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LEGISLATIVE ACTION

Senate

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House

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The Committee on Rules (Baxley) recommended the following:

**Senate Amendment (with title amendment)**

Delete everything after the enacting clause  
and insert:

Section 1. Subsection (17) is added to section 97.012,  
Florida Statutes, to read:

97.012 Secretary of State as chief election officer.—The  
Secretary of State is the chief election officer of the state,  
and it is his or her responsibility to:

(17) Provide formal signature matching training to  
supervisors of elections and county canvassing board members.



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12           Section 2. Effective January 1, 2020, subsection (41) of  
13 section 97.021, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

14           97.021 Definitions.—For the purposes of this code, except  
15 where the context clearly indicates otherwise, the term:

16           (41) "Voter interface device" means any device that  
17 communicates voting instructions and ballot information to a  
18 voter and allows the voter to select and vote for candidates and  
19 issues. A voter interface device may not be used to tabulate  
20 votes. Any vote tabulation must be based upon a subsequent scan  
21 of the marked marksense ballot or the voter-verifiable paper  
22 output after the voter interface device process has been  
23 completed.

24           Section 3. Subsection (4) of section 98.077, Florida  
25 Statutes, is amended to read:

26           98.077 Update of voter signature.—

27           (4) Except as authorized in ss. 101.048 and 101.68:

28           (a) All signature updates for use in verifying vote-by-mail  
29 and provisional ballots must be received by the appropriate  
30 supervisor before the elector's ballot is received by the  
31 supervisor or, in the case of provisional ballots, before the  
32 elector's ballot is cast ~~of elections no later than the start of~~  
33 ~~the canvassing of vote-by-mail ballots by the canvassing board.~~

34           (b) The signature on file at the time the vote-by-mail  
35 ballot is received or at the time the provisional ballot is cast  
36 ~~start of the canvass of the vote-by-mail ballots is the~~  
37 signature that shall be used in verifying the signature on the  
38 vote-by-mail and provisional ballot certificates, respectively.

39           Section 4. Paragraph (a) of subsection (2) of section  
40 98.0981, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:



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41 98.0981 Reports; voting history; statewide voter  
42 registration system information; precinct-level election  
43 results; book closing statistics.—

44 (2) PRECINCT-LEVEL ELECTION RESULTS.—

45 (a) Within 30 days after certification by the Elections  
46 Canvassing Commission of a presidential preference primary  
47 election, special election, primary election, or general  
48 election, the supervisors of elections shall collect and submit  
49 to the department precinct-level election results for the  
50 election in a uniform electronic format specified by paragraph  
51 (c). The precinct-level election results shall be compiled  
52 separately for the primary or special primary election that  
53 preceded the general or special general election, respectively.  
54 The results shall specifically include for each precinct the  
55 total of all ballots cast for each candidate or nominee to fill  
56 a national, state, county, or district office or proposed  
57 constitutional amendment, with subtotals for each candidate and  
58 ballot type, unless fewer than 30 ~~40~~ voters voted a ballot type.  
59 "All ballots cast" means ballots cast by voters who cast a  
60 ballot whether at a precinct location, by vote-by-mail ballot  
61 including overseas vote-by-mail ballots, during the early voting  
62 period, or by provisional ballot.

63 Section 5. Subsection (4) of section 99.063, Florida  
64 Statutes, is amended to read:

65 99.063 Candidates for Governor and Lieutenant Governor.—

66 (4) In order to have the name of the candidate for  
67 Lieutenant Governor printed on the primary election ballot, a  
68 candidate for Governor participating in the primary must  
69 designate the candidate for Lieutenant Governor, and the



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70 designated candidate must qualify no later than the end of the  
71 qualifying period specified in s. 99.061. ~~If the candidate for~~  
72 ~~Lieutenant Governor has not been designated and has not~~  
73 ~~qualified by the end of the qualifying period specified in s.~~  
74 ~~99.061, the phrase "Not Yet Designated" must be included in lieu~~  
75 ~~of the candidate's name on the primary election ballot.~~

76 Section 6. Section 100.061, Florida Statutes, is amended to  
77 read:

78 100.061 Primary election.—In each year in which a general  
79 election is held, a primary election for nomination of  
80 candidates of political parties shall be held on the Tuesday 11  
81 ~~10~~ weeks prior to the general election. The candidate receiving  
82 the highest number of votes cast in each contest in the primary  
83 election shall be declared nominated for such office. If two or  
84 more candidates receive an equal and highest number of votes for  
85 the same office, such candidates shall draw lots to determine  
86 which candidate is nominated.

87 Section 7. Subsection (4) of section 101.015, Florida  
88 Statutes, is amended to read:

89 101.015 Standards for voting systems.—

90 (4) (a) The Department of State shall adopt rules  
91 establishing minimum security standards for voting systems. The  
92 standards, at a minimum, must address the following:

93 1. Chain of custody of ballots, including a detailed  
94 description of procedures to create a complete written record of  
95 the chain of custody of ballots and paper outputs beginning with  
96 their receipt from a printer or manufacturer until such time as  
97 they are destroyed.

98 2. Transport of ballots, including a description of the



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99 method and equipment used and a detailed list of the names of  
100 all individuals involved in such transport.

101 3. Ballot security, including a requirement that all  
102 ballots be kept in a locked room in the supervisor's office, a  
103 facility controlled by the supervisor or county canvassing  
104 board, or a public place in which the county canvassing board is  
105 canvassing votes until needed for canvassing and returned  
106 thereafter.

107 (b)1. Each supervisor ~~of elections~~ shall establish written  
108 procedures to assure accuracy and security in his or her county,  
109 including procedures related to early voting pursuant to s.  
110 101.657. Such procedures shall be reviewed in each odd-numbered  
111 year by the department ~~of State~~.

112 2.~~(e)~~ Each supervisor ~~of elections~~ shall submit any  
113 revisions to the security procedures to the department ~~of State~~  
114 at least 45 days before early voting commences pursuant to s.  
115 101.657 in an election in which they are to take effect.

116 Section 8. Present subsection (6) of section 101.048,  
117 Florida Statutes, is renumbered as subsection (7), subsections  
118 (2), (3), and (5) and present subsection (6) of that section are  
119 amended, and a new subsection (6) is added to that section, to  
120 read:

121 101.048 Provisional ballots.—

122 (2) (a) The county canvassing board shall examine each  
123 Provisional Ballot Voter's Certificate and Affirmation to  
124 determine if the person voting that ballot was entitled to vote  
125 at the precinct where the person cast a vote in the election and  
126 that the person had not already cast a ballot in the election.  
127 In determining whether a person casting a provisional ballot is



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128 entitled to vote, the county canvassing board shall review the  
129 information provided in the Voter's Certificate and Affirmation,  
130 written evidence provided by the person pursuant to subsection  
131 (1), information provided in any cure affidavit and accompanying  
132 supporting documentation pursuant to subsection (6), any other  
133 evidence presented by the supervisor ~~of elections~~, and, in the  
134 case of a challenge, any evidence presented by the challenger. A  
135 ballot of a person casting a provisional ballot shall be  
136 canvassed pursuant to paragraph (b) ~~counted~~ unless the  
137 canvassing board determines by a preponderance of the evidence  
138 that the person was not entitled to vote.

