

HB 415

2007

1 A bill to be entitled

2 An act relating to ballot specifications; amending s.  
3 101.151, F.S.; revising provisions relating to the  
4 placement of candidate names on ballots; providing an  
5 effective date.

6  
7 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

8  
9 Section 1. Paragraph (a) of subsection (2) and paragraph  
10 (a) of subsection (3) of section 101.151, Florida Statutes, are  
11 amended to read:

12 101.151 Specifications for ballots.--

13 (2)(a) The ballot shall have headings under which shall  
14 appear the names of the offices and the names of the candidates  
15 for the respective offices in the following order: the heading  
16 "President and Vice President" and thereunder the names of the  
17 candidates for President and Vice President of the United States  
18 ~~nominated by the political party that received the highest vote~~  
19 ~~for Governor in the last general election of the Governor in~~  
20 ~~this state. Then shall appear the names of other candidates for~~  
21 ~~President and Vice President of the United States~~ who have been  
22 properly nominated. Then shall follow the heading  
23 "Congressional" and thereunder the offices of United States  
24 Senator and Representative in Congress; then the heading "State"  
25 and thereunder the offices of Governor and Lieutenant Governor,  
26 Attorney General, Chief Financial Officer, Commissioner of  
27 Agriculture, state attorney, and public defender, together with  
28 the names of the candidates for each office and the title of the

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29 office which they seek; then the heading "Legislative" and  
30 thereunder the offices of state senator and state  
31 representative; then the heading "County" and thereunder clerk  
32 of the circuit court, clerk of the county court (when authorized  
33 by law), sheriff, property appraiser, tax collector, district  
34 superintendent of schools, and supervisor of elections.  
35 Thereafter follows: members of the board of county  
36 commissioners, and such other county and district offices as are  
37 involved in the election, in the order fixed by the Department  
38 of State, followed, in the year of their election, by "Party  
39 Offices," and thereunder the offices of state and county party  
40 executive committee members. In a general election, in addition  
41 to the names printed on the ballot, a blank space shall be  
42 provided under each heading for an office for which a write-in  
43 candidate has qualified. With respect to write-in candidates, if  
44 two or more candidates are seeking election to one office, only  
45 one blank space shall be provided.

46 (3) (a) On a general election ballot, the names of  
47 candidates nominated by a political party other than a minor  
48 political party shall be placed first under the heading for each  
49 office, together with an appropriate abbreviation of party name.  
50 Except for absentee ballots or when the number of candidates for  
51 a particular office is the same as the number of candidates to  
52 be elected for that office, the names of the candidates of a  
53 party other than a minor party on the ballot shall be rotated  
54 from one precinct to another such that the name of each party  
55 candidate shall appear, insofar as may be reasonably possible,  
56 substantially an equal number of times in each ballot position

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57 of a party other than a minor party. On absentee and early  
58 voting ballots, the names of party candidates under this  
59 paragraph for an office shall be rotated such that the name of  
60 each party candidate shall appear, insofar as may be reasonably  
61 possible, substantially an equal number of times in each party  
62 ballot position, unless the number of candidates for a  
63 particular office is the same as the number of candidates to be  
64 elected for that office. This paragraph applies only to  
65 candidates nominated by a party other than a minor political  
66 party. ~~The names of the candidates of the party that received~~  
67 ~~the highest number of votes for Governor in the last election in~~  
68 ~~which a Governor was elected shall be placed first under the~~  
69 ~~heading for each office on the general election ballot, together~~  
70 ~~with an appropriate abbreviation of party name; the names of the~~  
71 ~~candidates of the party that received the second highest vote~~  
72 ~~for Governor shall be second under the heading for each office,~~  
73 ~~together with an appropriate abbreviation of the party name.~~

74 Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2007.