 167 of the required information on the voter registration  
 168 application form, the supervisor shall notify the applicant of  
 169 the failure by mail or e-mail within 5 business days after the  
 170 supervisor has the information available in the voter  
 171 registration system. ~~The applicant shall have an opportunity to~~  
 172 ~~complete the application form to vote in the next election up~~  
 173 ~~until the book closing for that next election.~~

174 Section 4. Section 97.055, Florida Statutes, is repealed.

175 Section 5. Section 97.0555, Florida Statutes, is repealed.

176 Section 6. Section 97.0556, Florida Statutes, is created  
 177 to read:

178 97.0556 Same Day Voter Registration.—A person who meets  
 179 the qualifications to register to vote provided in s. 97.041 and  
 180 provides the information required for the statewide voter  
 181 registration application by s. 97.052 may register to vote and  
 182 cast a ballot on election day or at an early voting site.

183 Section 7. Subsection (1) of section 97.057, Florida  
 184 Statutes, is amended to read:

185 97.057 Voter registration by the Department of Highway  
 186 Safety and Motor Vehicles.—

187 (1) The Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles  
 188 shall provide the opportunity to preregister to vote, register  
 189 to vote, or to update a voter registration record to each  
 190 individual who comes to an office of that department to:

- 191 (a) Apply for or renew a driver license;
- 192 (b) Apply for or renew an identification card pursuant to  
 193 chapter 322; or
- 194 (c) Change an address on an existing driver license or  
 195 identification card.

196 Section 8. Subsections (1) and (4) of section 98.077,  
 197 Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

198 98.077 Update of voter signature.—

199 (1) A registered voter may update his or her signature on  
 200 file in the statewide voter registration system at any time



201 using a voter registration application submitted to a voter  
202 registration official in person, by mail, or by e-mail.

203 ~~(4) All signature updates for use in verifying vote-by-~~  
204 ~~mail and provisional ballots must be received by the appropriate~~  
205 ~~supervisor of elections no later than the start of the~~  
206 ~~canvassing of vote-by-mail ballots by the canvassing board. The~~  
207 ~~signature on file at the start of the canvass of the vote-by-~~  
208 ~~mail ballots is the signature that shall be used in verifying~~  
209 ~~the signature on the vote-by-mail and provisional ballot~~  
210 ~~certificates.~~

211 Section 9. Section 100.51, Florida Statutes, is created to  
212 read:

213 100.51 General Election Day paid holiday.—In order to  
214 encourage civil participation, enable more individuals to serve  
215 as poll workers, and to provide additional time for the  
216 resolution of any issues that arise while an elector is casting  
217 his or her vote, General Election Day is a paid holiday. Any  
218 elector is entitled to absent himself or herself from any  
219 service or employment in which he or she is engaged or employed  
220 between the time of the opening and closing of polls on General  
221 Election Day. An elector who absents himself or herself under  
222 this section may not be penalized in any way and a deduction may  
223 not be made from his or her usual salary or wages on account of  
224 his or her absence.

225 Section 10. Section 101.016, Florida Statutes, is created

226 to read:

227 101.016 Strategic election equipment reserve.—The Division  
228 of Elections shall maintain a strategic elections equipment  
229 reserve of voting systems that may be deployed in the event of  
230 an emergency as defined in s. 101.732 or upon the occurrence of  
231 equipment capacity issues due to unexpected voter turnout. The  
232 reserve shall include tabulation equipment and any other  
233 necessary equipment, such as printers, that are in use by each  
234 supervisor of elections. In lieu of maintaining a physical  
235 reserve of such equipment, the division may contract with a  
236 vendor of voting equipment that shall provide such equipment on  
237 an as-needed basis.

238 Section 11. Subsections (1) and (2) of section 101.048,  
239 Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

240 101.048 Provisional ballots.—

241 (1) At all elections, a voter claiming to be properly  
242 registered in the state and eligible to vote ~~at the precinct~~ in  
243 the election but whose eligibility cannot be determined, a  
244 person whom an election official asserts is not eligible, and  
245 other persons specified in the code shall be entitled to vote a  
246 provisional ballot in the county in which the voter claims to be  
247 registered. Once voted, the provisional ballot shall be placed  
248 in a secrecy envelope and thereafter sealed in a provisional  
249 ballot envelope. The provisional ballot shall be deposited in a  
250 ballot box. All provisional ballots shall remain sealed in their

251 envelopes for return to the supervisor of elections. The  
252 department shall prescribe the form of the provisional ballot  
253 envelope. A person casting a provisional ballot shall have the  
254 right to present written evidence supporting his or her  
255 eligibility to vote to the supervisor of elections by not later  
256 than 5 p.m. on the second day following the election.

257 (2) (a) The county canvassing board shall examine each  
258 Provisional Ballot Voter's Certificate and Affirmation to  
259 determine if the person voting that ballot was entitled to vote  
260 in the county ~~at the precinct~~ where the person cast a vote in  
261 the election and that the person had not already cast a ballot  
262 in the election. In determining whether a person casting a  
263 provisional ballot is entitled to vote, the county canvassing  
264 board shall review the information provided in the Voter's  
265 Certificate and Affirmation, written evidence provided by the  
266 person pursuant to subsection (1), any other evidence presented  
267 by the supervisor of elections, and, in the case of a challenge,  
268 any evidence presented by the challenger. A ballot of a person  
269 casting a provisional ballot shall be counted unless the  
270 canvassing board determines by a preponderance of the evidence  
271 that the person was not entitled to vote.

272 (b)1. If it is determined that the person was registered  
273 and entitled to vote in the county ~~at the precinct~~ where the  
274 person cast a vote in the election, the canvassing board shall  
275 compare the signature on the Provisional Ballot Voter's

276 Certificate and Affirmation with the signature on the voter's  
277 registration and, if it matches, shall count the ballot. If the  
278 canvassing board determines that the signature does not match,  
279 the supervisor of elections shall, on behalf of the canvassing  
280 board, immediately notify the person that the signature does not  
281 match and allow the voter to cure the ballot within a reasonable  
282 amount of time. The supervisor may provide such notification by  
283 e-mail.

284 2. If it is determined that the person voting the  
285 provisional ballot was not registered or entitled to vote in the  
286 county ~~at the precinct~~ where the person cast a vote in the  
287 election, the provisional ballot shall not be counted and the  
288 ballot shall remain in the envelope containing the Provisional  
289 Ballot Voter's Certificate and Affirmation and the envelope  
290 shall be marked "Rejected as Illegal."