139 (b)~~1~~. If it is determined that the person was registered  
140 and entitled to vote at the precinct where the person cast a  
141 vote in the election, the canvassing board must ~~shall~~ compare  
142 the signature on the Provisional Ballot Voter's Certificate and  
143 Affirmation or the provisional ballot cure affidavit with the  
144 signature on the voter's registration or precinct register ~~and,~~  
145 ~~if it matches, shall count the ballot.~~ A provisional ballot may  
146 be counted only if:

147 1. The signature on the voter's certificate or the cure  
148 affidavit matches the elector's signature in the registration  
149 books or the precinct register; however, in the case of a cure  
150 affidavit, the supporting identification listed in subsection  
151 (6) must also confirm the identity of the elector; or

152 2. The cure affidavit contains a signature that does not  
153 match the elector's signature in the registration books or the  
154 precinct register, but the elector has submitted a current and  
155 valid Tier 1 form of identification confirming his or her  
156 identity pursuant to subsection (6).



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157  
158 For purposes of this paragraph, any canvassing board finding  
159 that signatures do not match must be by majority vote and beyond  
160 a reasonable doubt.

161 ~~2. If it is determined that the person voting the~~  
162 ~~provisional ballot was not registered or entitled to vote at the~~  
163 ~~precinct where the person cast a vote in the election, the~~

164 (c) Any provisional ballot shall not be counted must and  
165 ~~the ballot shall remain in the envelope containing the~~  
166 Provisional Ballot Voter's Certificate and Affirmation and the  
167 envelope shall be marked "Rejected as Illegal."

168 (d) If a provisional ballot is validated following the  
169 submission of a cure affidavit, the supervisor must make a copy  
170 of the affidavit, affix it to a voter registration application,  
171 and immediately process it as a valid request for a signature  
172 update pursuant to s. 98.077.

173 (3) The Provisional Ballot Voter's Certificate and  
174 Affirmation shall be in substantially the following form:

175 STATE OF FLORIDA

176 COUNTY OF ....

177 I do solemnly swear (or affirm) that my name is ....; that  
178 my date of birth is ....; that I am registered and qualified to  
179 vote in .... County, Florida; that I am registered in the ....  
180 Party; that I am a qualified voter of the county; and that I  
181 have not voted in this election. I understand that if I commit  
182 any fraud in connection with voting, vote a fraudulent ballot,  
183 or vote more than once in an election, I can be convicted of a  
184 felony of the third degree and fined up to \$5,000 and/or  
185 imprisoned for up to 5 years. Further, by providing my



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186 information below, I authorize the use of e-mail, text message,  
187 and telephone call for the limited purpose of signature and  
188 ballot validation.

189 ...(Printed Name of Voter)...  
190 ...(Signature of Voter)...  
191 ...(Current Residence Address)...  
192 ...(Current Mailing Address)...  
193 ...(City, State, Zip Code)...  
194 ...(Driver License Number or Last Four Digits of Social Security  
195 Number)...  
196 ...(E-Mail Address)...  
197 ...(Home Telephone Number)...  
198 ...(Mobile Telephone Number)...

199 Sworn to and subscribed before me this .... day of .....,  
200 ...(year)....  
201 ...(Election Official)...

202 Precinct # .... Ballot Style/Party Issued: ....

203 (5) Each person casting a provisional ballot shall be given  
204 written instructions regarding the person's right to provide the  
205 supervisor ~~of elections~~ with written evidence of his or her  
206 eligibility to vote and regarding the free access system  
207 established pursuant to subsection (7) ~~(6)~~. The instructions  
208 must shall contain the supervisor's contact information along  
209 with information on how to access the system and the information  
210 the voter will need to provide to obtain information on his or  
211 her particular ballot. The instructions shall also include the  
212 following statement: "If this is a primary election, you should  
213 contact the supervisor of elections' office immediately to  
214 confirm that you are registered and can vote in the general





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215 election.”

216 (6) (a) As soon as practicable, the supervisor shall, on  
217 behalf of the county canvassing board, attempt to notify an  
218 elector who has submitted a provisional ballot that does not  
219 include the elector’s signature or contains a signature that  
220 does not match the elector’s signature in the registration books  
221 or precinct register by:

222 1. Notifying the elector of the signature deficiency by e-  
223 mail and directing the elector to the cure affidavit and  
224 instructions on the supervisor’s website;

225 2. Notifying the elector of the signature deficiency by  
226 text message and directing the elector to the cure affidavit and  
227 instructions on the supervisor’s website; or

228 3. Notifying the elector of the signature deficiency by  
229 telephone and directing the elector to the cure affidavit and  
230 instructions on the supervisor’s website.

231  
232 In addition to the notification required under subparagraph 1.,  
233 subparagraph 2., or subparagraph 3., the supervisor must notify  
234 the elector of the signature deficiency by first-class mail and  
235 direct the elector to the cure affidavit and instructions on the  
236 supervisor’s website. Beginning the day before the election, the  
237 supervisor is not required to provide notice of the signature  
238 deficiency by first-class mail, but shall continue to provide  
239 notice as required in subparagraph 1., subparagraph 2., or  
240 subparagraph 3.

241 (b) Until 5 p.m. on the 2nd day after an election, the  
242 supervisor shall allow an elector who has submitted a  
243 provisional ballot with a signature deficiency to complete and



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244 submit a cure affidavit.

245 (c) The elector must complete a cure affidavit in  
246 substantially the following form:

247

248 PROVISIONAL BALLOT CURE AFFIDAVIT

249 I, . . . ., am a qualified voter in this election and a  
250 registered voter of . . . . County, Florida. I do solemnly swear or  
251 affirm that I voted a provisional ballot and that I have not and  
252 will not vote more than one ballot in this election. I  
253 understand that if I commit or attempt any fraud in connection  
254 with voting, vote a fraudulent ballot, or vote more than once in  
255 an election, I may be convicted of a felony of the third degree,  
256 fined up to \$5,000, and imprisoned for up to 5 years. I  
257 understand that my failure to sign this affidavit will  
258 invalidate my ballot.

259

260 ... (Voter's Signature) ...

261

262 ... (Address) ...

263

264 (d) Instructions must accompany the cure affidavit in  
265 substantially the following form:

266

267 READ THESE INSTRUCTIONS CAREFULLY BEFORE COMPLETING THE  
268 AFFIDAVIT. FAILURE TO FOLLOW THESE INSTRUCTIONS MAY CAUSE YOUR  
269 BALLOT NOT TO COUNT.

270

271 1. In order to cure the missing signature or the signature  
272 discrepancy on your Provisional Ballot Voter's Certificate and



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273 Affirmation, your affidavit should be completed and returned as  
274 soon as possible so that it can reach the supervisor of  
275 elections of the county in which your precinct is located no  
276 later than 5 p.m. on the 2nd day after the election.

277 2. You must sign your name on the line above (Voter's  
278 Signature).

279 3. You must make a copy of one of the following forms of  
280 identification:

281 a. Tier 1 identification.—Current and valid identification  
282 that includes your name and photograph: Florida driver license;  
283 Florida identification card issued by the Department of Highway  
284 Safety and Motor Vehicles; United States passport; debit or  
285 credit card; military identification; student identification;  
286 retirement center identification; neighborhood association  
287 identification; public assistance identification; veteran health  
288 identification card issued by the United States Department of  
289 Veterans Affairs; Florida license to carry a concealed weapon or  
290 firearm; or employee identification card issued by any branch,  
291 department, agency, or entity of the Federal Government, the  
292 state, a county, or a municipality; or

293 b. Tier 2 identification.—ONLY IF YOU DO NOT HAVE A TIER 1  
294 FORM OF IDENTIFICATION, identification that shows your name and  
295 current residence address: current utility bill; bank statement;  
296 government check; paycheck; or government document (excluding  
297 voter information card).

