A bill to be entitled
An act relating to mail ballot elections; amending s. 97.012, F.S.; revising the responsibilities of the Secretary of State; amending s. 97.021, F.S.; deleting, revising, and defining terms; amending ss. 97.026, 97.061, 97.071, 98.065, 98.077, 98.0981, 98.255, and 98.461, F.S.; conforming provisions and cross-references to changes made by the act; creating s. 100.0001, F.S.; requiring that elections in this state be conducted by mail; requiring the Department of State to adopt any rules necessary for conducting elections by mail; amending ss. 100.011, 100.032, 100.221, 100.371, and 101.001, F.S.; conforming provisions and terminology to changes made by the act; creating s. 101.012, F.S.; requiring the supervisor of elections to establish voter services centers for specified purposes; requiring the supervisor to designate centers a certain length of time before an election; requiring the supervisor to provide certain information regarding centers to the Division of Elections; specifying limitations and requirements regarding locations and hours of operation for centers; specifying that any elector in line at the closing of a center must be allowed to vote; creating s. 101.013, F.S.; requiring the supervisor to allow an elector to deposit a voted ballot in a secure drop box; specifying permissible locations for secure drop boxes; specifying that any elector in line at the closing of a secure drop box location must be allowed
to drop off his or her voted ballot; creating s. 101.014, F.S.; authorizing an elector to obtain a replacement ballot under specified circumstances; specifying requirements and limitations; authorizing a member of the elector’s immediate family or the elector’s legal guardian to request a replacement ballot on behalf of the elector; defining the term “immediate family”; requiring the supervisor to take certain actions upon receiving a request for a replacement ballot; prescribing the deadline for receiving voted replacement ballots; amending s. 101.015, F.S.; conforming provisions to changes made by the act; repealing s. 101.031, F.S., relating to instructions for electors; repealing s. 101.043, F.S., relating to identification required at polls; amending ss. 101.045, 101.048, 101.049, 101.051, 101.111, 101.131, 101.151, and 101.171, F.S.; conforming provisions and terminology to changes made by the act; amending s. 101.20, F.S.; revising the timeframe for the publication and the mailing of sample ballots; conforming provisions to changes made by the act; repealing s. 101.23, F.S., relating to the requirement that election inspectors keep a list of those voting; repealing s. 101.24, F.S., relating to ballot boxes and ballots; repealing s. 101.43, F.S., relating to substitute ballots; repealing s. 101.49, F.S., relating to the procedure of election officers where signatures differ; repealing s. 101.51, F.S., relating to the requirement that electors occupy the voting
booth alone; amending ss. 101.56062 and 101.56063, F.S.; conforming provisions to changes made by the act; repealing s. 101.5608, F.S., relating to procedures for voting by electronic or electromechanical method; amending ss. 101.5610, 101.5611, 101.5612, 101.5613, 101.572, and 101.591, F.S.; conforming provisions to changes made by the act; repealing ss. 101.6101, 101.6102, 101.6103, 101.6104, 101.6105, 101.6106, and 101.6107, F.S., relating to the Mail Ballot Election Act; transferring, renumbering, and amending s. 101.62, F.S.; conforming provisions to changes made by the act; transferring, renumbering, and amending s. 101.64, F.S.; prescribing the timeframes by which the supervisor shall mail ballots; authorizing the supervisor to accept requests that a ballot be mailed to a different address than that in the voter registration records if certain conditions are met; conforming provisions to changes made by the act; transferring, renumbering, and amending s. 101.65; revising instructions to electors to conform to changes made by the act; amending s. 101.655, F.S.; conforming provisions and a cross-reference to changes made by the act; repealing s. 101.657, F.S., relating to early voting; transferring, renumbering, and amending s. 101.661, F.S.; conforming provisions to changes made by the act; transferring, renumbering, and amending s. 101.662, F.S.; conforming provisions to changes made by the act; transferring and
renumbering s. 101.663, F.S., relating to an elector's change of residence to another state; transferring, renumbering, and amending s. 101.67, F.S.; conforming provisions to changes made by the act; transferring, renumbering, and amending s. 101.68, F.S.; conforming provisions to changes made by the act; transferring, renumbering, and amending s. 101.69, F.S.; conforming provisions to changes made by the act; amending ss. 101.6921, 101.6923, 101.6925, 101.694, 101.6951, 101.6952, and 101.697, F.S.; conforming provisions and cross-references to changes made by the act; repealing s. 101.71, F.S., relating to polling places; transferring, renumbering, and amending s. 101.715, F.S.; conforming provisions to changes made by the act; amending s. 101.733, F.S.; conforming provisions to changes made by the act; amending s. 101.74, F.S.; authorizing the supervisor to establish additional voter services centers or secure drop box locations in the event of an emergency; amending ss. 102.012, 102.014, 102.021, 102.031, 102.101, 102.141, 102.166, 102.168, 104.047, 104.0515, 104.0615, 104.0616, 104.17, 104.20, 104.29, 117.05, 153.53, 155.04, 163.514, 171.0413, 256.011, 394.459, 741.406, 790.06, and 916.107, F.S.; conforming provisions, terminology, and cross-references to changes made by the act; providing an effective date.

Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:
Section 1. Subsections (1) and (13) of section 97.012, Florida Statutes, are amended 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:

(1) Obtain and maintain uniformity in the interpretation and implementation of the election laws, including uniformity in the conduct of elections by mail. In order to obtain and maintain uniformity in the interpretation and implementation of the election laws, the Department of State may, pursuant to ss. 120.536(1) and 120.54, adopt by rule uniform standards for the proper and equitable interpretation and implementation of the requirements of chapters 97 through 102 and 105 of the Election Code.

(13) Designate an office within the department to be responsible for providing information regarding voter registration procedures and vote-by-mail ballot procedures to absent uniformed services voters and overseas voters.

Section 2. Section 97.021, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

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

(1) “Absent elector” means any registered and qualified voter who casts a vote-by-mail ballot.

(2) “Absent uniformed services voter” means:

(a) A member of a uniformed service on active duty who, by reason of such active duty, is absent from the place of residence where the member is otherwise qualified to vote;

(b) A member of the merchant marine who, by reason of
service in the merchant marine, is absent from the place of residence where the member is otherwise qualified to vote; or

(c) A spouse or dependent of a member referred to in paragraph (a) or paragraph (b) who, by reason of the active duty or service of the member, is absent from the place of residence where the spouse or dependent is otherwise qualified to vote.

(2)(3) "Address of legal residence" means the legal residential address of the elector and includes all information necessary to differentiate one residence from another, including, but not limited to, a distinguishing apartment, suite, lot, room, or dormitory room number or other identifier.

(3)(4) "Alternative formats" has the meaning ascribed in the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, Pub. L. No. 101-336, 42 U.S.C. ss. 12101 et seq., including specifically the technical assistance manuals promulgated thereunder, as amended.

(4)(5) "Ballot" or "official ballot" when used in reference to:

(a) "Marksense ballots" means that printed sheet of paper, used in conjunction with an electronic or electromechanical vote tabulation voting system, containing the names of candidates, or a statement of proposed constitutional amendments or other questions or propositions submitted to the electorate at any election, on which sheet of paper an elector casts his or her vote.

(b) "Electronic or electromechanical devices" means a ballot that is voted by the process of electronically designating, including by touchscreen, or marking with a marking device for tabulation by automatic tabulating equipment or data processing equipment.
“Candidate” means any person to whom any one or more of the following applies:

(a) Any person who seeks to qualify for nomination or election by means of the petitioning process.

(b) Any person who seeks to qualify for election as a write-in candidate.

(c) Any person who receives contributions or makes expenditures, or gives his or her consent for any other person to receive contributions or make expenditures, with a view to bringing about his or her nomination or election to, or retention in, public office.

(d) Any person who appoints a treasurer and designates a primary depository.

(e) Any person who files qualification papers and subscribes to a candidate’s oath as required by law.

However, this definition does not include any candidate for a political party executive committee.

“Department” means the Department of State.

“Division” means the Division of Elections of the Department of State.

“Early voting” means casting a ballot prior to election day at a location designated by the supervisor of elections and depositing the voted ballot in the tabulation system.

“Early voting area” means the area designated by the supervisor of elections at an early voting site at which early voting activities occur, including, but not limited to, lines of voters waiting to be processed, the area where voters check in and are processed, and the area where voters cast their ballots.
(11) “Early voting site” means those locations specified in s. 101.657 and the building in which early voting occurs.

(8) (12) “Election” means any primary election, special primary election, special election, general election, or presidential preference primary election.

(9) (13) “Election board” means the clerk and inspectors appointed to conduct an election.

(10) (14) “Election costs” shall include, but are not be limited to, expenditures for all paper supplies such as envelopes, instructions to voters, affidavits, reports, ballot cards, ballot booklets for vote-by-mail voters, postage, and notices to voters; advertisements for registration book closings, testing of voting equipment, and sample ballots, and polling places; forms used to qualify candidates; polling site rental and equipment delivery and pickup; data processing time and supplies; election records retention; and labor costs, including those costs uniquely associated with mail vote-by-mail ballot preparation, election poll workers, and election night canvass.

(11) (15) “Elector” is synonymous with the word “voter” or “qualified elector or voter,” except where the word is used to describe presidential electors.

(12) (16) “General election” means an election held on the first Tuesday after the first Monday in November in the even-numbered years, for the purpose of filling national, state, county, and district offices and for voting on constitutional amendments not otherwise provided for by law.

(13) (17) “Lists of registered electors” means names and associated information of registered electors maintained by the
department in the statewide voter registration system or
generated or derived from the statewide voter registration
system. Lists may be produced in printed or electronic format.

(14)(18) "Member of the Merchant Marine" means an
individual, other than a member of a uniformed service or an
individual employed, enrolled, or maintained on the Great Lakes
for the inland waterways, who is:

(a) Employed as an officer or crew member of a vessel
documented under the laws of the United States, a vessel owned
by the United States, or a vessel of foreign-flag registry under
charter to or control of the United States; or

(b) Enrolled with the United States for employment or
training for employment, or maintained by the United States for
emergency relief service, as an officer or crew member of such
vessel.

(15)(19) "Minor political party" is any group as specified
in s. 103.095 which on January 1 preceding a primary election
does not have registered as members 5 percent of the total
registered electors of the state.