291 Section 12. Paragraph (a) of subsection (2), paragraph (a)  
292 of subsection (3), and subsection (9) of section 101.151,  
293 Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

294 101.151 Specifications for ballots.—

295 (2) (a) The ballot must include the following office titles  
296 above the names of the candidates for the respective offices in  
297 the following order:

298 1. The office titles of President and Vice President ~~above~~  
299 ~~the names of the candidates for President and Vice President of~~  
300 ~~the United States nominated by the political party that received~~

301 ~~the highest vote for Governor in the last general election of~~  
302 ~~the Governor in this state, followed by the names of other~~  
303 ~~candidates for President and Vice President of the United States~~  
304 ~~who have been properly nominated.~~

305 2. The office titles of United States Senator and  
306 Representative in Congress.

307 3. The office titles of Governor and Lieutenant Governor;  
308 Attorney General; Chief Financial Officer; Commissioner of  
309 Agriculture; Secretary of State; State Attorney, with the  
310 applicable judicial circuit; and Public Defender, with the  
311 applicable judicial circuit.

312 4. The office titles of State Senator and State  
313 Representative, with the applicable district for the office  
314 printed beneath.

315 5. The office titles of Clerk of the Circuit Court or,  
316 when the Clerk of the Circuit Court also serves as the County  
317 Comptroller, Clerk of the Circuit Court and Comptroller, when  
318 authorized by law; Clerk of the County Court, when authorized by  
319 law; Sheriff; Property Appraiser; Tax Collector; District  
320 Superintendent of Schools; and Supervisor of Elections.

321 6. The office titles of Board of County Commissioners,  
322 with the applicable district printed beneath each office, and  
323 such other county and district offices as are involved in the  
324 election, in the order fixed by the Department of State,  
325 followed, in the year of their election, by "Party Offices," and

326 thereunder the offices of state and county party executive  
 327 committee members.

328 (3) (a) The names of the candidates of each party ~~the party~~  
 329 ~~that received the highest number of votes for Governor in the~~  
 330 ~~last election in which a Governor was elected~~ shall be ordered  
 331 randomly placed first for each office on the general election  
 332 ballot, together with an appropriate abbreviation of each such  
 333 ~~the party name; the names of the candidates of the party that~~  
 334 ~~received the second highest vote for Governor shall be placed~~  
 335 ~~second for each office, together with an appropriate~~  
 336 ~~abbreviation of the party name.~~

337 (9) (a) The Department of State shall adopt rules  
 338 prescribing a uniform primary and general election ballot for  
 339 statewide use ~~each certified voting system~~. The rules shall  
 340 incorporate the requirements set forth in this section and shall  
 341 prescribe additional matters and forms that include, without  
 342 limitation:

- 343 1. Clear and unambiguous ballot instructions and
- 344 directions;
- 345 2. Individual race layout; and
- 346 3. Overall ballot layout.

347 (b) The department rules shall graphically depict a sample  
 348 uniform primary and general election ballot form for statewide  
 349 use ~~each certified voting system~~.

350 Section 13. Subsection (6) is added to section 101.5612,

351 Florida Statutes, to read:

352 101.5612 Testing of tabulating equipment.—

353 (6) (a) The supervisor of elections shall annually test the  
354 voting system, including automatic tabulating equipment, to  
355 determine if the voting system is capable of timely processing  
356 both the maximum number of ballots that may be voted on an  
357 election day and the maximum number of ballots that may be voted  
358 in an election during the period of time in which a recount may  
359 take place.

360 (b) A supervisor of elections shall annually file with the  
361 Secretary of State a report that includes the results of the  
362 testing conducted pursuant to paragraph (a) and a detailed plan  
363 for operations if maximum voter turnout were to occur on  
364 election day and if a recount were to be required in each race  
365 on a ballot.

366 Section 14. Paragraph (a) of subsection (1) and paragraph  
367 (b) of subsection (4) of section 101.62, Florida Statutes, are  
368 amended to read:

369 101.62 Request for vote-by-mail ballots.—

370 (1) (a) The supervisor shall accept a request for a vote-  
371 by-mail ballot from an elector in person or in writing. One  
372 request shall be deemed sufficient to receive a vote-by-mail  
373 ballot for all elections until the elector or the elector's  
374 designee notifies the supervisor that the elector cancels such  
375 request through the end of the calendar year of the second

376 ~~ensuing regularly scheduled general election,~~ unless the elector  
377 or the elector's designee indicates at the time the request is  
378 made the elections for which the elector desires to receive a  
379 vote-by-mail ballot. Such request may be considered canceled  
380 when any first-class mail sent by the supervisor to the elector  
381 is returned as undeliverable.

382 (4)

383 (b) The supervisor of elections shall mail a vote-by-mail  
384 ballot to each absent qualified voter, other than those listed  
385 in paragraph (a), who has requested such a ballot, no later than  
386 45 days ~~between the 35th and 28th days~~ before the presidential  
387 preference primary election, primary election, and general  
388 election. Except as otherwise provided in subsection (2) and  
389 after the period described in this paragraph, the supervisor  
390 shall mail vote-by-mail ballots within 2 business days after  
391 receiving a request for such a ballot.

392 Section 15. Subsections (1) and (2) of section 101.64,  
393 Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

394 101.64 Delivery of vote-by-mail ballots; envelopes; form.—

395 (1) The supervisor shall enclose with each vote-by-mail  
396 ballot two envelopes: a secrecy envelope, into which the absent  
397 elector shall enclose his or her marked ballot; and a postage  
398 paid mailing envelope, into which the absent elector shall then  
399 place the secrecy envelope, which shall be addressed to the  
400 supervisor and also bear on the back side a certificate in



401 substantially the following form:

402 Note: Please Read Instructions Carefully Before  
 403 Marking Ballot and Completing Voter's Certificate.

404 VOTER'S CERTIFICATE

405 I, ....., do solemnly swear or affirm that I am a qualified  
 406 and registered voter of .... County, Florida, and that I have  
 407 not and will not vote more than one ballot in this election. I  
 408 understand that if I commit or attempt to commit any fraud in  
 409 connection with voting, vote a fraudulent ballot, or vote more  
 410 than once in an election, I can be convicted of a felony of the  
 411 third degree and fined up to \$5,000 and/or imprisoned for up to  
 412 5 years. I also understand that failure to sign this certificate  
 413 will invalidate my ballot.

414 ... (Date) ...

415 ... (Voter's Signature or Last Four Digits of Social Security  
 416 Number) ...

417 (2) The certificate shall be arranged on the back of the  
 418 mailing envelope so that the line for the signature or last four  
 419 digits of the social security number of the absent elector is  
 420 across the seal of the envelope; however, no statement shall  
 421 appear on the envelope which indicates that a signature or last  
 422 four digits of the social security number of the voter must  
 423 cross the seal of the envelope. The absent elector shall execute  
 424 the certificate on the envelope.