298 4. Place the envelope bearing the affidavit into a mailing  
299 envelope addressed to the supervisor. Insert a copy of your  
300 identification in the mailing envelope. Mail (if time permits),  
301 deliver, or have delivered the completed affidavit along with



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302 the copy of your identification to your county supervisor of  
303 elections. Be sure there is sufficient postage if mailed and  
304 that the supervisor's address is correct. Remember, your  
305 information MUST reach your county supervisor of elections no  
306 later than 5 p.m. on the 2nd day following the election or your  
307 ballot will not count.

308 5. Alternatively, you may fax or e-mail your completed  
309 affidavit and a copy of your identification to the supervisor of  
310 elections. If e-mailing, please provide these documents as  
311 attachments.

312 6. Submitting a provisional ballot affidavit does not  
313 establish your eligibility to vote in this election or guarantee  
314 that your ballot will be counted. The county canvassing board  
315 determines your eligibility to vote through information provided  
316 on the Provisional Ballot Voter's Certificate and Affirmation,  
317 written evidence provided by you, including information in your  
318 cure affidavit along with any supporting identification, and any  
319 other evidence presented by the supervisor of elections or a  
320 challenger. You may still be required to present additional  
321 written evidence to support your eligibility to vote.

322 (e) The department and each supervisor shall include the  
323 affidavit and instructions on their respective websites. The  
324 supervisor shall include his or her office mailing address, e-  
325 mail address, and fax number on the page containing the  
326 affidavit instructions, and the department's instruction page  
327 shall include the office mailing addresses, e-mail addresses,  
328 and fax numbers of all supervisors or provide a conspicuous link  
329 to such addresses.

330 (f) The supervisor shall attach each affidavit received to



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331 the appropriate provisional ballot envelope containing the  
332 Provisional Ballot Voter's Certificate and Affirmation.

333 (7) (a) ~~(6)~~ Each supervisor of elections shall establish a  
334 free access system that allows each person who casts a  
335 provisional ballot to determine whether his or her provisional  
336 ballot was counted in the final canvass of votes and, if not,  
337 the reasons why. Information regarding provisional ballots shall  
338 be available no later than 30 days following the election. The  
339 system established must restrict information regarding an  
340 individual ballot to the person who cast the ballot.

341 (b) Unless processed as a signature update pursuant to  
342 subsection (2), the supervisor shall mail a voter registration  
343 application to the elector to be completed indicating the  
344 elector's current signature if the signature on the voter's  
345 certificate or cure affidavit did not match the elector's  
346 signature in the registration books or precinct register.

347 Section 9. Paragraph (b) of subsection (1) and subsection  
348 (9) of section 101.151, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:  
349 101.151 Specifications for ballots.-

350 (1)

351 (b) Polling places and early voting sites may employ a  
352 ballot-on-demand production system to print individual marksense  
353 ballots, including provisional ballots, for eligible electors  
354 ~~pursuant to s. 101.657~~. Ballot-on-demand technology may be used  
355 to produce marksense vote-by-mail and election-day ballots.

356 (9) (a) The Department of State shall adopt rules  
357 prescribing a uniform primary and general election ballot for  
358 each certified voting system. The rules shall incorporate the  
359 requirements set forth in this section and shall prescribe



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360 additional matters and forms that include, without limitation:

361 1. The ballot title followed by clear and unambiguous  
362 ballot instructions and directions limited to a single location  
363 on the ballot, either:

364 a. Centered across the top of the ballot; or

365 b. In the leftmost column, with no individual races in that  
366 column unless it is the only column on the ballot;

367 2. Individual race layout; ~~and~~

368 3. Overall ballot layout; ~~and-~~

369 4. Oval vote targets as the only permissible type of vote  
370 target.

371 (b) The ~~department~~ rules must ~~shall~~ graphically depict a  
372 sample uniform primary and general election ballot form for each  
373 certified voting system.

374 Section 10. Subsection (2) of section 101.20, Florida  
375 Statutes, is amended to read:

376 101.20 Publication of ballot form; sample ballots.-

377 (2) (a) Upon completion of the list of qualified candidates,  
378 a sample ballot shall be published by the supervisor ~~of~~  
379 ~~elections~~ in a newspaper of general circulation in the county,  
380 before the day of election.

381 (b) In lieu of the publication required under paragraph  
382 (a), a supervisor may send a sample ballot to each registered  
383 elector by e-mail at least 7 days before an election if an e-  
384 mail address has been provided and the elector has opted to  
385 receive a sample ballot by electronic delivery. If an e-mail  
386 address has not been provided, or if the elector has not opted  
387 for electronic delivery, a sample ballot may be mailed to each  
388 registered elector or to each household in which there is a



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389 registered elector at least 7 days before an election.

390 Section 11. Effective January 1, 2020, section 101.56075,  
391 Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

392 101.56075 Voting methods.—For the purpose of designating  
393 ballot selections,

394 ~~(1) Except as provided in subsection (2), all voting must~~  
395 ~~shall be by marksense ballot, using utilizing a marking device~~  
396 ~~or a voter interface device that produces a voter-verifiable~~  
397 ~~paper output and for the purpose of designating ballot~~  
398 ~~selections.~~

399 ~~(2) Persons with disabilities may vote on a voter interface~~  
400 ~~device that meets the voting system accessibility requirements~~  
401 ~~for individuals with disabilities pursuant to s. 301 of the~~  
402 ~~federal Help America Vote Act of 2002 and s. 101.56062.~~

403 ~~(3) By 2020, persons with disabilities shall vote on a~~  
404 ~~voter interface device that meets the voter accessibility~~  
405 ~~requirements for individuals with disabilities under s. 301 of~~  
406 ~~the federal Help America Vote Act of 2002 and s. 101.56062 which~~  
407 ~~are consistent with subsection (1) of this section.~~

408 Section 12. Paragraph (a) of subsection (4) of section  
409 101.5614, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

410 101.5614 Canvass of returns.—

411 (4) (a) If any vote-by-mail ballot is physically damaged so  
412 that it cannot properly be counted by the automatic tabulating  
413 equipment, a true duplicate copy shall be made of the damaged  
414 ballot in the presence of witnesses and substituted for the  
415 damaged ballot. Likewise, a duplicate ballot shall be made of a  
416 vote-by-mail ballot containing an overvoted race or a marked  
417 vote-by-mail ballot in which every race is undervoted which



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418 shall include all valid votes as determined by the canvassing  
419 board based on rules adopted by the division pursuant to s.  
420 102.166(4). Upon request, a physically present candidate, a  
421 political party official, a political committee official, or an  
422 authorized designee thereof, must be allowed to observe the  
423 duplication of ballots. All duplicate ballots shall be clearly  
424 labeled "duplicate," bear a serial number which shall be  
425 recorded on the defective ballot, and be counted in lieu of the  
426 defective ballot. After a ballot has been duplicated, the  
427 defective ballot shall be placed in an envelope provided for  
428 that purpose, and the duplicate ballot shall be tallied with the  
429 other ballots for that precinct.