(16)(20) "Newspaper of general circulation" means a
newspaper printed in the language most commonly spoken in the
area within which it circulates and which is readily available
for purchase by all inhabitants in the area of circulation, but
does not include a newspaper intended primarily for members of a
particular professional or occupational group, a newspaper the
primary function of which is to carry legal notices, or a
newspaper that is given away primarily to distribute
advertising.

(17)(21) "Nominal value" means having a retail value of $10
or less.

(18) “Nonpartisan office” means an office for which a candidate is prohibited from campaigning or qualifying for election or retention in office based on party affiliation.

(19) “Office that serves persons with disabilities” means any state office that takes applications either in person or over the telephone from persons with disabilities for any program, service, or benefit primarily related to their disabilities.

(20) “Overvote” means that the elector marks or designates more names than there are persons to be elected to an office or designates more than one answer to a ballot question, and the tabulator records no vote for the office or question.

(21) “Person with disabilities” means individuals who have a physical or mental impairment that substantially limits one or more major life activities.

(22) “Petition circulator” means an entity or individual who collects signatures for compensation for the
purpose of qualifying a proposed constitutional amendment for ballot placement.

(28) “Polling place” is the building which contains the polling room where ballots are cast.

(29) “Polling room” means the actual room in which ballots are cast on election day and during early voting.

(24) (30) “Primary election” means an election held preceding the general election for the purpose of nominating a party nominee to be voted for in the general election to fill a national, state, county, or district office.

(25) (31) “Provisional ballot” means a conditional ballot, the validity of which is determined by the canvassing board.

(26) (32) “Public assistance” means assistance provided through the food assistance program under the federal Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program; the Medicaid program; the Special Supplemental Food Program for Women, Infants, and Children; and the Temporary Cash Assistance Program.

(27) (33) “Public office” means any federal, state, county, municipal, school, or other district office or position which is filled by vote of the electors.

(28) (34) “Qualifying educational institution” means any public or private educational institution receiving state financial assistance which has, as its primary mission, the provision of education or training to students who are at least 18 years of age, provided such institution has more than 200 students enrolled in classes with the institution and provided that the recognized student government organization has requested this designation in writing and has filed the request with the office of the supervisor of elections in the county in which the institution is located.
which the institution is located.

(29) “Special election” is a special election called for the purpose of voting on a party nominee to fill a vacancy in the national, state, county, or district office.

(30) “Special primary election” is a special nomination election designated by the Governor, called for the purpose of nominating a party nominee to be voted on in a general or special election.

(31) “Supervisor” means the supervisor of elections.

(32) “Tactile input device” means a device that provides information to a voting system by means of a voter touching the device, such as a keyboard, and that complies with the requirements of s. 101.56062(1)(k) and (l).

(33) “Third-party registration organization” means any person, entity, or organization soliciting or collecting voter registration applications. A third-party voter registration organization does not include:

(a) A person who seeks only to register to vote or collect voter registration applications from that person’s spouse, child, or parent; or

(b) A person engaged in registering to vote or collecting voter registration applications as an employee or agent of the division, supervisor of elections, Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles, or a voter registration agency.

(34) “Undervote” means that the elector does not properly designate any choice for an office or ballot question, and the tabulator records no vote for the office or question.

(35) “Uniformed services” means the Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps, and Coast Guard, the commissioned corps of
the Public Health Service, and the commissioned corps of the
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.

(36) (42) “Voter interface device” means any device that
communicates voting instructions and ballot information to a
voter and allows the voter to select and vote for candidates and
issues. A voter interface device may not be used to tabulate
votes. Any vote tabulation must be based upon a subsequent scan
of the marked marksense ballot or the voter-verifiable paper
output after the voter interface device process has been
completed.

(37) (43) “Voter registration agency” means any office that
provides public assistance, any office that serves persons with
disabilities, any center for independent living, or any public
library.

(38) (44) “Voter registration official” means any supervisor
of elections or individual authorized by the Secretary of State
to accept voter registration applications and execute updates to
the statewide voter registration system.

(39) “Voter services center” means a location that is
designated by the supervisor of elections to provide services as
specified in s. 101.012.

(40) (45) “Voting booth” or “booth” means that booth or
enclosure at a voter services center wherein an elector casts
his or her ballot for tabulation by an electronic or
electromechanical device.

(41) (46) “Voting system” means a method of casting and
processing votes that functions wholly or partly by use of
electromechanical or electronic apparatus or by use of marksense
ballots and includes, but is not limited to, the procedures for
casting and processing votes and the programs, operating
manuals, supplies, printouts, and other software necessary for
the system’s operation.

Section 3. Section 97.026, Florida Statutes, is amended to
read:

97.026 Forms to be available in alternative formats and via
the Internet.—It is the intent of the Legislature that all forms
required to be used in chapters 97-106 shall be made available
upon request in alternative formats. Such forms shall include
mail vote-by-mail ballots as alternative formats for such
ballots become available and the Division of Elections is able
to certify systems that provide them. Whenever possible, such
forms, with the exception of mail vote-by-mail ballots, shall be
made available by the Department of State via the Internet.
Sections that contain such forms include, but are not limited
to, ss. 97.051, 97.052, 97.053, 97.057, 97.058, 97.0583, 97.071,
97.073, 97.1031, 98.075, 99.021, 100.361, 100.371, 101.003,
101.64, 101.65, 101.657, 105.031, 106.023, and 106.087.

Section 4. Section 97.061, Florida Statutes, is amended to
read:

97.061 Special registration for electors requiring
assistance.—

(1) Any person who is eligible to register and who is
unable to read or write or who, because of some disability,
needs assistance in voting shall upon that person’s request be
registered under the procedure prescribed by this section and is
shall be entitled to receive assistance with voting at the polls
under the conditions prescribed by this section.
(2) If a person is qualified to register pursuant to this section, the voter registration official shall note in that person’s registration record that the person needs assistance in voting.

(3) The precinct register generated by the supervisor shall contain a notation that such person is eligible for assistance in voting, and The supervisor may make a notation on the voter information card that such person is eligible for assistance in voting. Such person shall be entitled to receive the assistance of two election officials or some other person of his or her own choice, other than the person’s employer, the agent of the person’s employer, or an officer or agent of the person’s union, without the necessity of executing the “Declaration to Secure Assistance” prescribed in s. 101.051. Such person shall notify the supervisor of any change in his or her condition which makes it unnecessary for him or her to receive assistance in voting.

Section 5. Subsections (1) and (3) of section 97.071, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

97.071 Voter information card.—

(1) A voter information card shall be furnished by the supervisor to all registered voters residing in the supervisor’s county. The card must contain:

(a) Voter’s registration number.
(b) Date of registration.
(c) Full name.
(d) Party affiliation.
(e) Date of birth.
(f) Address of legal residence.
(g) Precinct number.

CODING: Words stricken are deletions; words underlined are additions.
29-00519A-20  20201820

(h) Polling place address.

(i) Name of supervisor and contact information of supervisor.

(ii) Other information deemed necessary by the supervisor.

(3) In the case of a change of name, address of legal residence, polling place address, or party affiliation, the supervisor shall issue the voter a new voter information card.

Section 6. Paragraph (c) of subsection (4) of section 98.065, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

98.065 Registration list maintenance programs.—

(4)

(c) The supervisor must designate as inactive all voters who have been sent an address confirmation final notice and who have not returned the postage prepaid, preaddressed return form within 30 days or for which the final notice has been returned as undeliverable. Names on the inactive list may not be used to calculate the number of signatures needed on any petition. A voter on the inactive list may be restored to the active list of voters upon the voter updating his or her registration information, requesting a vote by mail ballot, or appearing to vote. However, if the voter does not update his or her voter registration information, request a vote by mail ballot, or vote by the second general election after being placed on the inactive list, the voter’s name shall be removed from the statewide voter registration system and the voter shall be required to reregister to have his or her name restored to the statewide voter registration system.

Section 7. Subsection (4) of section 98.077, Florida
29-00519A-20

Statutes, is amended to read:

98.077 Update of voter signature.—
(4) Except as authorized in ss. 101.0091 and 101.048 and 101.048 and 101.65:

(a) All signature updates for use in verifying vote-by-mail and provisional ballots must be received by the appropriate supervisor before the elector’s ballot is received by the supervisor or, in the case of provisional ballots, before the elector’s ballot is cast.

(b) The signature on file at the time the vote-by-mail ballot is received or at the time the provisional ballot is cast is the signature that shall be used in verifying the signature on the voter’s certificate the vote-by-mail and provisional ballot voter’s certificate certificates, respectively.

Section 8. Paragraphs (b) and (d) of subsection (1) and paragraph (a) of subsection (2) of section 98.0981, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

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

(1) VOTING HISTORY AND STATEWIDE VOTER REGISTRATION SYSTEM INFORMATION.—

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

1. The unique identifier assigned to each qualified voter within the statewide voter registration system;
2. All information provided by each qualified voter on his or her voter registration application pursuant to s. 97.052(2), except that which is confidential or exempt from public records requirements;

3. Each qualified voter’s date of registration;

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

5. Each qualified voter’s current precinct; and

6. Voting history as transmitted under paragraph (a) to include whether the qualified voter voted at a voter services center or the supervisor’s office precinct location, voted during the early voting period, voted by mail vote-by-mail ballot, attempted to vote by mail but the ballot vote-by-mail ballot that was not counted, attempted to vote by provisional ballot but the ballot that was not counted, or did not vote.

(d) File specifications are as follows:

1. The file shall contain records designated by the categories below for all qualified voters who, regardless of the voter’s county of residence or active or inactive registration status at the book closing for the corresponding election that the file is being created for:

   a. Voted a regular ballot by mail at a precinct location.

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

   c. Voted a regular ballot at a voter services center or the supervisor’s office during the early voting period.

   d. Voted during the early voting period using a provisional ballot that was subsequently counted.
e. Voted by vote-by-mail ballot.

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

   e. f. Attempted to vote by provisional ballot, but the ballot was not counted in that election.

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

3. File names shall adhere to the following convention:
   a. Three-character county identifier as established by the department followed by an underscore.
   b. Followed by four-character file type identifier of “VHO3” followed by an underscore.
   c. Followed by FVRS election ID followed by an underscore.
   d. Followed by Date Created followed by an underscore.
   e. Date format is YYYYMMDD.
   f. Followed by Time Created - HHMMSS.
   g. Followed by “.txt”.

4. Each record shall contain the following columns: Record Identifier, FVRS Voter ID Number, FVRS Election ID Number, Vote Date, Vote History Code, Precinct, Congressional District, House District, Senate District, County Commission District, and School Board District.