425 Section 16. Section 101.65, Florida Statutes, is amended

426 to read:

427 101.65 Instructions to absent electors.—The supervisor  
 428 shall enclose with each vote-by-mail ballot separate printed  
 429 instructions in substantially the following form:

430 READ THESE INSTRUCTIONS CAREFULLY  
 431 BEFORE MARKING BALLOT.

432 1. VERY IMPORTANT. In order to ensure that your vote-by-  
 433 mail ballot will be counted, it ~~should be completed and returned~~  
 434 ~~as soon as possible so that it can reach the supervisor of~~  
 435 ~~elections of the county in which your precinct is located no~~  
 436 ~~later than 7 p.m. on the day of the election. However, if you~~  
 437 ~~are an overseas voter casting a ballot in a presidential~~  
 438 ~~preference primary or general election, your vote-by-mail ballot~~  
 439 must be postmarked or dated no later than the date of the  
 440 election and received by the supervisor of elections of the  
 441 county in which you are registered to vote no later than 10 days  
 442 after the date of the election.

443 2. Mark your ballot in secret as instructed on the ballot.  
 444 You must mark your own ballot unless you are unable to do so  
 445 because of blindness, disability, or inability to read or write.

446 3. Mark only the number of candidates or issue choices for  
 447 a race as indicated on the ballot. If you are allowed to "Vote  
 448 for One" candidate and you vote for more than one candidate,  
 449 your vote in that race will not be counted.

450 4. Place your marked ballot in the enclosed secrecy

451 envelope.

452 5. Insert the secrecy envelope into the enclosed mailing  
453 envelope which is addressed to the supervisor.

454 6. Seal the mailing envelope and completely fill out the  
455 Voter's Certificate on the back of the mailing envelope.

456 7. VERY IMPORTANT. In order for your vote-by-mail ballot  
457 to be counted, you must sign your name or print the last four  
458 digits of your social security number on the line above (Voter's  
459 Signature or Last Four Digits of Social Security Number). A  
460 vote-by-mail ballot will be considered illegal and not be  
461 counted if the signature on the voter's certificate or the last  
462 four digits of the social security number does not match the  
463 signature or social security number on record. The signature on  
464 file at the start of the canvass of the vote-by-mail ballots is  
465 the signature that will be used to verify your signature on the  
466 voter's certificate. If you need to update your signature for  
467 this election, send your signature update on a voter  
468 registration application to your supervisor of elections ~~so that~~  
469 ~~it is received no later than the start of the canvassing of~~  
470 ~~vote-by-mail ballots, which occurs no earlier than the 15th day~~  
471 ~~before election day.~~

472 8. VERY IMPORTANT. ~~If you are an overseas voter,~~ You must  
473 include the date you signed the Voter's Certificate or printed  
474 the last four digits of your social security number on the line  
475 above (Date) or your ballot may not be counted.

476 9. Mail, deliver, or have delivered the completed mailing  
477 envelope. ~~Be sure there is sufficient postage if mailed.~~

478 10. FELONY NOTICE. It is a felony under Florida law to  
479 accept any gift, payment, or gratuity in exchange for your vote  
480 for a candidate. It is also a felony under Florida law to vote  
481 in an election using a false identity or false address, or under  
482 any other circumstances making your ballot false or fraudulent.

483 Section 17. Subsection (5) is added to section 101.657,  
484 Florida Statutes, to read:

485 101.657 Early voting.—

486 (5) (a) As a convenience to the voter, the supervisor of  
487 elections shall allow an elector to vote early by physically  
488 returning a voted vote-by-mail ballot to the supervisor by  
489 placing the envelope containing his or her marked ballot in a  
490 secure drop box. A secure drop box shall be placed at the main  
491 or branch office of the supervisor and at each early voting  
492 location.

493 (b) The secure drop box shall be available 24 hours a day  
494 beginning at noon on the 10th day before an election that  
495 contains state or federal races and ending on the day before the  
496 election at midnight.

497 (c) The supervisor shall, before the canvassing of the  
498 election returns, deliver the envelopes containing marked  
499 ballots to the county canvassing board along with his or her  
500 file or list kept regarding said ballots.

501        (d) Each secure drop box must be monitored by security  
502        cameras that record video or photographic data of persons using  
503        the secure drop box for the duration of the period in which the  
504        secure drop box is available.

505        Section 18. Section 101.67, Florida Statutes, is amended  
506        to read:

507        101.67 Safekeeping of mailed ballots; ~~deadline for~~  
508        ~~receiving vote by mail ballots.-~~

509        ~~(1)~~ The supervisor of elections shall safely keep in his  
510        or her office any envelopes received containing marked ballots  
511        of absent electors, and he or she shall, before the canvassing  
512        of the election returns, deliver the envelopes to the county  
513        canvassing board along with his or her file or list kept  
514        regarding said ballots.

515        ~~(2) Except as provided in s. 101.6952(5), all marked~~  
516        ~~absent electors' ballots to be counted must be received by the~~  
517        ~~supervisor by 7 p.m. the day of the election. All ballots~~  
518        ~~received thereafter shall be marked with the time and date of~~  
519        ~~receipt and filed in the supervisor's office.~~

520        Section 19. Subsection (1), paragraph (c) of subsection  
521        (2), and paragraphs (a), (b), (c), and (f) of subsection (4) of  
522        section 101.68, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

523        101.68 Canvassing of vote-by-mail ballot.-

524        (1) The supervisor of the county where the absent elector  
525        resides shall receive the voted ballot, at which time the

526 supervisor shall compare the signature or partial social  
527 security number of the elector on the voter's certificate with  
528 the signature or social security number of the elector in the  
529 registration books or the precinct register to determine whether  
530 the elector is duly registered in the county and may record on  
531 the elector's registration certificate that the elector has  
532 voted. An elector who dies after casting a vote-by-mail ballot  
533 but on or before election day shall remain listed in the  
534 registration books until the results have been certified for the  
535 election in which the ballot was cast. The supervisor shall  
536 safely keep the ballot unopened in his or her office until the  
537 county canvassing board canvasses the vote. Except as provided  
538 in subsection (4), after a vote-by-mail ballot is received by  
539 the supervisor, the ballot is deemed to have been cast, and  
540 changes or additions may not be made to the voter's certificate.