430 Section 13. Subsection (2) and paragraphs (b) and (c) of  
431 subsection (4) of section 101.62, Florida Statutes, are amended  
432 to read:

433 101.62 Request for vote-by-mail ballots.—

434 (2) A request for a vote-by-mail ballot to be mailed to a  
435 voter must be received no later than 5 p.m. on the 10th ~~sixth~~  
436 day before the election by the supervisor ~~of elections~~. The  
437 supervisor ~~of elections~~ shall mail vote-by-mail ballots to  
438 voters requesting ballots by such deadline no later than 8 4  
439 days before the election.

440 (4)

441 (b) The supervisor ~~of elections~~ shall mail a vote-by-mail  
442 ballot to each absent qualified voter, other than those listed  
443 in paragraph (a), who has requested such a ballot, between the  
444 40th ~~35th~~ and 33rd ~~28th~~ days before the presidential preference  
445 primary election, primary election, and general election. Except  
446 as otherwise provided in subsection (2) and after the period





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447 described in this paragraph, the supervisor shall mail vote-by-  
448 mail ballots within 2 business days after receiving a request  
449 for such a ballot.

450 (c) The supervisor shall provide a vote-by-mail ballot to  
451 each elector by whom a request for that ballot has been made by  
452 one of the following means:

453 1. By nonforwardable, return-if-undeliverable mail to the  
454 elector's current mailing address on file with the supervisor or  
455 any other address the elector specifies in the request.

456 2. By forwardable mail, e-mail, or facsimile machine  
457 transmission to absent uniformed services voters and overseas  
458 voters. The absent uniformed services voter or overseas voter  
459 may designate in the vote-by-mail ballot request the preferred  
460 method of transmission. If the voter does not designate the  
461 method of transmission, the vote-by-mail ballot shall be mailed.

462 3. By personal delivery before 7 p.m. on election day to  
463 the elector, upon presentation of the identification required in  
464 s. 101.043.

465 4. By delivery to a designee on election day or up to 9 ~~5~~  
466 days prior to the day of an election. Any elector may designate  
467 in writing a person to pick up the ballot for the elector;  
468 however, the person designated may not pick up more than two  
469 vote-by-mail ballots per election, other than the designee's own  
470 ballot, except that additional ballots may be picked up for  
471 members of the designee's immediate family. For purposes of this  
472 section, "immediate family" means the designee's spouse or the  
473 parent, child, grandparent, or sibling of the designee or of the  
474 designee's spouse. The designee shall provide to the supervisor  
475 the written authorization by the elector and a picture



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476 identification of the designee and must complete an affidavit.  
477 The designee shall state in the affidavit that the designee is  
478 authorized by the elector to pick up that ballot and shall  
479 indicate if the elector is a member of the designee's immediate  
480 family and, if so, the relationship. The department shall  
481 prescribe the form of the affidavit. If the supervisor is  
482 satisfied that the designee is authorized to pick up the ballot  
483 and that the signature of the elector on the written  
484 authorization matches the signature of the elector on file, the  
485 supervisor shall give the ballot to that designee for delivery  
486 to the elector.

487         5. Except as provided in s. 101.655, the supervisor may not  
488 deliver a vote-by-mail ballot to an elector or an elector's  
489 immediate family member on the day of the election unless there  
490 is an emergency, to the extent that the elector will be unable  
491 to go to his or her assigned polling place. If a vote-by-mail  
492 ballot is delivered, the elector or his or her designee shall  
493 execute an affidavit affirming to the facts which allow for  
494 delivery of the vote-by-mail ballot. The department shall adopt  
495 a rule providing for the form of the affidavit.

496         Section 14. Subsection (1) of section 101.64, Florida  
497 Statutes, is amended, and subsection (5) is added to that  
498 section, to read:

499         101.64 Delivery of vote-by-mail ballots; envelopes; form.-

500         (1) The supervisor shall enclose with each vote-by-mail  
501 ballot two envelopes: a secrecy envelope, into which the absent  
502 elector shall enclose his or her marked ballot; and a mailing  
503 envelope, into which the absent elector shall then place the  
504 secrecy envelope, which shall be addressed to the supervisor and



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505 also bear on the back side a certificate in substantially the  
506 following form:

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

509 VOTER'S CERTIFICATE

510 I, ....., do solemnly swear or affirm that I am a qualified  
511 and registered voter of .... County, Florida, and that I have  
512 not and will not vote more than one ballot in this election. I  
513 understand that if I commit or attempt to commit any fraud in  
514 connection with voting, vote a fraudulent ballot, or vote more  
515 than once in an election, I can be convicted of a felony of the  
516 third degree and fined up to \$5,000 and/or imprisoned for up to  
517 5 years. I also understand that failure to sign this certificate  
518 will invalidate my ballot.

519  
520 ... (Date) ... .. (Voter's Signature) ...  
521 ... (E-Mail Address) ... ... (Home Telephone Number) ...  
522 ... (Mobile Telephone Number) ...

523 (5) The secrecy envelope must include, in bold font,  
524 substantially the following message:

525  
526 IN ORDER FOR YOUR VOTE-BY-MAIL BALLOT TO COUNT, YOUR SUPERVISOR  
527 OF ELECTIONS MUST RECEIVE YOUR BALLOT BY 7 P.M. ON ELECTION DAY.  
528 IF YOU WAIT TO MAIL YOUR BALLOT, YOUR VOTE MIGHT NOT COUNT. TO  
529 PREVENT THIS FROM OCCURRING, PLEASE MAIL OR TURN IN YOUR BALLOT  
530 AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

531 Section 15. Section 101.65, Florida Statutes, is amended to  
532 read:

533 101.65 Instructions to absent electors.—The supervisor



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534 shall enclose with each vote-by-mail ballot separate printed  
535 instructions in substantially the following form; however, where  
536 the instructions appear in capitalized text, the text of the  
537 printed instructions must be in bold font:

538 READ THESE INSTRUCTIONS CAREFULLY  
539 BEFORE MARKING BALLOT.

540 1. VERY IMPORTANT. In order to ensure that your vote-by-  
541 mail ballot will be counted, it should be completed and returned  
542 as soon as possible so that it can reach the supervisor of  
543 elections of the county in which your precinct is located no  
544 later than 7 p.m. on the day of the election. However, if you  
545 are an overseas voter casting a ballot in a presidential  
546 preference primary or general election, your vote-by-mail ballot  
547 must be postmarked or dated no later than the date of the  
548 election and received by the supervisor of elections of the  
549 county in which you are registered to vote no later than 10 days  
550 after the date of the election. Note that the later you return  
551 your ballot, the less time you will have to cure any signature  
552 deficiencies, which is authorized until 5 p.m. on the 2nd day  
553 after the election.

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

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

561 4. Place your marked ballot in the enclosed secrecy  
562 envelope.



