

By Senator Clemens

27-01452-14

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A bill to be entitled

An act relating to early voting; amending s. 101.657, F.S.; revising authority of a supervisor of elections to designate certain locations as early voting sites; providing an effective date.

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

Section 1. Paragraph (a) of subsection (1) of section 101.657, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

101.657 Early voting.—

(1)(a) As a convenience to the voter, the supervisor of elections shall allow an elector to vote early in the main or branch office of the supervisor. The supervisor shall mark, code, indicate on, or otherwise track the voter's precinct for each early voted ballot. In order for a branch office to be used for early voting, it shall be a permanent facility of the supervisor and shall have been designated and used as such for at least 1 year before ~~prior to~~ the election. The supervisor may also designate any suitable location ~~city hall, permanent public library facility, fairground, civic center, courthouse, county commission building, stadium, convention center, government-owned senior center, or government-owned community center~~ as an early voting site ~~sites~~; however, if so designated, the sites must be geographically located so as to provide all voters in the county an equal opportunity to cast a ballot, insofar as is practicable. ~~In addition, a supervisor may designate one early voting site per election in an area of the county that does not have any of the eligible early voting locations. Such additional~~

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~~early voting site must be geographically located so as to~~
~~provide all voters in that area with an equal opportunity to~~
~~cast a ballot, insofar as is practicable.~~ Each county shall, at
a minimum, operate the same total number of early voting sites
for a general election which the county operated for the 2012
general election. The results or tabulation of votes cast during
early voting may not be made before the close of the polls on
election day. Results shall be reported by precinct.

Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2014.