541 (2)(c)1. The canvassing board must, if the supervisor has  
542 not already done so, compare the signature or partial social  
543 security number of the elector on the voter's certificate or on  
544 the vote-by-mail ballot cure affidavit as provided in subsection  
545 (4) with the signature or social security number of the elector  
546 in the registration books or the precinct register to see that  
547 the elector is duly registered in the county and to determine  
548 the legality of that vote-by-mail ballot. A vote-by-mail ballot  
549 may only be counted if:

550 a. The signature or partial social security number on the

551 voter's certificate or the cure affidavit matches the elector's  
552 signature or social security number in the registration books or  
553 precinct register; however, in the case of a cure affidavit, the  
554 supporting identification listed in subsection (4) must also  
555 confirm the identity of the elector; or

556 b. The cure affidavit contains a signature or partial  
557 social security number that does not match the elector's  
558 signature or social security number in the registration books or  
559 precinct register, but the elector has submitted a current and  
560 valid Tier 1 identification pursuant to subsection (4) which  
561 confirms the identity of the elector.

562 2. The ballot of an elector who casts a vote-by-mail  
563 ballot shall be counted even if the elector dies on or before  
564 election day, as long as, before the death of the voter, the  
565 ballot was postmarked by the United States Postal Service, date-  
566 stamped with a verifiable tracking number by a common carrier,  
567 or already in the possession of the supervisor of elections.

568 3. A vote-by-mail ballot is not considered illegal if the  
569 signature or partial social security number of the elector does  
570 not cross the seal of the mailing envelope.

571 4. If any elector or candidate present believes that a  
572 vote-by-mail ballot is illegal due to a defect apparent on the  
573 voter's certificate or the cure affidavit, he or she may, at any  
574 time before the ballot is removed from the envelope, file with  
575 the canvassing board a protest against the canvass of that

576 ballot, specifying the precinct, the ballot, and the reason he  
577 or she believes the ballot to be illegal. A challenge based upon  
578 a defect in the voter's certificate or cure affidavit may not be  
579 accepted after the ballot has been removed from the mailing  
580 envelope.

581 5. If the canvassing board determines that a ballot is  
582 illegal, a member of the board must, without opening the  
583 envelope, mark across the face of the envelope: "rejected as  
584 illegal." The cure affidavit, if applicable, the envelope, and  
585 the ballot therein shall be preserved in the manner that  
586 official ballots are preserved.

587 (4) (a) The supervisor shall, on behalf of the county  
588 canvassing board, immediately notify an elector who has returned  
589 a vote-by-mail ballot that does not include the elector's  
590 signature or partial social security number or contains a  
591 signature or partial social security number that does not match  
592 the elector's signature or social security number in the  
593 registration books or precinct register. Such notification may  
594 be provided by e-mail. The supervisor shall allow such an  
595 elector to complete and submit an affidavit in order to cure the  
596 vote-by-mail ballot. The supervisor shall allow a reasonable  
597 amount of time for such an elector to cure the vote-by-mail  
598 ballot until 5 p.m. on the day before the election.

599 (b) The elector must complete a cure affidavit in  
600 substantially the following form:



601 VOTE-BY-MAIL BALLOT CURE AFFIDAVIT

602 I, ....., am a qualified voter in this election and  
 603 registered voter of .... County, Florida. I do solemnly swear or  
 604 affirm that I requested and returned the vote-by-mail ballot and  
 605 that I have not and will not vote more than one ballot in this  
 606 election. I understand that if I commit or attempt any fraud in  
 607 connection with voting, vote a fraudulent ballot, or vote more  
 608 than once in an election, I may be convicted of a felony of the  
 609 third degree and fined up to \$5,000 and imprisoned for up to 5  
 610 years. I understand that my failure to sign this affidavit means  
 611 that my vote-by-mail ballot will be invalidated.

612 ... (Voter's Signature or Last Four Digits of Social Security  
 613 Number) ...

614 ... (Address) ...

615 (c) Instructions must accompany the cure affidavit in  
 616 substantially the following form:

617 READ THESE INSTRUCTIONS CAREFULLY BEFORE COMPLETING THE  
 618 AFFIDAVIT. FAILURE TO FOLLOW THESE INSTRUCTIONS MAY CAUSE YOUR  
 619 BALLOT NOT TO COUNT.

620 1. In order to ensure that your vote-by-mail ballot will  
 621 be counted, your affidavit should be completed and returned as  
 622 soon as possible so that it can reach the supervisor of  
 623 elections of the county in which your precinct is located in a  
 624 reasonable amount of time ~~no later than 5 p.m. on the day before~~  
 625 ~~the election.~~

626           2. You must sign your name or print the last four digits  
627 of your social security number on the line above (Voter's  
628 Signature or Last Four Digits of Social Security Number).

629           3. You must make a copy of one of the following forms of  
630 identification:

631           a. Tier 1 identification.—Current and valid identification  
632 that includes your name and photograph: Florida driver license;  
633 Florida identification card issued by the Department of Highway  
634 Safety and Motor Vehicles; United States passport; debit or  
635 credit card; military identification; student identification;  
636 retirement center identification; neighborhood association  
637 identification; public assistance identification; veteran health  
638 identification card issued by the United States Department of  
639 Veterans Affairs; a Florida license to carry a concealed weapon  
640 or firearm; or an employee identification card issued by any  
641 branch, department, agency, or entity of the Federal Government,  
642 the state, a county, or a municipality; or

643           b. Tier 2 identification.—ONLY IF YOU DO NOT HAVE A TIER 1  
644 FORM OF IDENTIFICATION, identification that shows your name and  
645 current residence address: current utility bill, bank statement,  
646 government check, paycheck, or government document (excluding  
647 voter identification card).

648           4. Place the envelope bearing the affidavit into a mailing  
649 envelope addressed to the supervisor. Insert a copy of your  
650 identification in the mailing envelope. Mail, deliver, or have

651 delivered the completed affidavit along with the copy of your  
652 identification to your county supervisor of elections. Be sure  
653 there is sufficient postage if mailed and that the supervisor's  
654 address is correct.

655 5. Alternatively, you may fax or e-mail your completed  
656 affidavit and a copy of your identification to the supervisor of  
657 elections. If e-mailing, please provide these documents as  
658 attachments.

659 (f) After all election results on the ballot have been  
660 certified, the supervisor shall, on behalf of the county  
661 canvassing board, notify each elector whose ballot has been  
662 rejected as illegal and provide the specific reason the ballot  
663 was rejected. In addition, the supervisor shall use the  
664 signature provided on the cure affidavit to update the elector's  
665 signature on file in the statewide voter registration system or,  
666 ~~mail a voter registration application to the elector to be~~  
667 ~~completed indicating the elector's current signature if the~~  
668 ~~signature on the voter's certificate or cure affidavit did not~~  
669 ~~match the elector's signature in the registration books or~~  
670 ~~precinct register~~ and the elector did not submit a cure  
671 affidavit, mail a voter registration application to the elector  
672 to be completed indicating the elector's current signature. This  
673 section does not prohibit the supervisor from providing  
674 additional methods for updating an elector's signature.