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- 563           5. Insert the secrecy envelope into the enclosed mailing  
564 envelope which is addressed to the supervisor.
- 565           6. Seal the mailing envelope and completely fill out the  
566 Voter's Certificate on the back of the mailing envelope.
- 567           7. VERY IMPORTANT. In order for your vote-by-mail ballot to  
568 be counted, you must sign your name on the line above (Voter's  
569 Signature). A vote-by-mail ballot will be considered illegal and  
570 not be counted if the signature on the voter's certificate does  
571 not match the signature on record. The signature on file at the  
572 time the supervisor of elections in the county in which your  
573 precinct is located receives your vote-by-mail ballot ~~start of~~  
574 ~~the canvass of the vote-by-mail ballots~~ is the signature that  
575 will be used to verify your signature on the voter's  
576 certificate. If you need to update your signature for this  
577 election, send your signature update on a voter registration  
578 application to your supervisor of elections so that it is  
579 received before your vote-by-mail ballot is received ~~no later~~  
580 ~~than the start of the canvassing of vote-by-mail ballots, which~~  
581 ~~occurs no earlier than the 15th day before election day.~~
- 582           8. VERY IMPORTANT. If you are an overseas voter, you must  
583 include the date you signed the Voter's Certificate on the line  
584 above (Date) or your ballot may not be counted.
- 585           9. Mail, deliver, or have delivered the completed mailing  
586 envelope. Be sure there is sufficient postage if mailed. THE  
587 COMPLETED MAILING ENVELOPE CAN BE DELIVERED TO THE OFFICE OF THE  
588 SUPERVISOR OF ELECTIONS OF THE COUNTY IN WHICH YOUR PRECINCT IS  
589 LOCATED OR DROPPED OFF AT AN AUTHORIZED SECURE DROP BOX,  
590 AVAILABLE AT EACH EARLY VOTING LOCATION.
- 591           10. FELONY NOTICE. It is a felony under Florida law to



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592 accept any gift, payment, or gratuity in exchange for your vote  
593 for a candidate. It is also a felony under Florida law to vote  
594 in an election using a false identity or false address, or under  
595 any other circumstances making your ballot false or fraudulent.

596 Section 16. Subsection (2) of section 101.657, Florida  
597 Statutes, is amended to read:

598 101.657 Early voting.—

599 (2) During any early voting period, each supervisor ~~of~~  
600 ~~elections~~ shall make available the total number of voters  
601 casting a ballot at each early voting location and the total  
602 number of vote-by-mail ballots received under s. 101.69(2)  
603 during the previous day. Each supervisor shall prepare an  
604 electronic data file listing the individual voters who cast a  
605 ballot during the early voting period. This information shall be  
606 provided in electronic format as provided by rule adopted by the  
607 division. The information shall be updated and made available no  
608 later than noon of each day and shall be contemporaneously  
609 provided to the division.

610 Section 17. Paragraphs (a) and (c) of subsection (2) and  
611 subsection (4) of section 101.68, Florida Statutes, are amended  
612 to read:

613 101.68 Canvassing of vote-by-mail ballot.—

614 (2) (a) The county canvassing board may begin the canvassing  
615 of vote-by-mail ballots at 7 a.m. on the 22nd ~~15th~~ day before  
616 the election, but not later than noon on the day following the  
617 election. In addition, for any county using electronic  
618 tabulating equipment, the processing of vote-by-mail ballots  
619 through such tabulating equipment may begin at 7 a.m. on the  
620 22nd ~~15th~~ day before the election. However, notwithstanding any



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621 such authorization to begin canvassing or otherwise processing  
622 vote-by-mail ballots early, no result shall be released until  
623 after the closing of the polls in that county on election day.  
624 Any supervisor ~~of elections~~, deputy supervisor ~~of elections~~,  
625 canvassing board member, election board member, or election  
626 employee who releases the results of a canvassing or processing  
627 of vote-by-mail ballots prior to the closing of the polls in  
628 that county on election day commits a felony of the third  
629 degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082, s. 775.083, or s.  
630 775.084.

631 (c)1. The canvassing board must, if the supervisor has not  
632 already done so, compare the signature of the elector on the  
633 voter's certificate or on the vote-by-mail ballot cure affidavit  
634 as provided in subsection (4) with the signature of the elector  
635 in the registration books or the precinct register to see that  
636 the elector is duly registered in the county and to determine  
637 the legality of that vote-by-mail ballot. A vote-by-mail ballot  
638 may only be counted if:

639 a. The signature on the voter's certificate or the cure  
640 affidavit matches the elector's signature in the registration  
641 books or precinct register; however, in the case of a cure  
642 affidavit, the supporting identification listed in subsection  
643 (4) must also confirm the identity of the elector; or

644 b. The cure affidavit contains a signature that does not  
645 match the elector's signature in the registration books or  
646 precinct register, but the elector has submitted a current and  
647 valid Tier 1 identification pursuant to subsection (4) which  
648 confirms the identity of the elector.

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650 For purposes of this subparagraph, any canvassing board finding  
651 that an elector's signatures do not match must be by majority  
652 vote and beyond a reasonable doubt.

653         2. The ballot of an elector who casts a vote-by-mail ballot  
654 shall be counted even if the elector dies on or before election  
655 day, as long as, before the death of the voter, the ballot was  
656 postmarked by the United States Postal Service, date-stamped  
657 with a verifiable tracking number by a common carrier, or  
658 already in the possession of the supervisor ~~of elections.~~

659         3. A vote-by-mail ballot is not considered illegal if the  
660 signature of the elector does not cross the seal of the mailing  
661 envelope.

662         4. If any elector or candidate present believes that a  
663 vote-by-mail ballot is illegal due to a defect apparent on the  
664 voter's certificate or the cure affidavit, he or she may, at any  
665 time before the ballot is removed from the envelope, file with  
666 the canvassing board a protest against the canvass of that  
667 ballot, specifying the precinct, the ballot, and the reason he  
668 or she believes the ballot to be illegal. A challenge based upon  
669 a defect in the voter's certificate or cure affidavit may not be  
670 accepted after the ballot has been removed from the mailing  
671 envelope.

672         5. If the canvassing board determines that a ballot is  
673 illegal, a member of the board must, without opening the  
674 envelope, mark across the face of the envelope: "rejected as  
675 illegal." The cure affidavit, if applicable, the envelope, and  
676 the ballot therein shall be preserved in the manner that  
677 official ballots are preserved.

678         (4) (a) As soon as practicable, the supervisor shall, on





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679 behalf of the county canvassing board, attempt to immediately  
680 notify an elector who has returned a vote-by-mail ballot that  
681 does not include the elector's signature or contains a signature  
682 that does not match the elector's signature in the registration  
683 books or precinct register by:-

684 1. Notifying the elector of the signature deficiency by e-  
685 mail and directing the elector to the cure affidavit and  
686 instructions on the supervisor's website;

687 2. Notifying the elector of the signature deficiency by  
688 text message and directing the elector to the cure affidavit and  
689 instructions on the supervisor's website; or

690 3. Notifying the elector of the signature deficiency by  
691 telephone and directing the elector to the cure affidavit and  
692 instructions on the supervisor's website.

693  
694 In addition to the notification required under subparagraph 1.,  
695 subparagraph 2., or subparagraph 3., the supervisor must notify  
696 the elector of the signature deficiency by first-class mail and  
697 direct the elector to the cure affidavit and instructions on the  
698 supervisor's website. Beginning the day before the election, the  
699 supervisor is not required to provide notice of the signature  
700 deficiency by first-class mail, but shall continue to provide  
701 notice as required under subparagraph 1., subparagraph 2., or  
702 subparagraph 3.

703 (b) The supervisor shall allow such an elector to complete  
704 and submit an affidavit in order to cure the vote-by-mail ballot  
705 until 5 p.m. on the 2nd day after ~~before~~ the election.

706 (c) ~~(b)~~ The elector must complete a cure affidavit in  
707 substantially the following form:



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VOTE-BY-MAIL BALLOT CURE AFFIDAVIT

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

...(Voter's Signature)...

...(Address)...