   (2) PRECINCT-LEVEL ELECTION RESULTS.—

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

Section 9. Subsection (1) of section 98.255, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

98.255 Voter education programs.—
(1) The Department of State shall adopt rules prescribing minimum standards for nonpartisan voter education. The standards shall, at a minimum, address:
(a) Voter registration;
(b) Balloting procedures, by mail and polling place;
(c) Voter rights and responsibilities;
(d) Distribution of sample ballots; and
(e) Public service announcements.

Section 10. Section 98.461, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

98.461 Registration application, precinct register; contents.—
(1) A registration application, approved by the Department of State, containing the information required in s. 97.052 shall
be retained by the supervisor of elections of the county of the applicant’s registration. However, the registration application may be microfilmed and such microfilm substituted for the original registration application; or, when voter registration information, including the voter’s signature, is maintained digitally or on electronic, magnetic, or optic media, such stored information may be substituted for the original registration application. Such microfilms or stored information shall be retained in the custody of the supervisor of elections of the county of the applicant’s registration. In the event the original registration applications are microfilmed or maintained digitally or on electronic or other media, such originals may be destroyed in accordance with the schedule approved by the Bureau of Archives and Records Management of the Division of Library and Information Services of the Department of State.

(2) A computer printout or electronic database shall be used at the polls as a precinct register. The precinct register shall contain the date of the election, the precinct number, and the following information concerning each registered elector: last name, first name, middle name or initial, and suffix; party affiliation; residence address; registration number; date of birth; sex, if provided; race, if provided; whether the voter needs assistance in voting; and such other additional information as to readily identify the elector. The precinct register shall also contain a space for the elector’s signature and a space for the initials of the witnessing clerk or inspector or an electronic device may be provided for this purpose.

Section 11. Section 100.0001, Florida Statutes, is created
to read:

100.0001 Elections to be conducted by mail.—All elections in this state shall be conducted by mail. The department shall adopt any rules necessary to provide for uniformity in the conduct of elections by mail and the procedures for conducting elections by mail.

Section 12. Section 100.011, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

100.011 Election Opening and closing of polls, all elections; expenses.—

(1) The polls shall be open at the voting places at 7:00 a.m., on the day of the election, and shall be kept open until 7:00 p.m., of the same day, and the time shall be regulated by the customary time in standard use in the county seat of the locality. The inspectors shall make public proclamation of the opening and closing of the polls. During the election and canvass of the votes, the ballot box shall not be concealed. Any elector who is in line at the time of the official closing of the polls shall be allowed to cast a vote in the election.

(2) The time of opening and closing of the polls shall be observed in all elections held in this state, including municipal and school elections.

(3) The expenses of holding all elections for county and state offices necessarily incurred shall be paid out of the treasury of the county or state, as the case may be, in the same manner and by the same officers as in general elections.

(2)(a)(4)(a) The provisions of any special law to the contrary notwithstanding, the expenses of holding a special district or community development district election, or the
district’s proportionate share of regular election costs, as the case may be, shall be paid out of the district’s treasury and in the same manner as in general elections. This subsection applies to any district, whether created by or pursuant to special or general law, which is a special district as defined in s. 200.001(8)(c) or a community development district as defined in s. 190.003(6).

(b) The provisions of any special law to the contrary notwithstanding, the supervisor of elections may impose an interest penalty on any amount due and owing to him or her from a special district or community development district if payment is not made within 30 days from receipt of the bill or within 10 working days of the required time authorized by interlocal agreement. The rate of such interest shall be the rate established pursuant to s. 55.03.

(c) The provisions of any special law to the contrary notwithstanding, all independent and dependent special district elections, with the exception of community development district elections, shall be conducted in accordance with the requirements of ss. 189.04 and 189.041.

Section 13. Section 100.032, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

100.032 Election preparation report; general election.—Each supervisor of elections must post a report on his or her official website at least 3 months before a general election which outlines preparations for the upcoming general election. The report must include, at a minimum, the following elements: the anticipated staffing levels during the early voting period, on election day and after election day; and the anticipated...
amount of automatic tabulating equipment at each voter services
center early voting site and polling place.

Section 14. Section 100.221, Florida Statutes, is amended
to read:

100.221 General election laws to govern bond referenda.—The
to bond referenda, except as provided in ss. 100.201-100.351. A
county, district, or municipality is not required to offer early
voting for a bond referendum that is not held in conjunction
with a county or state election. The places for voting in a bond
referendum shall be the same as the places for voting in general
elections when a bond referendum is held in the county or
district; however, when a bond referendum is held in a
municipality, the polling places shall be the same as in other
municipal elections.

Section 15. Paragraph (e) of subsection (13) of section
100.371, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

100.371 Initiatives; procedure for placement on ballot.—
(13)
(e)1. Any financial impact statement that the Supreme Court
finds not to be in accordance with this subsection shall be
remanded solely to the Financial Impact Estimating Conference
for redrafting, provided the court’s advisory opinion is
rendered at least 75 days before the election at which the
question of ratifying the amendment will be presented. The
Financial Impact Estimating Conference shall prepare and adopt a
revised financial impact statement no later than 5 p.m. on the
15th day after the date of the court’s opinion.

2. If, by 5 p.m. on the 75th day before the election, the
Supreme Court has not issued an advisory opinion on the initial financial impact statement prepared by the Financial Impact Estimating Conference for an initiative amendment that otherwise meets the legal requirements for ballot placement, the financial impact statement shall be deemed approved for placement on the ballot.

3. In addition to the financial impact statement required by this subsection, the Financial Impact Estimating Conference shall draft an initiative financial information statement. The initiative financial information statement should describe in greater detail than the financial impact statement any projected increase or decrease in revenues or costs that the state or local governments would likely experience and the estimated economic impact on the state and local economy if the ballot measure were approved. If appropriate, the initiative financial information statement may include both estimated dollar amounts and a description placing the estimated dollar amounts into context. The initiative financial information statement must include both a summary of not more than 500 words and additional detailed information that includes the assumptions that were made to develop the financial impacts, workpapers, and any other information deemed relevant by the Financial Impact Estimating Conference.

4. The Department of State shall have printed, and shall furnish to each supervisor of elections, a copy of the summary from the initiative financial information statements. The supervisors shall have the summary from the initiative financial information statements available at each voter services center and at the main office of the supervisor of
5. The Secretary of State and the Office of Economic and Demographic Research shall make available on the Internet each initiative financial information statement in its entirety. In addition, each supervisor of elections whose office has a website shall post the summary from each initiative financial information statement on the website. Each supervisor shall include a copy of each summary from the initiative financial information statements and the Internet addresses for the information statements on the Secretary of State’s and the Office of Economic and Demographic Research’s websites in the publication or mailing required by s. 101.20.

Section 16. Section 101.001, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

101.001 Precinct Precincts and polling places; boundaries.—
(1) The board of county commissioners in each county, upon recommendation and approval of the supervisor, shall alter or create precincts for voting in the county. Each precinct shall be numbered and, as nearly as practicable, composed of contiguous and compact areas. The supervisor shall designate a polling place at a suitable location within each precinct. The precinct may not be changed thereafter except with the consent of the supervisor and a majority of the members of the board of county commissioners. The board of county commissioners and the supervisor may have precinct boundaries conform to municipal boundaries in accordance with the provisions of s. 101.002, but, in any event, the registration books shall be maintained in such a manner that there may be determined therefrom the total number of electors in each municipality.
(2) When in any election there are fewer than 25 registered electors of the only political party having candidates on the ballot at any precinct, such precinct may be combined with other adjoining precincts upon the recommendation of the supervisor and the approval of the county commissioners. Notice of the combination of precincts shall be given in the same manner as provided in s. 101.71(2).

(3)(a) Each supervisor of elections shall maintain a suitable map drawn to a scale no smaller than 3 miles to the inch and clearly delineating all major observable features such as roads, streams, and railway lines and showing the current geographical boundaries of each precinct, representative district, and senatorial district, and other type of district in the county subject to the elections process in this code.

(b) The supervisor shall provide to the department data on all precincts in the county associated with the most recent decennial census blocks within each precinct.

(c) The department shall maintain a searchable database that contains the precincts and the corresponding most recent decennial census blocks within the precincts for each county, including a historical file that allows the census blocks to be traced through the prior decade.

(d) The supervisor of elections shall notify the Secretary of State in writing within 10 days after any reorganization of precincts and shall furnish a copy of the map showing the current geographical boundaries and designation of each new precinct. However, if precincts are composed of whole census blocks, the supervisor may furnish, in lieu of a copy of the map, a list, in an electronic format prescribed by the
Department of State, associating each census block in the county with its precinct.

(e) Any precinct established or altered under the provisions of this section shall consist of areas bounded on all sides only by census block boundaries from the most recent United States Census. If the census block boundaries split or conflict with another political boundary listed below, the boundary listed below may be used:

1. Governmental unit boundaries reported in the most recent Boundary and Annexation Survey published by the United States Census Bureau;

2. Visible features that are readily distinguishable upon the ground, such as streets, railroads, tracks, streams, and lakes, and that are indicated upon current census maps, official Department of Transportation maps, official municipal maps, official county maps, or a combination of such maps;

3. Boundaries of public parks, public school grounds, or churches; or

4. Boundaries of counties, incorporated municipalities, or other political subdivisions that meet criteria established by the United States Census Bureau for block boundaries.

(4)(a) Within 10 days after there is any change in the division, number, or boundaries of the precincts, or the location of the polling places, the supervisor of elections shall make in writing an accurate description of any new or altered precincts, setting forth the boundary lines and shall identify the location of each new or altered polling place. A copy of the document describing such changes shall be posted at the supervisor’s office.
(b) Any changes in the county precinct data shall be provided to the department within 10 days after a change.

(c) Precinct data shall include all precincts for which precinct-level election results and voting history results are reported.

Section 17. Section 101.012, Florida Statutes, is created to read:

101.012 Voter services centers.—
(1) The supervisor of elections shall establish voter services centers to:
   (a) Provide in-person voting for persons with disabilities as required by law.

   (b) Allow an elector to request and obtain a replacement ballot if a mail ballot is destroyed, spoiled, lost, or not received by the elector; or in the event of an election held for the purpose of nominating a political party nominee, an elector may request and obtain a replacement ballot for the elector’s newly designated party affiliation if the elector updated his or her party affiliation before the book-closing deadline but after the supervisor has mailed out ballots pursuant to s. 101.003.