675 Section 20. Section 101.69, Florida Statutes, is amended

676 | to read:

677 |       101.69 Voting in person; return of vote-by-mail ballot.—  
678 | The provisions of this code shall not be construed to prohibit  
679 | any elector from voting in person at the elector's precinct on  
680 | the day of an election or at an early voting site,  
681 | notwithstanding that the elector has requested a vote-by-mail  
682 | ballot for that election. An elector who has returned a voted  
683 | vote-by-mail ballot to the supervisor, however, is deemed to  
684 | have cast his or her ballot upon acceptance of such ballot by  
685 | the supervisor and is not entitled to vote another ballot or to  
686 | have a provisional ballot counted by the county canvassing  
687 | board. An elector who has received a vote-by-mail ballot and has  
688 | not returned the voted ballot to the supervisor, but desires to  
689 | vote in person, shall return the ballot, whether voted or not,  
690 | to the election board in the elector's precinct or to an early  
691 | voting site. The returned ballot shall be marked "canceled" by  
692 | the board and placed with other canceled ballots. However, if  
693 | the elector does not return the ballot and the election  
694 | official:

695 |       (1) Confirms that the supervisor has received and accepted  
696 | the elector's vote-by-mail ballot, the elector shall not be  
697 | allowed to vote in person. If the elector maintains that he or  
698 | she has not returned the vote-by-mail ballot or remains eligible  
699 | to vote, the elector shall be provided a provisional ballot as  
700 | provided in s. 101.048.

701 (2) Confirms that the supervisor has not received the  
 702 elector's vote-by-mail ballot, the elector shall be allowed to  
 703 vote in person as provided in this code. The elector's vote-by-  
 704 mail ballot, if subsequently received, shall not be counted and  
 705 shall remain in the mailing envelope, and the envelope shall be  
 706 marked "Rejected as Illegal."

707 (3) Cannot determine whether the supervisor has received  
 708 the elector's vote-by-mail ballot, the elector may vote a  
 709 provisional ballot as provided in s. 101.048.

710 Section 21. Section 101.6952, Florida Statutes, is amended  
 711 to read:

712 101.6952 Vote-by-mail ballots for absent ~~uniformed~~  
 713 ~~services and overseas~~ voters.-

714 (1) If an absent ~~uniformed services voter's or an overseas~~  
 715 voter's request for an official vote-by-mail ballot pursuant to  
 716 s. 101.62 includes an e-mail address, the supervisor of  
 717 elections shall:

718 (a) Record the voter's e-mail address in the vote-by-mail  
 719 ballot record;

720 (b) Confirm by e-mail that the vote-by-mail ballot request  
 721 was received and include in that e-mail the estimated date the  
 722 vote-by-mail ballot will be sent to the voter; and

723 (c) Notify the voter by e-mail when the voted vote-by-mail  
 724 ballot is received by the supervisor of elections.

725 (2) (a) An absent ~~uniformed services voter or an overseas~~

726 voter who makes timely application for but does not receive an  
727 official vote-by-mail ballot may use the federal write-in  
728 absentee ballot to vote in any federal, state, or local  
729 election.

730 (b)1. In an election for federal office, an elector may  
731 designate a candidate by writing the name of a candidate on the  
732 ballot. Except for a primary or special primary election, the  
733 elector may alternatively designate a candidate by writing the  
734 name of a political party on the ballot. A written designation  
735 of the political party shall be counted as a vote for the  
736 candidate of that party if there is such a party candidate in  
737 the race.

738 2. In a state or local election, an elector may vote in  
739 the section of the federal write-in absentee ballot designated  
740 for nonfederal races by writing on the ballot the title of each  
741 office and by writing on the ballot the name of the candidate  
742 for whom the elector is voting. Except for a primary, special  
743 primary, or nonpartisan election, the elector may alternatively  
744 designate a candidate by writing the name of a political party  
745 on the ballot. A written designation of the political party  
746 shall be counted as a vote for the candidate of that party if  
747 there is such a party candidate in the race. In addition, the  
748 elector may vote on any ballot measure presented in such  
749 election by identifying the ballot measure on which he or she  
750 desires to vote and specifying his or her vote on the measure.

751 For purposes of this section, a vote cast in a judicial merit  
752 retention election shall be treated in the same manner as a  
753 ballot measure in which the only allowable responses are "Yes"  
754 or "No."

755 (c) In the case of a joint candidacy, such as for the  
756 offices of President/Vice President or Governor/Lieutenant  
757 Governor, a valid vote for one or both qualified candidates on  
758 the same ticket shall constitute a vote for the joint candidacy.

759 (d) For purposes of this subsection and except when the  
760 context clearly indicates otherwise, such as when a candidate in  
761 the election is affiliated with a political party whose name  
762 includes the word "Independent," "Independence," or a similar  
763 term, a voter designation of "No Party Affiliation" or  
764 "Independent," or any minor variation, misspelling, or  
765 abbreviation thereof, shall be considered a designation for the  
766 candidate, other than a write-in candidate, who qualified to run  
767 in the race with no party affiliation. If more than one  
768 candidate qualifies to run as a candidate with no party  
769 affiliation, the designation may not count for any candidate  
770 unless there is a valid, additional designation of the  
771 candidate's name.

772 (e) Any abbreviation, misspelling, or other minor  
773 variation in the form of the name of an office, the name of a  
774 candidate, the ballot measure, or the name of a political party  
775 must be disregarded in determining the validity of the ballot.

776 (3) (a) An absent ~~uniformed services voter or an overseas~~  
777 voter who submits a federal write-in absentee ballot and later  
778 receives an official vote-by-mail ballot may submit the official  
779 vote-by-mail ballot. An elector who submits a federal write-in  
780 absentee ballot and later receives and submits an official vote-  
781 by-mail ballot should make every reasonable effort to inform the  
782 appropriate supervisor of elections that the elector has  
783 submitted more than one ballot.