(d)~~(e)~~ Instructions must accompany the cure affidavit in substantially the following form:

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

1. In order to ensure that your vote-by-mail ballot will be counted, your affidavit should be completed and returned as soon as possible so that it can reach the supervisor of elections of the county in which your precinct is located no later than 5 p.m. on the 2nd day after ~~before~~ the election.

2. You must sign your name on the line above (Voter's Signature).

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

a. Tier 1 identification.—Current and valid identification that includes your name and photograph: Florida driver license;



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737 Florida identification card issued by the Department of Highway  
738 Safety and Motor Vehicles; United States passport; debit or  
739 credit card; military identification; student identification;  
740 retirement center identification; neighborhood association  
741 identification; public assistance identification; veteran health  
742 identification card issued by the United States Department of  
743 Veterans Affairs; a Florida license to carry a concealed weapon  
744 or firearm; or an employee identification card issued by any  
745 branch, department, agency, or entity of the Federal Government,  
746 the state, a county, or a municipality; or

747       b. Tier 2 identification.—ONLY IF YOU DO NOT HAVE A TIER 1  
748 FORM OF IDENTIFICATION, identification that shows your name and  
749 current residence address: current utility bill, bank statement,  
750 government check, paycheck, or government document (excluding  
751 voter information ~~identification~~ card).

752       4. Place the envelope bearing the affidavit into a mailing  
753 envelope addressed to the supervisor. Insert a copy of your  
754 identification in the mailing envelope. Mail (if time permits),  
755 deliver, or have delivered the completed affidavit along with  
756 the copy of your identification to your county supervisor of  
757 elections. Be sure there is sufficient postage if mailed and  
758 that the supervisor's address is correct. Remember, your  
759 information MUST reach your county supervisor of elections no  
760 later than 5 p.m. on the 2nd day after the election, or your  
761 ballot will not count.

762       5. Alternatively, you may fax or e-mail your completed  
763 affidavit and a copy of your identification to the supervisor of  
764 elections. If e-mailing, please provide these documents as  
765 attachments.



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766            (e)~~(d)~~ The department and each supervisor shall include the  
767 affidavit and instructions on their respective websites. The  
768 supervisor must include his or her office's mailing address, e-  
769 mail address, and fax number on the page containing the  
770 affidavit instructions, and~~the~~ department's instruction page  
771 must include the office mailing addresses, e-mail addresses, and  
772 fax numbers of all supervisors of elections or provide a  
773 conspicuous link to such addresses.

774            (f)~~(e)~~ The supervisor shall attach each affidavit received  
775 to the appropriate vote-by-mail ballot mailing envelope.

776            (g)~~(f)~~ If a vote-by-mail ballot is validated following the  
777 submission of a cure affidavit, the supervisor shall make a copy  
778 of the affidavit, affix it to a voter registration application,  
779 and immediately process it as a valid request for a signature  
780 update pursuant to s. 98.077.

781            (h) After all election results on the ballot have been  
782 certified, the supervisor shall, on behalf of the county  
783 canvassing board, notify each elector whose ballot has been  
784 rejected as illegal and provide the specific reason the ballot  
785 was rejected. In addition, unless processed as a signature  
786 update pursuant to paragraph (g), the supervisor shall mail a  
787 voter registration application to the elector to be completed  
788 indicating the elector's current signature if the signature on  
789 the voter's certificate or cure affidavit did not match the  
790 elector's signature in the registration books or precinct  
791 register. ~~This section does not prohibit the supervisor from~~  
792 ~~providing additional methods for updating an elector's~~  
793 ~~signature.~~

794            Section 18. Section 101.69, Florida Statutes, is amended to



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795 read:

796 101.69 Voting in person; return of vote-by-mail ballot.—

797 (1) The provisions of this code shall not be construed to  
798 prohibit any elector from voting in person at the elector's  
799 precinct on the day of an election or at an early voting site,  
800 notwithstanding that the elector has requested a vote-by-mail  
801 ballot for that election. An elector who has returned a voted  
802 vote-by-mail ballot to the supervisor, however, is deemed to  
803 have cast his or her ballot and is not entitled to vote another  
804 ballot or to have a provisional ballot counted by the county  
805 canvassing board. An elector who has received a vote-by-mail  
806 ballot and has not returned the voted ballot to the supervisor,  
807 but desires to vote in person, shall return the ballot, whether  
808 voted or not, to the election board in the elector's precinct or  
809 to an early voting site. The returned ballot shall be marked  
810 "canceled" by the board and placed with other canceled ballots.  
811 However, if the elector does not return the ballot and the  
812 election official:

813 (a)~~(1)~~ Confirms that the supervisor has received the  
814 elector's vote-by-mail ballot, the elector shall not be allowed  
815 to vote in person. If the elector maintains that he or she has  
816 not returned the vote-by-mail ballot or remains eligible to  
817 vote, the elector shall be provided a provisional ballot as  
818 provided in s. 101.048.

819 (b)~~(2)~~ Confirms that the supervisor has not received the  
820 elector's vote-by-mail ballot, the elector shall be allowed to  
821 vote in person as provided in this code. The elector's vote-by-  
822 mail ballot, if subsequently received, shall not be counted and  
823 shall remain in the mailing envelope, and the envelope shall be



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824 marked "Rejected as Illegal."

825 (c)~~(3)~~ Cannot determine whether the supervisor has received  
826 the elector's vote-by-mail ballot, the elector may vote a  
827 provisional ballot as provided in s. 101.048.

828 (2) The supervisor shall allow an elector who has received  
829 a vote-by-mail ballot to physically return a voted vote-by-mail  
830 ballot to the supervisor by placing the envelope containing his  
831 or her marked ballot in a secure drop box. Secure drop boxes  
832 shall only be placed at the main office of the supervisor, at  
833 each branch office of the supervisor, and at each early voting  
834 site.

835 Section 19. Subsection (2) of section 101.6923, Florida  
836 Statutes, is amended to read:

837 101.6923 Special vote-by-mail ballot instructions for  
838 certain first-time voters.—

839 (2) A voter covered by this section shall be provided with  
840 printed instructions with his or her vote-by-mail ballot in  
841 substantially the following form:

842 READ THESE INSTRUCTIONS CAREFULLY BEFORE MARKING YOUR BALLOT.  
843 FAILURE TO FOLLOW THESE INSTRUCTIONS MAY CAUSE YOUR BALLOT NOT  
844 TO COUNT.

845 1. In order to ensure that your vote-by-mail ballot will be  
846 counted, it should be completed and returned as soon as possible  
847 so that it can reach the supervisor of elections of the county  
848 in which your precinct is located no later than 7 p.m. on the  
849 date of the election. However, if you are an overseas voter  
850 casting a ballot in a presidential preference primary or general  
851 election, your vote-by-mail ballot must be postmarked or dated  
852 no later than the date of the election and received by the



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853 supervisor of elections of the county in which you are  
854 registered to vote no later than 10 days after the date of the  
855 election.

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

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

863 4. Place your marked ballot in the enclosed secrecy  
864 envelope and seal the envelope.

865 5. Insert the secrecy envelope into the enclosed envelope  
866 bearing the Voter's Certificate. Seal the envelope and  
867 completely fill out the Voter's Certificate on the back of the  
868 envelope.

869 a. You must sign your name on the line above (Voter's  
870 Signature).

871 b. If you are an overseas voter, you must include the date  
872 you signed the Voter's Certificate on the line above (Date) or  
873 your ballot may not be counted.