   (c) Provide secure drop boxes for electors to return voted mail ballots.

   (d) Allow an elector to update his or her residence or name in accordance with s. 101.045.

   (e) Allow a person whose eligibility to vote cannot be determined to cast a provisional ballot in accordance with s. 101.048.

   (f) Allow an elector to submit a cure affidavit for a mail ballot or a provisional ballot.
(g) Allow an elector whose voter registration has been designated as inactive to obtain a ballot.

(2) The supervisor shall designate each voter services center by no later than the 30th day before an election. The supervisor shall provide to the division no later than the 30th day before an election the address of each voter services center and the hours of operation of each center.

(3) In addition to any main or branch office of the supervisor, the supervisor may designate any 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 a voter services center. In designating the locations of voter services centers, the supervisor must ensure that the center locations are geographically located so as to provide all voters in the county an equal opportunity to cast a ballot. Additionally, the supervisor may designate one voter services center per election in an area of the county that does not have any of the eligible locations specified in this subsection.

(4) For any election that contains state or federal races, voter services centers shall be open for the period beginning on the 10th day before an election and ending on the day of the election, and be open for at least 8 hours but not more than 12 hours per day at each location during the applicable period. In addition, the supervisor may operate voter services centers on the 15th, 14th, 13th, 12th, or 11th day before an election that contains state or federal races for at least 8 hours per day, but not more than 12 hours per day. The supervisor may operate
voter services centers for elections that are not held in conjunction with a state or federal election, but the supervisor has discretion to determine the hours of operation of centers in those elections.

(5) All voter services centers in a county must allow any elector in line at the closing of the center to vote or receive other services.

Section 18. Section 101.013, Florida Statutes, is created to read:

101.013 Secure drop boxes.—

(1) The supervisor shall allow an elector who has received a ballot to physically return the voted ballot to the supervisor by placing the envelope containing his or her marked ballot in a secure drop box. Secure drop boxes must be placed at the main office of the supervisor, at each branch office of the supervisor, and at each voter services center.

(2) Secure drop boxes may also be placed at any of the locations specified in s. 101.012(3), provided that any such site is staffed during the hours of its operation by an employee of the supervisor’s office or a sworn law enforcement officer. All stand-alone drop box locations must be designated by a sign that is conspicuously posted during the time that such locations are available to receive ballots.

(3) All secure drop box locations in a county must allow any elector who is in line waiting to drop off a voted ballot when the location closes to return his or her ballot.

Section 19. Section 101.014, Florida Statutes, is created to read:

101.014 Replacement ballots.—
(1) An elector may obtain a replacement ballot if the mailed ballot is destroyed, spoiled, lost, or not received by the elector. Replacement ballots may be mailed, made available in the main or branch office of the supervisor, or made available at a voter services center. A replacement ballot may not be mailed to an elector later than 8 days before the election.

(2) In order to be issued a replacement ballot, the elector must complete and sign a replacement ballot request form. The department shall prescribe the form by rule.

(3)(a) If directly instructed in writing by the elector, a member of the elector’s immediate family or the elector’s legal guardian may request a replacement ballot. For purposes of this paragraph, the term “immediate family” means the elector’s spouse or the parent, child, grandparent, or sibling of the elector. The person making the request must disclose:

1. The name of the elector for whom the ballot is requested.
2. The elector’s address.
3. The elector’s date of birth.
4. The requester’s name.
5. The requester’s address.
6. The requester’s driver license number, if available.
7. The requester’s relationship to the elector.
8. The requester’s signature.

(b) If the supervisor or his or her designee is satisfied that the designee is authorized to pick up the replacement ballot and that the signature of the elector on the written authorization matches the signature of the elector on file, the
supervisor shall give the ballot to that designee for delivery to the elector.

(4) Upon receiving a request for a replacement ballot, the supervisor shall:

(a) Verify the registration of the elector and ensure that another ballot has not been returned by the elector;

(b) Note in the list of electors that the elector has requested a replacement ballot;

(c) Mark the mailing envelope clearly so that it may be readily identified as a replacement ballot; and

(d) Issue the replacement ballot by mail or other means.

(5) The completed and signed replacement ballot request form and the voted replacement ballot must be received by the supervisor of elections by 7 p.m. on election day in order to be counted.

Section 20. Paragraph (b) of subsection (4) of section 101.015, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

101.015 Standards for voting systems.—

(4)

(b) 1. Each supervisor shall establish written procedures to assure accuracy and security in his or her county, including procedures related to the operation of voter services centers early voting pursuant to s. 101.657. Such procedures shall be reviewed in each odd-numbered year by the department.

2. Each supervisor shall submit any revisions to the security procedures to the department at least 45 days before voter services centers are scheduled to open pursuant to s. 101.012 early voting commences pursuant to s. 101.657 in an election in which they are to take effect.
Section 21. Section 101.031, Florida Statutes, is repealed.

Section 22. Section 101.043, Florida Statutes, is repealed.

Section 23. Subsection (2) of section 101.045, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

101.045 Electors must be registered in precinct; provisions for change of residence or name.—

(2)(a) An elector who moves from the precinct in which the elector is registered may vote in the precinct to which he or she has moved his or her legal residence, provided if the change of residence is within the same county or the precinct to which the elector has moved his or her legal residence is within a county that uses an electronic database as a precinct register at the polling place, and the elector completes an affirmation in substantially the following form:

Change of Legal Residence of Registered Voter

Under penalties for false swearing, I, ...(Name of voter)..., swear (or affirm) that the former address of my legal residence was ...(Address of legal residence) in the municipality of ...., in .... County, Florida, and I was registered to vote in the .... precinct of .... County, Florida; that I have not voted in the precinct of my former registration in this election; that I now reside at ...(Address of legal residence) in the Municipality of ...., in .... County, Florida, and am therefore eligible to vote in the .... precinct of .... County, Florida; and I further swear (or affirm) that I am otherwise legally registered and entitled to vote.
(b) Except for an active uniformed services voter or a member of his or her family and except for an elector who has moved his or her legal residence to a precinct within a county that uses an electronic database as a precinct register at the polling place, an elector whose change of address is from outside the county may not change his or her legal residence at the polling place and must vote a provisional ballot.

(c) An elector whose name changes because of marriage or other legal process may be permitted to vote, provided such elector completes an affirmation in substantially the following form:

Change of Name of Registered Voter

Under penalties for false swearing, I, ...(New name of voter)..., swear (or affirm) that my name has been changed because of marriage or other legal process. My former name and address of legal residence appear on the registration records of precinct .... as follows:

Name............................................................
Address..........................................................
Municipality..................................................
County........................................................
Florida, Zip...................................................

My present name and address of legal residence are as follows:
CODING: Words struck are deletions; words underlined are additions.

...(Signature of voter whose name has changed)...

(c) (d) Instead of the affirmation contained in paragraph (a) or paragraph (b) (c), an elector may complete a voter registration application that indicates the change of name or change of address of legal residence.

(d) (e) Such affirmation or application, when completed and presented at the office of the supervisor of elections or a voter services center precinct in which such elector is entitled to vote, and upon verification of the elector’s registration, shall entitle such elector to vote as provided in this subsection. If the elector’s eligibility to vote cannot be determined, he or she shall be entitled to vote a provisional ballot, subject to the requirements and procedures in s. 101.048. Upon receipt of an affirmation or application certifying a change in address of legal residence or name, the supervisor shall as soon as practicable make the necessary changes in the statewide voter registration system to indicate the change in address of legal residence or name of such elector.

Section 24. Subsection (1) and paragraph (b) of subsection
(2) of section 101.048, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

101.048 Provisional ballots.—

(1) At all elections, a voter who claims claiming to be properly registered in the state and eligible to vote at a certain the precinct in the election but whose eligibility cannot be determined, a person whom an election official asserts is not eligible, and other persons specified in the code are shall be entitled to vote a provisional ballot at the office of the supervisor of elections or a voter services center. Once voted, the provisional ballot must shall be placed in a secrecy envelope and thereafter sealed in a provisional ballot envelope. The provisional ballot shall be deposited in a ballot box. All provisional ballots must shall remain sealed in their envelopes until such time that the ballots are reviewed by the county canvassing board for return to the supervisor of elections. The department shall prescribe the form of the provisional ballot envelope. A person casting a provisional ballot has shall have the right to present written evidence supporting his or her eligibility to vote to the supervisor of elections by not later than 5 p.m. on the second day following the election.

(2)

(b) If it is determined that the person was registered and entitled to vote in at the precinct where the person cast a vote in the election, the canvassing board must compare the signature on the Provisional Ballot Voter’s Certificate and Affirmation or the provisional ballot cure affidavit with the signature on the voter’s registration or precinct register. A provisional ballot may be counted only if:

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

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

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

Section 25. Subsection (4) of section 101.049, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

101.049 Provisional ballots; special circumstances.—

(4) This section shall not apply to voters in line at the poll-closing time provided in s. 100.011 who cast their ballots subsequent to that time.

Section 26. Section 101.051, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

101.051 Electors seeking assistance in casting ballots; oath to be executed; forms to be furnished.—

(1) Any elector applying to vote in any election who requires assistance to vote by reason of blindness, disability, or inability to read or write may request the assistance of two election officials or some other person of the elector’s own choice, other than the elector’s employer, an agent of the employer, or an officer or agent of his or her union, to assist
the elector in casting his or her vote. Any such elector, before retiring to the voting booth, may have one of such persons read over to him or her, without suggestion or interference, the titles of the offices to be filled and the candidates therefor and the issues on the ballot. After the elector requests the aid of the two election officials or the person of the elector’s choice, they shall retire to the voting booth for the purpose of casting the elector’s vote according to the elector’s choice.

(2) It is unlawful for any person to be in the voting booth with any elector except as provided in subsection (1). A person at a voter services center polling place or early voting site, or within 100 feet of the entrance of a voter services center polling place or early voting site, may not solicit any elector in an effort to provide assistance to vote pursuant to subsection (1). Any person who violates this subsection commits a misdemeanor of the first degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082 or s. 775.083.

(3) Any elector who plans applying to cast a vote-by-mail ballot by mail in the office of the supervisor, in any election, who requires assistance to vote by reason of blindness, disability, or inability to read or write may request the assistance of some person of his or her own choice, other than the elector’s employer, an agent of the employer, or an officer or agent of his or her union, in casting his or her vote-by-mail ballot.