784 (b) ~~A federal write-in absentee ballot may not be~~  
785 ~~canvassed until 7 p.m. on the day of the election.~~ A federal  
786 write-in absentee ballot from an absent ~~an overseas~~ voter in a  
787 presidential preference primary or general election may not be  
788 canvassed until the conclusion of the 10-day period specified in  
789 subsection (5). ~~Each federal write-in absentee ballot received~~  
790 ~~by 7 p.m. on the day of the election shall be canvassed pursuant~~  
791 ~~to ss. 101.5614(4) and 101.68, unless the elector's official~~  
792 ~~vote-by-mail ballot is received by 7 p.m. on election day.~~ Each  
793 federal write-in absentee ballot from an absent ~~overseas~~ voter  
794 in a presidential preference primary or general election  
795 received by 10 days after the date of the election shall be  
796 canvassed pursuant to ss. 101.5614(4) and 101.68, unless the  
797 ~~overseas~~ voter's official vote-by-mail ballot is received by 10  
798 days after the date of the election. If the elector's official  
799 vote-by-mail ballot is received ~~by 7 p.m. on election day, or,~~  
800 ~~for an overseas voter in a presidential preference primary or~~



801 ~~general election,~~ no later than 10 days after the date of the  
 802 election, the federal write-in absentee ballot is invalid and  
 803 the official vote-by-mail ballot shall be canvassed. The time  
 804 shall be regulated by the customary time in standard use in the  
 805 county seat of the locality.

806 (4) For vote-by-mail ballots received from absent  
 807 ~~uniformed services voters or overseas~~ voters, there is a  
 808 presumption that the envelope was mailed on the date stated on  
 809 the outside of the return envelope, regardless of the absence of  
 810 a postmark on the mailed envelope or the existence of a postmark  
 811 date that is later than the date of the election.

812 (5) A vote-by-mail ballot from an absent ~~overseas~~ voter in  
 813 any presidential preference primary or general election which is  
 814 postmarked or dated no later than the date of the election and  
 815 is received by the supervisor of elections of the county in  
 816 which the ~~overseas~~ voter is registered no later than 10 days  
 817 after the date of the election shall be counted as long as the  
 818 vote-by-mail ballot is otherwise proper.

819 Section 22. Section 101.697, Florida Statutes, is amended  
 820 to read:

821 101.697 Electronic transmission of election materials.—

822 (1) The Department of State shall determine whether secure  
 823 electronic means can be established for receiving ballots from  
 824 overseas voters. If such security can be established, the  
 825 department shall adopt rules to authorize a supervisor of

826 | elections to accept from an overseas voter a request for a vote-  
827 | by-mail ballot or a voted vote-by-mail ballot by secure  
828 | facsimile machine transmission or other secure electronic means.  
829 | The rules must provide that in order to accept a voted ballot,  
830 | the verification of the voter must be established, the security  
831 | of the transmission must be established, and each ballot  
832 | received must be recorded.

833 |       (2) The Department of State shall determine whether secure  
834 | electronic means can be established for receiving ballots from  
835 | voters for good cause, including during or immediately after an  
836 | emergency as defined in s. 101.732. If such security can be  
837 | established, the department shall adopt rules to authorize a  
838 | supervisor of elections to accept from a voter a voted ballot by  
839 | secure facsimile machine transmission or other secure electronic  
840 | means. The rules must provide that in order to accept a voted  
841 | ballot, the verification of the voter must be established, the  
842 | security of the transmission must be established, and each  
843 | ballot received must be recorded. Such a ballot may not be  
844 | accepted by a supervisor of elections except upon a  
845 | determination of good cause by the department.

846 |       Section 23. Subsections (2) and (3) of section 102.111,  
847 | Florida Statutes, are renumbered as subsections (3) and (4),  
848 | respectively, present subsection (2) of that section is amended,  
849 | and a new subsection (2) is added to that section, to read:

850 |       102.111 Elections Canvassing Commission.—

851        (2) A person who is a candidate with opposition in an  
852 election being canvassed or who is an active participant in the  
853 campaign or candidacy of any candidate with opposition in the  
854 election being canvassed may not serve on the Elections  
855 Canvassing Commission.

856        (3)~~(2)~~ The Elections Canvassing Commission shall meet at 9  
857 a.m. on the 9th day after a primary election to certify the  
858 returns for each federal, state, and multicounty office. The  
859 commission shall meet ~~and~~ at 9 a.m. on the 14th day after a  
860 general election to certify the returns of the election for each  
861 ~~federal, state, and multicounty office. The commission shall~~  
862 meet at 9 a.m. on the 21st day after a general election to  
863 certify the returns for each federal and state office. If a  
864 member of a county canvassing board that was constituted  
865 pursuant to s. 102.141 determines, within 5 days after the  
866 certification by the Elections Canvassing Commission, that a  
867 typographical error occurred in the official returns of the  
868 county, the correction of which could result in a change in the  
869 outcome of an election, the county canvassing board must certify  
870 corrected returns to the Department of State within 24 hours,  
871 and the Elections Canvassing Commission must correct and  
872 recertify the election returns as soon as practicable.

873        Section 24. Subsection (2) of section 102.112, Florida  
874 Statutes, is amended to read:

875        102.112 Deadline for submission of county returns to the

876 Department of State.—

877 (2) Returns must be filed by 5 p.m. on the 7th day  
878 following a primary election, ~~and~~ by noon on the 12th day  
879 following the general election for multicounty offices, and by  
880 noon on January 1 of the year following the general election for  
881 federal and statewide offices. However, the Department of State  
882 may correct typographical errors, including the transposition of  
883 numbers, in any returns submitted to the Department of State  
884 pursuant to s. 102.111(3) ~~s. 102.111(2)~~.

885 Section 25. Paragraph (f) is added to subsection (1) of  
886 section 102.141, Florida Statutes, to read:

887 102.141 County canvassing board; duties.—

888 (1) The county canvassing board shall be composed of the  
889 supervisor of elections; a county court judge, who shall act as  
890 chair; and the chair of the board of county commissioners.  
891 Alternate canvassing board members must be appointed pursuant to  
892 paragraph (e). In the event any member of the county canvassing  
893 board is unable to serve, is a candidate who has opposition in  
894 the election being canvassed, or is an active participant in the  
895 campaign or candidacy of any candidate who has opposition in the  
896 election being canvassed, such member shall be replaced as  
897 follows:

898 (f) A person who is a candidate with opposition in an  
899 election being canvassed or who is an active participant in the  
900 campaign or candidacy of any candidate with opposition in the

901 election being canvassed may not serve on a county canvassing  
902 board.

903 Section 26. Section 102.181, Florida Statutes, is created  
904 to read:

905 102.181 Action against supervisor of elections.-

906 (1) Any elector qualified to vote in or any candidate for  
907 office in an election may file an action against the supervisor  
908 of elections administering such election for noncompliance with  
909 any provision of this code.