874 c. A vote-by-mail ballot will be considered illegal and  
875 will not be counted if the signature on the Voter's Certificate  
876 does not match the signature on record. The signature on file at  
877 the start of the canvass of the vote-by-mail ballots is the  
878 signature that will be used to verify your signature on the  
879 Voter's Certificate. If you need to update your signature for  
880 this election, send your signature update on a voter  
881 registration application to your supervisor of elections so that



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882 it is received before your vote-by-mail ballot is received ~~no~~  
883 ~~later than the start of canvassing of vote-by-mail ballots,~~  
884 ~~which occurs no earlier than the 15th day before election day.~~

885 6. Unless you meet one of the exemptions in Item 7., you  
886 must make a copy of one of the following forms of  
887 identification:

888 a. Identification which must include your name and  
889 photograph: United States passport; debit or credit card;  
890 military identification; student identification; retirement  
891 center identification; neighborhood association identification;  
892 public assistance identification; veteran health identification  
893 card issued by the United States Department of Veterans Affairs;  
894 a Florida license to carry a concealed weapon or firearm; or an  
895 employee identification card issued by any branch, department,  
896 agency, or entity of the Federal Government, the state, a  
897 county, or a municipality; or

898 b. Identification which shows your name and current  
899 residence address: current utility bill, bank statement,  
900 government check, paycheck, or government document (excluding  
901 voter information ~~identification~~ card).

902 7. The identification requirements of Item 6. do not apply  
903 if you meet one of the following requirements:

904 a. You are 65 years of age or older.  
905 b. You have a temporary or permanent physical disability.  
906 c. You are a member of a uniformed service on active duty  
907 who, by reason of such active duty, will be absent from the  
908 county on election day.

909 d. You are a member of the Merchant Marine who, by reason  
910 of service in the Merchant Marine, will be absent from the





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911 county on election day.

912 e. You are the spouse or dependent of a member referred to  
913 in paragraph c. or paragraph d. who, by reason of the active  
914 duty or service of the member, will be absent from the county on  
915 election day.

916 f. You are currently residing outside the United States.

917 8. Place the envelope bearing the Voter's Certificate into  
918 the mailing envelope addressed to the supervisor. Insert a copy  
919 of your identification in the mailing envelope. DO NOT PUT YOUR  
920 IDENTIFICATION INSIDE THE SECRECY ENVELOPE WITH THE BALLOT OR  
921 INSIDE THE ENVELOPE WHICH BEARS THE VOTER'S CERTIFICATE OR YOUR  
922 BALLOT WILL NOT COUNT.

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

925 10. FELONY NOTICE. It is a felony under Florida law to  
926 accept any gift, payment, or gratuity in exchange for your vote  
927 for a candidate. It is also a felony under Florida law to vote  
928 in an election using a false identity or false address, or under  
929 any other circumstances making your ballot false or fraudulent.

930 Section 20. Paragraph (a) of subsection (4) and subsection  
931 (5) of section 102.031, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

932 102.031 Maintenance of good order at polls; authorities;  
933 persons allowed in polling rooms and early voting areas;  
934 unlawful solicitation of voters.-

935 (4) (a) No person, political committee, or other group or  
936 organization may solicit voters inside the polling place or  
937 within 150 ~~100~~ feet of the entrance to any polling place, a  
938 polling room where the polling place is also a polling room, an  
939 early voting site, or an office of the supervisor ~~of elections~~



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940 where vote-by-mail ballots are requested and printed on demand  
941 for the convenience of electors who appear in person to request  
942 them. Before the opening of the polling place or early voting  
943 site, the clerk or supervisor shall designate the no-  
944 solicitation zone and mark the boundaries.

945 (5) No photography is permitted in the polling room or  
946 early voting area, except an elector may photograph his or her  
947 own ballot.

948 Section 21. Present subsections (9) and (10) of section  
949 102.141, Florida Statutes, are renumbered as subsections (10)  
950 and (11), respectively, subsection (2) of that section is  
951 amended, and a new subsection (9) is added to that section, to  
952 read:

953 102.141 County canvassing board; duties.—

954 (2) (a) The county canvassing board shall meet in a building  
955 accessible to the public in the county where the election  
956 occurred at a time and place to be designated by the supervisor  
957 ~~of elections~~ to publicly canvass the absent electors' ballots as  
958 provided for in s. 101.68 and provisional ballots as provided by  
959 ss. 101.048, 101.049, and 101.6925. Provisional ballots cast  
960 pursuant to s. 101.049 shall be canvassed in a manner that votes  
961 for candidates and issues on those ballots can be segregated  
962 from other votes. ~~Public notice of the time and place at which~~  
963 ~~the county canvassing board shall meet to canvass the absent~~  
964 ~~electors' ballots and provisional ballots shall be given at~~  
965 ~~least 48 hours prior thereto by publication on the supervisor of~~  
966 ~~elections' website and once in one or more newspapers of general~~  
967 ~~circulation in the county or, if there is no newspaper of~~  
968 ~~general circulation in the county, by posting such notice in at~~



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969 ~~least four conspicuous places in the county.~~ As soon as the  
970 absent electors' ballots and the provisional ballots are  
971 canvassed, the board shall proceed to publicly canvass the vote  
972 given each candidate, nominee, constitutional amendment, or  
973 other measure submitted to the electorate of the county, as  
974 shown by the returns then on file in the office of the  
975 supervisor ~~of elections.~~

976 (b) Public notice of the time and place at which the county  
977 canvassing board shall meet to canvass the absent electors'  
978 ballots and provisional ballots must be given at least 48 hours  
979 prior thereto by publication on the supervisor's website and  
980 published in one or more newspapers of general circulation in  
981 the county or, if there is no newspaper of general circulation  
982 in the county, by posting such notice in at least four  
983 conspicuous places in the county. The time given in the notice  
984 as to the convening of the meeting of the county canvassing  
985 board must be specific and may not be a time period during which  
986 the board may meet.

987 (c) If the county canvassing board suspends or recesses a  
988 meeting publicly noticed pursuant to paragraph (b) for a period  
989 lasting more than 60 minutes, the board must post on the  
990 supervisor's website the anticipated time at which the board  
991 expects to reconvene. If the county canvassing board does not  
992 reconvene at the specified time, the board must provide at least  
993 2 hours' notice, which must be posted on the supervisor's  
994 website, before reconvening.

995 (d) During any meeting of the county canvassing board, a  
996 physical notice must be placed in a conspicuous area near the  
997 public entrance to the building in which the meeting is taking



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998 place. The physical notice must include the names of the  
999 individuals officially serving as the county canvassing board,  
1000 the names of any alternate members, the time of the meeting, and  
1001 a brief statement as to the anticipated activities of the county  
1002 canvassing board.

1003 (9) Each member, substitute member, and alternate member of  
1004 the county canvassing board and all clerical help must wear  
1005 identification badges during any period in which the county  
1006 canvassing board is canvassing votes or engaging in other  
1007 official duties. The identification badges should be worn in a  
1008 conspicuous and unobstructed area, and include the name of the  
1009 individual and his or her official position.

1010 Section 22. Subsection (2) and paragraph (b) of subsection  
1011 (4) of section 102.166, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

1012 102.166 Manual recounts of overvotes and undervotes.—

1013 (2) ~~(a)~~ Any hardware or software used to identify and sort  
1014 overvotes and undervotes for a given race or ballot measure must  
1015 be certified by the Department of State as part of the voting  
1016 system pursuant to s. 101.015. Any such hardware or software  
1017 must be capable of simultaneously identifying and sorting  
1018 overvotes and undervotes in multiple races while simultaneously  
1019 counting votes.