(4) If an elector needs assistance in voting pursuant to the provisions of this section, the clerk or one of the inspectors shall require the elector requesting assistance in voting to take the following oath:
DECLARATION TO SECURE ASSISTANCE

State of Florida
County of ....
Date ....
Precinct ....

I, ...(Print name)...., swear or affirm that I am a registered elector and request assistance from ...(Print names).... in voting at the ...(name of election).... held on ...(date of election)....

...(Signature of voter)....

Sworn and subscribed to before me this .... day of ...., ...(year)....

...(Signature of Official Administering Oath)....

(5) If an elector needing assistance requests that a person other than an election official provide him or her with assistance in voting, the clerk or one of the inspectors shall require the person providing assistance to take the following oath:

DECLARATION TO PROVIDE ASSISTANCE

State of Florida
I, ...(Print name)..., have been requested by ...(print name of elector needing assistance)... to provide him or her with assistance to vote. I swear or affirm that I am not the employer, an agent of the employer, or an officer or agent of the union of the voter and that I have not solicited this voter at the voter services center polling place or early voting site or within 100 feet of the center such locations in an effort to provide assistance.

...(Signature of assistor)...

Sworn and subscribed to before me this .... day of ....,
...(year)....

...(Signature of Official Administering Oath)...

(6) The supervisor of elections shall deliver a sufficient number of these forms to each voter services center precinct, along with other election paraphernalia.

Section 27. Section 101.111, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

101.111 Voter challenges.—
(1)(a) Any registered elector or poll watcher of a county may challenge the right of a person to vote in that county. The challenge must be in writing and contain the following oath,
which shall be delivered to the clerk or inspector:

OATH OF PERSON ENTERING CHALLENGE

State of Florida
County of ....

I do solemnly swear or affirm that my name is ....; that I am a member of the .... Party; that I am a registered voter or pollwatcher; that my residence address is ...., in the municipality of ....; and that I have reason to believe that .... is attempting to vote illegally and the reasons for my belief are set forth herein to wit:

.................................................................
.................................................................
...(Signature of person challenging voter)...

Sworn and subscribed to before me this .... day of ....,
...(year)....
...(Clerk of election)...

(b)1. The clerk or inspector shall immediately deliver to the challenged person a copy of the oath of the person entering the challenge, and the challenged voter shall be allowed to cast a provisional ballot in accordance with s. 101.048, except as provided in subparagraph 2.

2. If the basis for the challenge is that the person’s legal residence is not in a certain that precinct, the person shall first be given the opportunity to execute a change of
legal residence in order to be able to vote a regular ballot in accordance with s. 101.045(2). If the change of legal residence is such that the person is then properly registered for that precinct, the person shall be allowed to vote a regular ballot. If the change of legal residence places the person in another precinct, the person shall be issued a ballot in accordance with directed to the proper precinct to vote. If such person insists that he or she is currently resides in the initially designated proper precinct, the person shall be allowed to vote a provisional ballot in accordance with s. 101.048.

(c) Alternatively, a challenge in accordance with this section may be filed in advance with the supervisor of elections no sooner than 30 days before an election. The supervisor shall promptly provide the election board in the challenged voter’s precinct with a copy of the oath of the person entering the challenge. The challenged voter shall be allowed to cast a provisional ballot in accordance with s. 101.048, subject to the provisions of subparagraph (b)2.

(2) Any elector or poll watcher filing a frivolous challenge of any person’s right to vote commits a misdemeanor of the first degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082 or s. 775.083; however, an elector or a watcher is not electors or poll watchers shall not be subject to liability for any action taken in good faith and in furtherance of any activity or duty permitted of such electors or poll watchers by law. Each instance where any elector or poll watcher files a frivolous challenge of any person’s right to vote constitutes a separate offense.

Section 28. Section 101.131, Florida Statutes, is amended
1248 to read:

1249 101.131 Appointment of watchers at polls.—

1250 (1) Each political party and each candidate may appoint

1251 have one watcher in each voter services center polling room or

1252 early voting area at any one time during the election. A

1253 political committee formed for the specific purpose of expressly

1254 advocating the passage or defeat of an issue on the ballot may

1255 appoint have one watcher for each voter services center polling

1256 room or early voting area at any one time during the election.

1257 No watcher shall be permitted to come closer to the officials’

1258 table or the voting booths than is reasonably necessary to

1259 properly perform his or her functions, but each shall be allowed

1260 within the polling room or early voting area to watch and

1261 observe the conduct of electors and officials. The poll watchers

1262 shall furnish their own materials and necessities and shall not

1263 obstruct the orderly conduct of any election. The poll watchers

1264 shall pose any questions regarding voter services center polling

1265 place procedures directly to the clerk for resolution. They may

1266 not interact with voters. Each poll watcher shall be a qualified

1267 and registered elector of the county in which he or she serves.

1268 (2) Each party, each political committee, and each

1269 candidate requesting to have poll watchers shall designate those

1270 individuals, in writing to the supervisors of elections, on a

1271 form prescribed by the division, before noon of the second

1272 Tuesday preceding the election poll watchers for each polling

1273 room on election day. Designations of poll watchers for early

1274 voting areas shall be submitted in writing to the supervisor of

1275 elections, on a form prescribed by the division, before noon at

1276 least 14 days before the in-person early voting period begins.
The poll watchers for polling rooms shall be approved by the supervisor of elections on or before the Tuesday before the election. Poll watchers for early voting areas shall be approved by the supervisor of elections no later than 7 days before early voting begins. The supervisor shall furnish to each election board a list of the poll watchers designated and approved for such voter services center polling rooms or early voting areas.

Designation of poll watchers shall be made by the chair of the county executive committee of a political party, the chair of a political committee, or the candidate requesting to have poll watchers.

(3) No candidate or sheriff, deputy sheriff, police officer, or other law enforcement officer may be designated as a poll watcher.

(4) All poll watchers shall be allowed to enter and watch voting areas polls in all voter services centers polling rooms and early voting areas within the county in which they have been designated if the number of poll watchers at any particular center polling place does not exceed the number provided in this section.

(5) The supervisor of elections shall provide to each designated poll watcher, no later than 7 days before in-person early voting begins, a poll watcher identification badge that identifies the poll watcher by name. Each poll watcher must wear his or her identification badge while in the polling room or early voting area.

Section 29. Subsection (1) of section 101.151, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

101.151 Specifications for ballots.—
(1) (a) Marksense ballots must shall be printed on paper of such thickness that the printing cannot be distinguished from the back and must shall meet the specifications of the voting system that will be used to tabulate the ballots.

(b) Voter services centers Polling places and early voting sites may employ a ballot-on-demand production system to print individual marksense ballots, including provisional ballots, for eligible electors. Ballot-on-demand technology may be used to produce marksense vote-by-mail and election-day ballots.

Section 30. Section 101.171, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

101.171 Copy of constitutional amendment to be available at voting locations.—Whenever any amendment to the State Constitution is to be voted upon at any election, the department of State shall have printed and shall furnish to each supervisor of elections a sufficient number of copies of the amendment either in poster or booklet form, and the supervisor shall have a copy thereof conspicuously posted or available at each voter services center polling room or early voting area upon the day of election.

Section 31. Section 101.20, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

101.20 Publication of ballot form; Sample ballots.—

(1) Two sample ballots shall be furnished to each voter services center polling place by the officer whose duty it is to provide official ballots. The sample ballots shall be in the form of the official ballot as it will appear at that polling place on election day. Sample ballots shall be open to inspection by all electors in any election, and a sufficient
number of reduced-size ballots may be furnished to election officials so that one may be given to any elector desiring same.

(2)(a) Upon completion of the list of qualified candidates, a sample ballot shall be published by the supervisor in a newspaper of general circulation in the county, at least 30 days before the day of election.

(b) In lieu of the publication required under paragraph (a), a supervisor may send a sample ballot to each registered elector by e-mail at least 30 days before the day of an election if an e-mail address has been provided and the elector has opted to receive a sample ballot by electronic delivery. If an e-mail address has not been provided, or if the elector has not opted for electronic delivery, a sample ballot may be mailed to each registered elector or to each household in which there is a registered elector at least 30 days before the day of an election.

Section 32. Section 101.23, Florida Statutes, is repealed.
Section 33. Section 101.24, Florida Statutes, is repealed.
Section 34. Section 101.43, Florida Statutes, is repealed.
Section 35. Section 101.49, Florida Statutes, is repealed.
Section 36. Section 101.51, Florida Statutes, is repealed.
Section 37. Paragraph (f) of subsection (1) and subsection (2) of section 101.56062, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

101.56062 Standards for accessible voting systems.—

(1) Notwithstanding anything in this chapter to the contrary, each voting system certified by the department of State for use in local, state, and federal elections must include the capability to install accessible voter interface devices in the system configuration which will allow the system
to meet the following minimum standards:

(f) Any voting system that requires any visual perception must offer the election official who programs the system, prior to its being sent to the voter services center polling place, the capability to set the font size, as it appears to the voter, from a minimum of 14 points to a maximum of 24 points.

(2) Such voting system must include at least one accessible voter interface device installed in each voter services center polling place which meets the requirements of this section, except for paragraph (1)(d).

Section 38. Section 101.56063, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

101.56063 Accessibility of voting systems and voter services centers polling places; intent; eligibility for federal funding.—It is the intent of the Legislature that this state be eligible for any funds that are available from the Federal Government to assist states in providing or improving accessibility of voting systems and voter services centers polling places for persons having a disability. Accordingly, all state laws, rules, standards, and codes governing voting systems and voter services center polling place accessibility must be maintained to ensure the state’s eligibility to receive federal funds. It is the intent of the Legislature that all state requirements meet or exceed the minimum federal requirements for voting systems and voter services center polling place accessibility. This section shall take effect upon this act becoming a law.

Section 39. Section 101.5608, Florida Statutes, is repealed.
Section 40. Section 101.5610, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

101.5610 Inspection of ballot by election board.—The election board of each precinct shall cause the voting devices to be put in order, set, adjusted, and made ready for voting when delivered to voter services centers or polling places. Before the opening of the centers or polling places, the election board shall compare the ballots or the ballot information used in the voting devices with the sample ballots furnished and see that the names, numbers, and letters thereon agree and shall certify thereto on forms provided by the supervisor of elections.