910 (2) Any elector or candidate who files such an action is  
911 entitled to an immediate hearing.

912 (3) In any such action, any filing fees or costs shall be  
913 waived and attorney fees shall be awarded to the prevailing  
914 party or parties.

915 Section 27. Subsections (2), (4), and (6) of section  
916 97.053, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

917 97.053 Acceptance of voter registration applications.-

918 (2) A voter registration application is complete and  
919 becomes the official voter registration record of that applicant  
920 when all information necessary to establish the applicant's  
921 eligibility pursuant to s. 97.041 is received by a voter  
922 registration official and verified pursuant to subsection (6).  
923 ~~If the applicant fails to complete his or her voter registration~~  
924 ~~application prior to the date of book closing for an election,~~  
925 ~~then such applicant shall not be eligible to vote in that~~

926 ~~election.~~

927       (4) The registration date for a valid initial voter  
928 registration application that has been mailed to a driver  
929 license office, a voter registration agency, an armed forces  
930 recruitment office, the division, or the office of any  
931 supervisor in the state and bears a clear postmark is the date  
932 of that postmark. If an initial voter registration application  
933 that has been mailed does not bear a postmark or if the postmark  
934 is unclear, the registration date is the date the application is  
935 received by any supervisor or the division, ~~unless it is~~  
936 ~~received within 5 days after the closing of the books for an~~  
937 ~~election, excluding Saturdays, Sundays, and legal holidays, in~~  
938 ~~which case the registration date is the book closing date.~~

939       (6) A voter registration application may be accepted as  
940 valid only after the department has verified the authenticity or  
941 nonexistence of the driver license number, the Florida  
942 identification card number, or the last four digits of the  
943 social security number provided by the applicant. If a completed  
944 voter registration application has been received ~~by the book-~~  
945 ~~closing deadline~~ but the driver license number, the Florida  
946 identification card number, or the last four digits of the  
947 social security number provided by the applicant cannot be  
948 verified, the applicant shall be notified that the number cannot  
949 be verified and that the applicant must provide evidence to the  
950 supervisor sufficient to verify the authenticity of the

951 applicant's driver license number, Florida identification card  
952 number, or last four digits of the social security number. If  
953 the applicant provides the necessary evidence, the supervisor  
954 shall place the applicant's name on the registration rolls as an  
955 active voter. If the applicant has not provided the necessary  
956 evidence or the number has not otherwise been verified prior to  
957 the applicant presenting himself or herself to vote, the  
958 applicant shall be provided a provisional ballot. The  
959 provisional ballot shall be counted only if the number is  
960 verified by the end of the canvassing period or if the applicant  
961 presents evidence to the supervisor of elections sufficient to  
962 verify the authenticity of the applicant's driver license  
963 number, Florida identification card number, or last four digits  
964 of the social security number within a reasonable amount of time  
965 after ~~no later than 5 p.m. of the second day following the~~  
966 election.

967 Section 28. Paragraph (a) of subsection (3) of section  
968 97.0575, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

969 97.0575 Third-party voter registrations.—

970 (3) (a) A third-party voter registration organization that  
971 collects voter registration applications serves as a fiduciary  
972 to the applicant, ensuring that any voter registration  
973 application entrusted to the organization, irrespective of party  
974 affiliation, race, ethnicity, or gender, shall be promptly  
975 delivered to the division or the supervisor of elections within

976 48 hours after the applicant completes it or the next business  
 977 day if the appropriate office is closed for that 48-hour period.  
 978 If a voter registration application collected by any third-party  
 979 voter registration organization is not promptly delivered to the  
 980 division or supervisor of elections, the third-party voter  
 981 registration organization is liable for the following fines:

982 1. A fine in the amount of \$50 for each application  
 983 received by the division or the supervisor of elections more  
 984 than 48 hours after the applicant delivered the completed voter  
 985 registration application to the third-party voter registration  
 986 organization or any person, entity, or agent acting on its  
 987 behalf or the next business day, if the office is closed. A fine  
 988 in the amount of \$250 for each application received if the  
 989 third-party voter registration organization or person, entity,  
 990 or agency acting on its behalf acted willfully.

991 ~~2. A fine in the amount of \$100 for each application~~  
 992 ~~collected by a third-party voter registration organization or~~  
 993 ~~any person, entity, or agent acting on its behalf, before book~~  
 994 ~~closing for any given election for federal or state office and~~  
 995 ~~received by the division or the supervisor of elections after~~  
 996 ~~the book-closing deadline for such election. A fine in the~~  
 997 ~~amount of \$500 for each application received if the third-party~~  
 998 ~~registration organization or person, entity, or agency acting on~~  
 999 ~~its behalf acted willfully.~~

1000 2.3. A fine in the amount of \$500 for each application



1001 collected by a third-party voter registration organization or  
 1002 any person, entity, or agent acting on its behalf, which is not  
 1003 submitted to the division or supervisor of elections. A fine in  
 1004 the amount of \$1,000 for any application not submitted if the  
 1005 third-party voter registration organization or person, entity,  
 1006 or agency acting on its behalf acted willfully.

1007  
 1008 The aggregate fine pursuant to this paragraph which may be  
 1009 assessed against a third-party voter registration organization,  
 1010 including affiliate organizations, for violations committed in a  
 1011 calendar year is \$1,000.

1012 Section 29. Section 98.0981, Florida Statutes, is amended  
 1013 to read:

1014 98.0981 Reports; voting history; statewide voter  
 1015 registration system information; precinct-level election  
 1016 results; pre-election ~~book-closing~~ statistics.-

1017 (1) VOTING HISTORY AND STATEWIDE VOTER REGISTRATION SYSTEM  
 1018 INFORMATION.-

1019 (a) Within 30 days after certification by the Elections  
 1020 Canvassing Commission of a presidential preference primary,  
 1021 special election, primary election, or general election,  
 1022 supervisors of elections shall transmit to the department, in a  
 1023 uniform electronic format specified in paragraph (d), completely  
 1024 updated voting history information for each qualified voter who  
 1025 voted.

1026 (b) After receipt of the information in paragraph (a), the  
1027 department shall prepare a report in electronic format which  
1028 contains the following information, separately compiled for the  
1029 primary and general election for all voters qualified to vote in  
1030 either election:

1031 1. The unique identifier assigned to each qualified voter  
1032 within the statewide voter registration system;

1033 2. All information provided by each qualified voter on his  
1034 or her voter registration application pursuant to s. 97.052(2),  
1035 except that which is confidential or exempt from public records  
1036 requirements;

1037 3. Each qualified voter's date of registration;

1038 4. Each qualified voter's current state representative  
1039 district, state senatorial district, and congressional district,  
1040 assigned by the supervisor of elections;

1041 5. Each qualified voter's current precinct; and

1042 6. Voting history as transmitted under paragraph (a) to  
1043 include whether the qualified voter voted at a precinct  
1044 location, voted during the early voting period, voted by vote-  
1045 by-mail ballot, attempted to vote by vote-by-mail ballot that  
1046 was not counted, attempted to vote by provisional ballot that  
1047 was not counted, or did not vote.