1020 ~~(b)~~ Overvotes and undervotes must ~~shall~~ be identified and  
1021 sorted while recounting ballots pursuant to s. 102.141, ~~if the~~  
1022 ~~hardware or software for this purpose has been certified or the~~  
1023 ~~department's rules so provide.~~

1024 (4)

1025 (b) The Department of State shall adopt specific rules for  
1026 the federal write-in absentee ballot and for each certified



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1027 voting system prescribing what constitutes a "clear indication  
1028 on the ballot that the voter has made a definite choice." The  
1029 rules shall be consistent, to the extent practicable, and may  
1030 not:

1031 1. Authorize the use of any electronic or electromechanical  
1032 reading device to review a hybrid voting system ballot that is  
1033 produced using a voter interface device and that contains both  
1034 machine-readable fields and machine-printed text of the contest  
1035 titles and voter selections, unless the printed text is  
1036 illegible;

1037 2. Exclusively provide that the voter must properly mark or  
1038 designate his or her choice on the ballot; or

1039 3.2. Contain a catch-all provision that fails to identify  
1040 specific standards, such as "any other mark or indication  
1041 clearly indicating that the voter has made a definite choice."

1042 Section 23. Subsection (8) of section 102.168, Florida  
1043 Statutes, is amended to read:

1044 102.168 Contest of election.—

1045 (8) In any contest that requires a review of the canvassing  
1046 board's decision on the legality of a provisional or vote-by-  
1047 mail ballot pursuant to s. 101.048 or s. 101.68 based upon a  
1048 comparison of the signature of the elector in the registration  
1049 records with the signature on the provisional or vote-by-mail  
1050 voter's certificate or the provisional or vote-by-mail cure  
1051 affidavit and the signature of the elector in the registration  
1052 ~~records~~, the circuit court may not review or consider any  
1053 evidence other than the signature of the elector in the  
1054 registration records, the signature on the respective voter's  
1055 certificate or cure affidavit, and any supporting identification



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1056 that the elector submitted with the cure affidavit and the  
1057 signature of the elector in the registration records. The  
1058 court's review of such issue shall be to determine only if the  
1059 canvassing board abused its discretion in making its decision.

1060 Section 24. Subsection (5) is added to section 104.051,  
1061 Florida Statutes, to read:

1062 104.051 Violations; neglect of duty; corrupt practices.-

1063 (5) Any supervisor who willfully violates any provision of  
1064 the Florida Election Code is, upon a finding of such violation  
1065 by a court of competent jurisdiction, prohibited from receiving  
1066 the special qualification salary pursuant to s. 145.09(3) for a  
1067 period of 24 months, dating from the time of the violation.

1068 Section 25. Except as otherwise expressly provided in this  
1069 act, this act shall take effect July 1, 2019.

1070  
1071 ===== T I T L E A M E N D M E N T =====

1072 And the title is amended as follows:

1073 Delete everything before the enacting clause  
1074 and insert:

1075 A bill to be entitled  
1076 An act relating to election administration; amending  
1077 s. 97.012, F.S.; requiring the Secretary of State to  
1078 provide signature matching training to certain  
1079 persons; amending s. 97.021, F.S.; revising the  
1080 definition of the term "voter interface device";  
1081 amending s. 98.077, F.S.; revising deadlines for voter  
1082 signature updates for purposes of vote-by-mail and  
1083 provisional ballots; providing an exception; amending  
1084 s. 98.0981, F.S.; revising the voter threshold



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1085 necessary to require the reporting of certain  
1086 precinct-level results by ballot; amending s. 99.063,  
1087 F.S.; removing a provision requiring certain language  
1088 to follow the name of gubernatorial candidates in  
1089 specified circumstances; amending s. 100.061, F.S.;  
1090 revising the date of the primary election; amending s.  
1091 101.015, F.S.; requiring the Department of State to  
1092 establish minimum security standards to address chain  
1093 of custody of ballots, transport of ballots, and  
1094 ballot security; amending s. 101.048, F.S.; requiring  
1095 a county canvassing board to review certain  
1096 information; providing requirements for the canvassing  
1097 and counting of provisional ballots; requiring the  
1098 supervisor of elections to process a valid provisional  
1099 ballot cure affidavit as a voter signature update;  
1100 revising the Provisional Ballot Voter's Certificate  
1101 and Affirmation form; providing a process to cure a  
1102 provisional ballot with a signature deficiency;  
1103 requiring a supervisor to mail a voter registration  
1104 application to an elector in certain circumstances;  
1105 amending s. 101.151, F.S.; revising requirements for  
1106 department rules governing ballot design; amending s.  
1107 101.20, F.S.; authorizing the distribution of sample  
1108 ballots by e-mail or mail in lieu of newspaper  
1109 publication; amending s. 101.56075, F.S.; authorizing  
1110 voting to be conducted using a voter interface device  
1111 that produces a voter-verifiable paper output;  
1112 amending s. 101.5614, F.S.; authorizing certain  
1113 individuals to serve as witnesses during the ballot



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1114 duplication process; amending s. 101.62, F.S.;

1115 revising the deadlines by which requests for vote-by-

1116 mail ballots must be received and by which vote-by-

1117 mail ballots shall be mailed by the supervisor;

1118 expanding the period during which a designee may

1119 physically collect a vote-by-mail ballot; amending s.

1120 101.64, F.S.; requiring the secrecy envelope included

1121 with a vote-by-mail ballot to include a specified

1122 statement; amending s. 101.65, F.S.; revising

1123 requirements for vote-by-mail ballot instructions;

1124 amending s. 101.657, F.S.; requiring a supervisor to

1125 report the total number of vote-by-mail ballots

1126 received at each early voting location; amending s.

1127 101.68, F.S.; revising the date that canvassing of

1128 vote-by-mail ballots may begin; revising requirements

1129 related to the canvassing and counting of vote-by-mail

1130 ballots; revising the deadline by which vote-by-mail

1131 ballot cure affidavits must be submitted; requiring

1132 the supervisor to process a valid vote-by-mail ballot

1133 cure affidavit as a voter signature update; amending

1134 s. 101.69, F.S.; requiring a supervisor to provide

1135 secure drop boxes in specified locations for an

1136 elector to place his or her vote-by-mail ballot;

1137 amending s. 101.6923, F.S.; revising vote-by-mail

1138 ballot instructions for certain first-time voters;

1139 amending s. 102.031, F.S.; expanding the area in which

1140 voter solicitation is prohibited; authorizing an

1141 elector to photograph his or her own ballot; amending

1142 s. 102.141, F.S.; providing notice requirements for





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1143 meetings of a county canvassing board; requiring  
1144 certain individuals to wear identification badges  
1145 during certain periods; amending s. 102.166, F.S.;  
1146 modifying certification requirements for voting  
1147 systems to require the functionality to simultaneously  
1148 sort and count ballot overvotes and undervotes;  
1149 revising requirements for Department of State rules  
1150 regarding manual recounts of certain ballots; amending  
1151 s. 102.168, F.S.; modifying provisions governing  
1152 election contests to authorize judicial review of  
1153 additional information related to determining validity  
1154 of provisional and vote-by-mail ballot signatures to  
1155 conform to changes made by the act; amending s.  
1156 104.051, F.S.; providing a penalty for certain  
1157 supervisors who willfully violate the Florida Election  
1158 Code; providing effective dates.