Section 41. Section 101.5611, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

101.5611 Instructions to electors.—

(1) The supervisor of elections shall provide instruction at each voter services center polling place regarding the manner of voting with the system. In instructing voters, no election precinct official may favor any political party, candidate, or issue. Such instruction shall show the arrangement of candidates and questions to be voted on. Additionally, the supervisor of elections shall provide instruction on the proper method of casting a ballot for the specific voting system utilized in that jurisdiction. Such instruction shall be provided at a place which voters must pass to reach the official voting booth.

(2) The supervisor of elections shall have posted at each voter services center and drop box location or polling place a notice that reads: “A person who commits or attempts to commit any fraud in connection with voting, votes a fraudulent ballot, or votes more than once in an election can be convicted of a
felony of the third degree and fined up to $5,000 and/or
imprisoned for up to 5 years.”

Section 42. Subsection (2) and paragraph (a) of subsection (4) of section 101.5612, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

101.5612 Testing of tabulating equipment.—

(2) On any day not more than 10 days prior to voter services centers opening the commencement of early voting as provided in s. 101.012, s. 101.657, the supervisor of elections shall have the automatic tabulating equipment publicly tested to ascertain that the equipment will correctly count the votes cast for all offices and on all measures. If the ballots to be used in the election at the polling place on election day are not available at the time of the testing, the supervisor may conduct an additional test not more than 10 days before election day. Public notice of the time and place of the test shall be given at least 48 hours prior thereto by publication on the supervisor of elections’ website and once in one or more newspapers of general circulation in the county or, if there is no newspaper of general circulation in the county, by posting the notice in at least four conspicuous places in the county. The supervisor or the municipal elections official may, at the time of qualifying, give written notice of the time and location of the public preelection test to each candidate qualifying with that office and obtain a signed receipt that the notice has been given. The department of State shall give written notice to each statewide candidate at the time of qualifying, or immediately at the end of qualifying, that the voting equipment will be tested and advise each candidate to contact the county supervisor of elections as to the time and location of the public preelection test.
test. The supervisor or the municipal elections official shall, at least 15 days before the opening of voter services centers prior to the commencement of early voting as provided in s. 101.657, send written notice by certified mail to the county party chair of each political party and to all candidates for other than statewide office whose names appear on the ballot in the county and who did not receive written notification from the supervisor or municipal elections official at the time of qualifying, stating the time and location of the public preelection test of the automatic tabulating equipment. The canvassing board shall convene, and each member of the canvassing board shall certify to the accuracy of the test. For the test, the canvassing board may designate one member to represent it. The test shall be open to representatives of the political parties, the press, and the public. Each political party may designate one person with expertise in the computer field who shall be allowed in the central counting room when all tests are being conducted and when the official votes are being counted. The designee may not interfere with the normal operation of the canvassing board.

(4)(a)1. For electronic or electromechanical voting systems configured to include electronic or electromechanical tabulation devices which are distributed to the precincts, all or a sample of the devices to be used in the election shall be publicly tested. If a sample is to be tested, the sample shall consist of a random selection of at least 5 percent or 10 of the devices for an optical scan system, whichever is greater. For touchscreen systems used for voters having a disability, a sample of at least 2 percent of the devices must be tested. The
test shall be conducted by processing a group of ballots, causing the device to output results for the ballots processed, and comparing the output of results to the results expected for the ballots processed. The group of ballots shall be produced so as to record a predetermined number of valid votes for each candidate and on each measure and to include for each office one or more ballots which have activated voting positions in excess of the number allowed by law in order to test the ability of the tabulating device to reject such votes.

2. If any tested tabulating device is found to have an error in tabulation, it shall be deemed unsatisfactory. For each device deemed unsatisfactory, the canvassing board shall take steps to determine the cause of the error, shall attempt to identify and test other devices that could reasonably be expected to have the same error, and shall test a number of additional devices sufficient to determine that all devices are satisfactory. Upon deeming any device unsatisfactory, the canvassing board may require all devices to be tested or may declare that all devices are unsatisfactory.

3. If the operation or output of any tested tabulation device, such as spelling or the order of candidates on a report, is in error, such problem shall be reported to the canvassing board. The canvassing board shall then determine if the reported problem warrants its deeming the device unsatisfactory.

Section 43. Section 101.5613, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

101.5613 Examination of equipment during voting.—A member of the election board or, for purposes of early voting pursuant to s. 101.657, a representative of the supervisor of elections
shall occasionally examine the face of the voting device and the ballot information to determine that the device and the ballot information have not been damaged or tampered with.

Section 44. Section 101.572, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

101.572 Public inspection of ballots.—The official ballots and ballot cards received from election boards and removed from vote-by-mail ballot mailing envelopes shall be open for public inspection or examination while in the custody of the supervisor of elections or the county canvassing board at any reasonable time, under reasonable conditions; however, no persons other than the supervisor of elections or his or her employees or the county canvassing board shall handle any official ballot or ballot card. If the ballots are being examined prior to the end of the contest period in s. 102.168, the supervisor of elections shall make a reasonable effort to notify all candidates whose names appear on such ballots or ballot cards by telephone or otherwise of the time and place of the inspection or examination. All such candidates, or their representatives, shall be allowed to be present during the inspection or examination.

Section 45. Paragraphs (a) and (b) of subsection (2) of section 101.591, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

101.591 Voting system audit.—

(2)(a) A manual audit shall consist of a public manual tally of the votes cast in one randomly selected race that appears on the ballot. The tally sheet shall include mail election-day, vote-by-mail, early voting, provisional, and overseas ballots in at least 1 percent but no more than 2
percent of the precincts chosen at random by the county
canvassing board or the local board responsible for certifying
the election. If 1 percent of the precincts is less than one
entire precinct, the audit shall be conducted using at least one
precinct chosen at random by the county canvassing board or the
local board responsible for certifying the election. Such
precincts shall be selected at a publicly noticed canvassing
board meeting.

(b) An automated audit shall consist of a public automated
tally of the votes cast across every race that appears on the
ballot. The tally sheet shall include mail election day, vote-
by-mail, early voting, provisional, and overseas ballots in at
least 20 percent of the precincts chosen at random by the county
canvassing board or the local board responsible for certifying
the election. Such precincts shall be selected at a publicly
noticed canvassing board meeting.

Section 46. Sections 101.6101, 101.6102, 101.6103,
101.6104, 101.6105, 101.6106, and 101.6107, Florida Statutes,
are repealed.

Section 47. Section 101.62, Florida Statutes, is
transferred, renumbered as section 101.0031, and amended to
read:

101.0031 Ballot information; public records exemption
101.0031 Ballot information; public records exemption
101.0031 Ballot information; public records exemption
101.0031 Ballot information; public records exemption

(1)(a) The supervisor shall accept a request for a vote-by-
mail ballot from an elector in person or in writing. One request
shall be deemed sufficient to receive a vote-by-mail ballot for
all elections through the end of the calendar year of the second
ensuing regularly scheduled general election, unless the elector
or the elector’s designee indicates at the time the request is made the elections for which the elector desires to receive a vote-by-mail ballot. Such request may be considered canceled when any first-class mail sent by the supervisor to the elector is returned as undeliverable.

(b) The supervisor may accept a written or telephonic request for a vote-by-mail ballot to be mailed to an elector’s address on file in the Florida Voter Registration System from the elector, or, if directly instructed by the elector, a member of the elector’s immediate family, or the elector’s legal guardian; if the ballot is requested to be mailed to an address other than the elector’s address on file in the Florida Voter Registration System, the request must be made in writing and signed by the elector. However, an absent uniformed service voter or an overseas voter seeking a vote-by-mail ballot is not required to submit a signed, written request for a vote-by-mail ballot that is being mailed to an address other than the elector’s address on file in the Florida Voter Registration System. For purposes of this section, the term “immediate family” has the same meaning as specified in paragraph (4)(c).

The person making the request must disclose:

1. The name of the elector for whom the ballot is requested.
2. The elector’s address.
3. The elector’s date of birth.
4. The requester’s name.
5. The requester’s address.
6. The requester’s driver license number, if available.
7. The requester’s relationship to the elector.
8. The requester’s signature (written requests only).

   (c) Upon receiving a request for a vote-by-mail ballot from an absent voter, the supervisor of elections shall notify the voter of the free access system that has been designated by the department for determining the status of his or her vote-by-mail ballot.

   (2) A request for a vote-by-mail ballot to be mailed to a voter must be received no later than 5 p.m. on the 10th day before the election by the supervisor. The supervisor shall mail vote-by-mail ballots to voters requesting ballots by such deadline no later than 8 days before the election.

   (3) For each mail request for a vote-by-mail ballot received, the supervisor shall record the date the ballot was mailed, the date the vote-by-mail ballot was delivered to the voter or the voter’s designee or the date the vote-by-mail ballot was delivered to the post office or other carrier, the date the ballot was received by the supervisor, the absence of the voter’s signature on the voter’s certificate, if applicable, and such other information he or she may deem necessary. This information shall be provided in electronic format as provided by rule adopted by the division. The information shall be updated and made available no later than 8 a.m. of each day, including weekends, beginning 60 days before the primary until 15 days after the general election and shall be contemporaneously provided to the division. This information shall be confidential and exempt from s. 119.07(1) and shall be made available to or reproduced only for the voter requesting the ballot, a canvassing board, an election official, a political party or official thereof, a candidate who has filed
qualification papers and is opposed in an upcoming election, and registered political committees for political purposes only.

(4)(a) No later than 45 days before each presidential preference primary election, primary election, and general election, the supervisor of elections shall send a vote-by-mail ballot as provided in subparagraph (c)2. to each absent uniformed services voter and to each overseas voter who has requested a vote-by-mail ballot.

(b) The supervisor shall mail a vote-by-mail ballot to each absent qualified voter, other than those listed in paragraph (a), who has requested such a ballot, between the 40th and 33rd days before the presidential preference primary election, primary election, and general election. Except as otherwise provided in subsection (2) and after the period described in this paragraph, the supervisor shall mail vote-by-mail ballots within 2 business days after receiving a request for such a ballot.

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

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

2. By forwardable mail, e-mail, or facsimile machine transmission to absent uniformed services voters and overseas voters. The absent uniformed services voter or overseas voter may designate in the vote-by-mail ballot request the preferred method of transmission. If the voter does not designate the method of transmission, the vote-by-mail ballot shall be mailed.
3. By personal delivery before 7 p.m. on election day to the elector, upon presentation of the identification required in s. 101.043.