1048 (c) Within 45 days after certification by the Elections  
1049 Canvassing Commission of a presidential preference primary,  
1050 special election, primary election, or general election, the

1051 department shall send to the President of the Senate, the  
1052 Speaker of the House of Representatives, the Senate Minority  
1053 Leader, and the House Minority Leader a report in electronic  
1054 format that includes all information set forth in paragraph (b).

1055 (d) File specifications are as follows:

1056 1. The file shall contain records designated by the  
1057 categories below for all qualified voters who, regardless of the  
1058 voter's county of residence or active or inactive registration  
1059 status on ~~at~~ the election day ~~book-closing~~ for the corresponding  
1060 election that the file is being created for:

1061 a. Voted a regular ballot at a precinct location.

1062 b. Voted at a precinct location using a provisional ballot  
1063 that was subsequently counted.

1064 c. Voted a regular ballot during the early voting period.

1065 d. Voted during the early voting period using a  
1066 provisional ballot that was subsequently counted.

1067 e. Voted by vote-by-mail ballot.

1068 f. Attempted to vote by vote-by-mail ballot, but the  
1069 ballot was not counted.

1070 g. Attempted to vote by provisional ballot, but the ballot  
1071 was not counted in that election.

1072 2. Each file shall be created or converted into a tab-  
1073 delimited format.

1074 3. File names shall adhere to the following convention:

1075 a. Three-character county identifier as established by the

1076 | department followed by an underscore.  
 1077 |       b. Followed by four-character file type identifier of  
 1078 | "VHO3" followed by an underscore.  
 1079 |       c. Followed by FVRS election ID followed by an underscore.  
 1080 |       d. Followed by Date Created followed by an underscore.  
 1081 |       e. Date format is YYYYMMDD.  
 1082 |       f. Followed by Time Created - HHMMSS.  
 1083 |       g. Followed by ".txt".  
 1084 |       4. Each record shall contain the following columns: Record  
 1085 | Identifier, FVRS Voter ID Number, FVRS Election ID Number, Vote  
 1086 | Date, Vote History Code, Precinct, Congressional District, House  
 1087 | District, Senate District, County Commission District, and  
 1088 | School Board District.  
 1089 |       (e) Each supervisor of elections shall reconcile, before  
 1090 | submission, the aggregate total of ballots cast in each precinct  
 1091 | as reported in the precinct-level election results to the  
 1092 | aggregate total number of voters with voter history for the  
 1093 | election for each district.  
 1094 |       (f) Each supervisor of elections shall submit the results  
 1095 | of the data reconciliation as described in paragraph (e) to the  
 1096 | department in an electronic format and give a written  
 1097 | explanation for any precincts where the reconciliation as  
 1098 | described in paragraph (e) results in a discrepancy between the  
 1099 | voter history and the election results.  
 1100 |       (2) PRECINCT-LEVEL ELECTION RESULTS.—

1101 (a) Within 30 days after certification by the Elections  
1102 Canvassing Commission of a presidential preference primary  
1103 election, special election, primary election, or general  
1104 election, the supervisors of elections shall collect and submit  
1105 to the department precinct-level election results for the  
1106 election in a uniform electronic format specified by paragraph  
1107 (c). The precinct-level election results shall be compiled  
1108 separately for the primary or special primary election that  
1109 preceded the general or special general election, respectively.  
1110 The results shall specifically include for each precinct the  
1111 total of all ballots cast for each candidate or nominee to fill  
1112 a national, state, county, or district office or proposed  
1113 constitutional amendment, with subtotals for each candidate and  
1114 ballot type, unless fewer than 10 voters voted a ballot type.  
1115 "All ballots cast" means ballots cast by voters who cast a  
1116 ballot whether at a precinct location, by vote-by-mail ballot  
1117 including overseas vote-by-mail ballots, during the early voting  
1118 period, or by provisional ballot.

1119 (b) The department shall make such information available  
1120 on a searchable, sortable, and downloadable database via its  
1121 website that also includes the file layout and codes. The  
1122 database shall be searchable and sortable by county, precinct,  
1123 and candidate. The database shall be downloadable in a tab-  
1124 delimited format. The database shall be available for download  
1125 county-by-county and also as a statewide file. Such report shall

1126 | also be made available upon request.

1127 |       (c) The files containing the precinct-level election  
1128 | results shall be created in accordance with the applicable file  
1129 | specification:

1130 |       1. The precinct-level results file shall be created or  
1131 | converted into a tab-delimited text file.

1132 |       2. The row immediately before the first data record shall  
1133 | contain the column names of the data elements that make up the  
1134 | data records. There shall be one header record followed by  
1135 | multiple data records.

1136 |       3. The data records shall include the following columns:  
1137 | County Name, Election Number, Election Date, Unique Precinct  
1138 | Identifier, Precinct Polling Location, Total Registered Voters,  
1139 | Total Registered Republicans, Total Registered Democrats, Total  
1140 | Registered All Other Parties, Contest Name,  
1141 | Candidate/Retention/Issue Name, Candidate Florida Voter  
1142 | Registration System ID Number, Division of Elections Unique  
1143 | Candidate Identifying Number, Candidate Party, District,  
1144 | Undervote Total, Overvote Total, Write-in Total, and Vote Total.

1145 |       (3) PRECINCT-LEVEL PRE-ELECTION ~~BOOK-CLOSING~~ STATISTICS.—  
1146 | After 29 days before the date of an election ~~the date of book~~  
1147 | ~~closing~~ but before the date of an election as defined in s.  
1148 | 97.021 to fill a national, state, county, or district office, or  
1149 | to vote on a proposed constitutional amendment, the department  
1150 | shall compile the following precinct-level statistical data for

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1151 each county:

1152 (a) Precinct numbers.

1153 (b) Total number of active registered voters by party for  
1154 each precinct.

1155 (4) REPORTS PUBLICLY AVAILABLE.—The department shall also  
1156 make publicly available the reports and results required in  
1157 subsections (1)-(3).

1158 (5) RULEMAKING.—The department shall adopt rules and  
1159 prescribe forms to carry out the purposes of this section.

1160 Section 30. This act shall take effect July 1, 2019.