4. By delivery to a designee on election day or up to 9 days prior to the day of an election. Any elector may designate in writing a person to pick up the ballot for the elector; however, the person designated may not pick up more than two vote-by-mail ballots per election, other than the designee’s own ballot, except that additional ballots may be picked up for members of the designee’s immediate family. For purposes of this section, “immediate family” means the designee’s spouse or the parent, child, grandparent, or sibling of the designee or of the designee’s spouse. The designee shall provide to the supervisor the written authorization by the elector and a picture identification of the designee and must complete an affidavit. The designee shall state in the affidavit that the designee is authorized by the elector to pick up that ballot and shall indicate if the elector is a member of the designee’s immediate family and, if so, the relationship. The department shall prescribe the form of the affidavit. If the supervisor is satisfied that the designee is authorized to pick up the ballot and that the signature of the elector on the written authorization matches the signature of the elector on file, the supervisor shall give the ballot to that designee for delivery to the elector.

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

(5) If the department is unable to certify candidates for an election in time to comply with paragraph (4)(a), the Department of State is authorized to prescribe rules for a ballot to be sent to absent uniformed services voters and overseas voters.

(6) Only the materials necessary to vote by mail may be mailed or delivered with any vote-by-mail ballot.

Section 48. Section 101.64, Florida Statutes, is transferred, renumbered as section 101.003, Florida Statutes, and amended to read:

101.003 101.64 Delivery of vote-by-mail ballots; envelopes; form.—

(1)(a) Except as otherwise provided in paragraphs (b) and (c), the supervisor of elections shall mail, by nonforwardable, return-if-undeliverable mail, a ballot to each active voter to the voter’s address on file in the Florida Voter Registration System between the 40th and 33rd days before the date of an election.

(b) No later than 45 days before the date of an election, the supervisor shall send a ballot by forwardable mail, e-mail, or facsimile machine transmission to absent uniformed services voters and overseas voters. The absent uniformed services voter or overseas voter may inform the supervisor of the voter’s preferred method of transmission. If the voter does not
designate a method of transmission, the ballot shall be mailed. If the department is unable to certify candidates for an election in time to comply with this paragraph, the department may prescribe rules for a ballot to be sent to absent uniformed services voters and overseas voters.

(c) For any electors who register to vote after the supervisor of elections has mailed ballots pursuant to paragraph (a) but before the book-closing deadline, the supervisor shall mail ballots to such electors within 2 business days after determining that the electors' voter registration applications are complete and valid pursuant to s. 97.053. For any election held for the purpose of nominating a political party nominee, if an elector updates his or her party affiliation after the supervisor of elections has mailed ballots pursuant to paragraph (a) but before the book-closing deadline, he or she may request a replacement ballot issued according to his or her newly designated party affiliation.

(2)(a) The supervisor may accept a written request that is signed by the elector if a ballot is requested to be mailed to an address other than the elector’s address on file in the Florida Voter Registration System.

(b) An absent uniformed services voter or overseas voter is not required to submit a signed and written request for a ballot to be mailed to an address other than the elector’s address on file in the Florida Voter Registration System.

(3) The supervisor shall enclose with each vote-by-mail ballot two envelopes: a secrecy envelope, into which the absent elector shall enclose his or her marked ballot; and a mailing envelope, into which the absent elector shall then place the
secrecy envelope, which shall be addressed to the supervisor and
also bear on the back side a certificate in substantially the
following form:

Note: Please Read Instructions Carefully Before
Marking Ballot and Completing Voter’s Certificate.

VOTER’S CERTIFICATE

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

...(Date)...
...(Voter’s Signature)...
...(E-Mail Address)...
...(Home Telephone Number)...
...(Mobile Telephone Number)...

(4)(2) The certificate shall be arranged on the back of the
mailing envelope so that the line for the signature of the
absent elector is across the seal of the envelope; however, no
statement shall appear on the envelope which indicates that a
signature of the voter must cross the seal of the envelope. The
absent elector shall execute the certificate on the envelope.

(5)(3) In lieu of the voter’s certificate provided in this
section, the supervisor of elections shall provide each person
voting in accordance with absentee under the Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act with the standard oath prescribed by the presidential designee.

(6)(4) The supervisor shall mark, code, indicate on, or otherwise track the precinct of the absentee elector for each vote-by-mail ballot.

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

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

(8) Only the materials necessary to vote by mail may be mailed or delivered with any ballot.

Section 49. Section 101.65, Florida Statutes, is transferred, renumbered as section 101.005, Florida Statutes, and amended to read:

101.005 101.65 Instructions to absentee electors. The supervisor shall enclose with each vote-by-mail ballot separate printed instructions in substantially the following form; however, where the instructions appear in capitalized text, the text of the printed instructions must be in bold font:

READ THESE INSTRUCTIONS CAREFULLY BEFORE MARKING BALLOT.

1. VERY IMPORTANT. In order to ensure that your vote-by-
mail ballot will be counted, it 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 7 p.m. on the day of the election. However, if you are an overseas voter casting a ballot in a presidential preference primary or general election, your vote-by-mail ballot must be postmarked or dated no later than the date of the election and received by the supervisor of elections of the county in which you are registered to vote no later than 10 days after the date of the election. Note that the later you return your ballot, the less time you will have to cure any signature deficiencies, which is authorized until 5 p.m. on the 2nd day after the election.

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

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

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

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

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

7. VERY IMPORTANT. In order for your vote-by-mail ballot to be counted, you must sign your name on the line above (Voter’s Signature). A vote-by-mail ballot will be considered illegal and
not be counted if the signature on the voter’s certificate does not match the signature on record. The signature on file at the time the supervisor of elections in the county in which your precinct is located receives your vote-by-mail ballot is the signature that will be used to verify your signature on the voter’s certificate. If you need to update your signature for this election, send your signature update on a voter registration application to your supervisor of elections so that it is received before your vote-by-mail ballot is received.

8. VERY IMPORTANT. If you are an overseas voter, you must include the date you signed the Voter’s Certificate on the line above (Date) or your ballot may not be counted.

9. Mail, deliver, or have delivered the completed mailing envelope. Be sure there is sufficient postage if mailed. THE COMPLETED MAILING ENVELOPE CAN BE DELIVERED TO THE OFFICE OF THE SUPERVISOR OF ELECTIONS OF THE COUNTY IN WHICH YOUR PRECINCT IS LOCATED OR DROPPED OFF AT AN AUTHORIZED SECURE DROP BOX OR A VOTER SERVICES CENTER, AVAILABLE AT EACH EARLY VOTING LOCATION.

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

Section 50. Section 101.655, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

101.655 Supervised voting by absent electors in certain facilities.—

(1) The supervisor of elections of a county shall provide supervised voting for absent electors residing in any assisted
living facility, as defined in s. 429.02, or nursing home facility, as defined in s. 400.021, within that county at the request of any administrator of such a facility. Such request for supervised voting in the facility shall be made by submitting a written request to the supervisor of elections no later than 21 days prior to the election for which that request is submitted. The request shall specify the name and address of the facility and the name of the electors who wish to vote by supervised voting mail in that election. If the request contains the names of fewer than five voters, the supervisor of elections is not required to provide supervised voting.

(2) The supervisor of elections may, in the absence of a request from the administrator of a facility, provide for supervised voting in the facility for those persons who have requested vote-by-mail ballots. The supervisor of elections shall notify the administrator of the facility that supervised voting will occur.

(3) The supervisor of elections shall, in cooperation with the administrator of the facility, select a date and time when the supervised voting will occur.

(4) The supervisor of elections shall designate supervised voting teams to provide the services prescribed by this section. Each supervised voting team shall include at least two persons. Each supervised voting team must include representatives of more than one political party; however, in any primary election to nominate party nominees in which only one party has candidates appearing on the ballot, all supervised voting team members may be of that party. No candidate may provide supervised voting services.
(5) The supervised voting team shall deliver the ballots to the respective absent electors, and each member of the team shall jointly supervise the voting of the ballots. If any elector requests assistance in voting, the oath prescribed in s. 101.051 shall be completed and the elector may receive the assistance of two members of the supervised voting team or some other person of the elector’s choice to assist the elector in casting the elector’s ballot.

(6) Before providing assistance, the supervised voting team shall disclose to the elector that the ballot may be retained to vote at a later time and that the elector has the right to seek assistance in voting from some other person of the elector’s choice without the presence of the supervised voting team.

(7) If any elector declines to vote a ballot or is unable to vote a ballot, the supervised voting team shall mark the ballot “refused to vote” or “unable to vote.”

(8) After the ballots have been voted or marked in accordance with the provisions of this section, the supervised voting team shall deliver the ballots to the supervisor of elections, who shall retain them pursuant to s. 101.009 and s. 101.67.

Section 51. Section 101.657, Florida Statutes, is repealed.

Section 52. Section 101.661, Florida Statutes, is transferred, renumbered as section 101.006, Florida Statutes, and amended to read:

101.006 101.661 Voting vote-by-mail ballots.—All electors must personally mark or designate their choices on a the vote-by-mail ballot, except:

(1) Electors who require assistance to vote because of
blindness, disability, or inability to read or write, who may
have some person of the elector’s choice, other than the
elector’s employer, an agent of the employer, or an officer or
agent of the elector’s union, mark the elector’s choices or
assist the elector in marking his or her choices on the ballot.

(2) As otherwise provided in s. 101.051 or s. 101.655.

Section 53. Section 101.662, Florida Statutes, is
transferred, renumbered as section 101.007, Florida Statutes,
and amended to read:

101.007 101.662 Accessibility of vote-by-mail ballots.—It
is the intent of the Legislature that voting by mail vote-by-
mail ballot be by methods that are fully accessible to all
voters, including voters having a disability. The department of
State shall work with the supervisors of elections and the
disability community to develop and implement procedures and
technologies, as possible, which will include procedures for
providing vote-by-mail ballots, upon request, in alternative
formats that will allow all voters to cast a secret,
independent, and verifiable vote-by-mail ballot without the
assistance of another person.

Section 54. Section 101.663, Florida Statutes, is
transferred and renumbered as section 101.008, Florida Statutes.

Section 55. Section 101.67, Florida Statutes, is
transferred, renumbered as section 101.009, Florida Statutes,
and amended to read:

101.009 101.67 Safekeeping of mailed ballots; deadline for
receiving vote-by-mail ballots.—

(1) The supervisor of elections shall safely keep in his or
her office any envelopes received containing marked ballots of

Page 67 of 117

CODING: Words stricken are deletions; words underlined are additions.
absent electors, and he or she shall, before the canvassing of the election returns, deliver the envelopes to the county canvassing board along with his or her file or list kept regarding said ballots.

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

Section 56. Section 101.68, Florida Statutes, is transferred, renumbered as section 101.0091, Florida Statutes, and amended to read:

101.0091 101.68 Canvassing of ballots vote-by-mail ballot.

(1) The supervisor of the county where the absent elector resides shall receive the voted ballot, at which time the supervisor shall compare the signature of the elector on the voter’s certificate with the signature of the elector in the registration books or the precinct register to determine whether the elector is duly registered in the county and may record on the elector’s registration certificate that the elector has voted. An elector who dies after casting a vote-by-mail ballot but on or before election day shall remain listed in the registration books until the results have been certified for the election in which the ballot was cast. The supervisor shall safely keep the ballot unopened in his or her office until the county canvassing board canvasses the vote. Except as provided in subsection (4), after a vote-by-mail ballot is received by the supervisor, the ballot is deemed to have been cast, and changes or additions may not be made to the voter’s certificate.
(2)(a) The county canvassing board may begin the canvassing of vote-by-mail ballots at 7 a.m. on the 22nd day before the election, but not later than noon on the day following the election. In addition, for any county using electronic tabulating equipment, the processing of vote-by-mail ballots through such tabulating equipment may begin at 7 a.m. on the 22nd day before the election. However, notwithstanding any such authorization to begin canvassing or otherwise processing vote-by-mail ballots early, no result shall be released until after the deadline for receiving ballots has passed closing of the polls in that county on election day. Any supervisor, deputy supervisor, canvassing board member, election board member, or election employee who releases the results of a canvassing or processing of vote-by-mail ballots before the deadline for receiving ballots prior to the closing of the polls in that county has passed on election day commits a felony of the third degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082, s. 775.083, or s. 775.084.

(b) To ensure that all vote-by-mail ballots to be counted by the canvassing board are accounted for, the canvassing board shall compare the number of ballots in its possession with the total number of requests for ballots received to be counted according to the supervisor’s file or list.

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

(d) The canvassing board shall record the ballot upon the
proper record, unless the ballot has been previously recorded by
the supervisor. The mailing envelopes shall be opened and the
secrecy envelopes shall be mixed so as to make it impossible to
determine which secrecy envelope came out of which signed
mailing envelope; however, in any county in which an electronic
or electromechanical voting system is used, the ballots may be
sorted by ballot styles and the mailing envelopes may be opened
and the secrecy envelopes mixed separately for each ballot
style. The votes on vote-by-mail ballots shall be included in
the total vote of the county.

(3) The supervisor or the chair of the county canvassing
board shall, after the board convenes, have custody of the vote-
by-mail ballots until a final proclamation is made as to the
total vote received by each candidate.

(4) (a) As soon as practicable, the supervisor shall, on
behalf of the county canvassing board, attempt to notify an

CODING: Words stricken are deletions; words underlined are additions.
elector who has returned a vote-by-mail ballot that does not include the elector’s signature or contains a signature that does not match the elector’s signature in the registration books or precinct register by:

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

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

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

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

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

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

2. You must sign your name on the line above (Voter’s
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; Florida identification card issued by the Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles; United States passport; debit or credit card; military identification; student identification; retirement center identification; neighborhood association identification; public assistance identification; veteran health identification card issued by the United States Department of Veterans Affairs; a Florida license to carry a concealed weapon or firearm; or an employee identification card issued by any branch, department, agency, or entity of the Federal Government, the state, a county, or a municipality; or
   b. Tier 2 identification.—ONLY IF YOU DO NOT HAVE A TIER 1 FORM OF IDENTIFICATION, identification that shows your name and current residence address: current utility bill, bank statement, government check, paycheck, or government document (excluding voter information card).

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

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

(e) The department and each supervisor shall include the affidavit and instructions on their respective websites. The supervisor must include his or her office’s mailing address, e-mail address, and fax number on the page containing the affidavit instructions, and the department’s instruction page must include the office mailing addresses, e-mail addresses, and fax numbers of all supervisors of elections or provide a conspicuous link to such addresses.

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

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

(h) After all election results on the ballot have been certified, the supervisor shall, on behalf of the county canvassing board, notify each elector whose ballot has been rejected as illegal and provide the specific reason the ballot was rejected. In addition, unless processed as a signature update pursuant to paragraph (g), the supervisor shall mail a voter registration application to the elector to be completed indicating the elector’s current signature if the signature on
Section 57. Section 101.69, Florida Statutes, is transferred, renumbered as section 101.0092, Florida Statutes, and amended to read:

101.0092 101.69 Voting in person; return of vote-by-mail ballot.—

(1) The provisions of this code shall not be construed to prohibit any elector from voting in person at the elector’s precinct on the day of an election or at an early voting site, notwithstanding that the elector has requested a vote-by-mail ballot for that election. An elector who has returned a mail vote-by-mail ballot to the supervisor, however, is deemed to have cast his or her ballot and is not entitled to vote another ballot or to have a provisional ballot counted by the county canvassing board. An elector who has received a mail vote-by-mail ballot and has not returned the voted ballot to the supervisor, but desires to vote in person, shall return the ballot, whether voted or not, to the office of the supervisor of elections or a voter services center election board in the elector’s precinct or to an early voting site. The returned ballot shall be marked “canceled” by the supervisor or election board and placed with other canceled ballots. However, if the elector does not return the ballot and the election official:

(1)(a) Confirms that the supervisor has received the elector’s vote-by-mail ballot, the elector may shall not be allowed to vote in person. If the elector maintains that he or she has not returned the vote-by-mail ballot or remains eligible
to vote, the elector shall be provided a provisional ballot as provided in s. 101.048.

(2) (b) Confirms that the supervisor has not received the elector’s vote-by-mail ballot, the elector shall be allowed to vote in person as provided in this code. The elector’s vote-by-mail ballot, if subsequently received, shall not be counted and shall remain in the mailing envelope, and the envelope shall be marked “Rejected as Illegal.”

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

(2) The supervisor shall allow an elector who has received a vote-by-mail ballot to physically return a voted vote-by-mail ballot to the supervisor by placing the envelope containing his or her marked ballot in a secure drop box. Secure drop boxes shall be placed at the main office of the supervisor, at each branch office of the supervisor, and at each early voting site. Secure drop boxes may also be placed at any other site that would otherwise qualify as an early voting site under s. 101.657(1); provided, however, that any such site must be staffed during the county’s early voting hours of operation by an employee of the supervisor’s office or a sworn law enforcement officer.

Section 58. Section 101.6921, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

101.6921 Delivery of special vote-by-mail ballot to certain first-time voters.—

(1) The provisions of this section apply to voters who are subject to the provisions of s. 97.0535 and who have not
provided the identification or certification required by s. 97.0535 by the time the vote-by-mail ballot is mailed.

(2) The supervisor shall enclose with each vote-by-mail ballot three envelopes: a secrecy envelope, into which the absent elector will enclose his or her marked ballot; an envelope containing the Voter’s Certificate, into which the absent elector shall place the secrecy envelope; and a mailing envelope, which shall be addressed to the supervisor and into which the absent elector will place the envelope containing the Voter’s Certificate and a copy of the required identification.

(3) The Voter’s Certificate shall be in substantially the following form:

Note: Please Read Instructions Carefully Before Marking Ballot and Completing Voter’s Certificate.

VOTER’S CERTIFICATE

I, ...., do solemnly swear or affirm that I am a qualified and registered voter of .... County, Florida, and that I have not and will not vote more than one ballot in this election. I understand that if I commit or attempt to commit any fraud in connection with voting, vote a fraudulent ballot, or vote more than once in an election, I can be convicted of a felony of the third degree and fined up to $5,000 and/or imprisoned for up to 5 years. I also understand that failure to sign this certificate will invalidate my ballot. I understand that unless I meet one of the exemptions below, I must provide a copy of a current and valid identification as provided in the instruction sheet to the
supervisor of elections in order for my ballot to count.

   I further certify that I am exempt from the requirements to furnish a copy of a current and valid identification with my ballot because of one or more of the following (check all that apply):
   □ I am 65 years of age or older.
   □ I have a permanent or temporary physical disability.
   □ I am a member of a uniformed service on active duty who, by reason of such active duty, will be absent from the county on election day.
   □ I am a member of the Merchant Marine who, by reason of service in the Merchant Marine, will be absent from the county on election day.
   □ I am the spouse or dependent of a member of the uniformed service or Merchant Marine who, by reason of the active duty or service of the member, will be absent from the county on election day.
   □ I am currently residing outside the United States.

   ...(Date)... ...Voter’s Signature...

   (4) The certificate shall be arranged on the back of the envelope so that the line for the signature of the absent elector is across the seal of the envelope.

   Section 59. Section 101.6923, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
   101.6923 Special vote-by-mail ballot instructions for certain first-time voters.—
   (1) The provisions of this section apply to voters who are
subject to the provisions of s. 97.0535 and who have not
provided the identification or information required by s.
97.0535 by the time the \textit{vote-by-mail} ballot is mailed.

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

\begin{quote}
READ THESE INSTRUCTIONS CAREFULLY BEFORE MARKING YOUR
BALLOT. FAILURE TO FOLLOW THESE INSTRUCTIONS MAY CAUSE
YOUR BALLOT NOT TO COUNT.
\end{quote}

1. In order to ensure that your \textit{vote-by-mail} ballot will be
counted, it 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 7 p.m. on the
date of the election. However, if you are an overseas voter
casting a ballot in a presidential preference primary or general
election, your \textit{vote-by-mail} ballot must be postmarked or dated
no later than the date of the election and received by the
supervisor of elections of the county in which you are
registered to vote no later than 10 days after the date of the
election.

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

3. Mark only the number of candidates or issue choices for
a race as indicated on the ballot. If you are allowed to "Vote
for One" candidate and you vote for more than one, your vote in
that race will not be counted.
4. Place your marked ballot in the enclosed secrecy envelope and seal the envelope.

5. Insert the secrecy envelope into the enclosed envelope bearing the Voter’s Certificate. Seal the envelope and completely fill out the Voter’s Certificate on the back of the envelope.

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

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

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

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

   a. Identification which must include your name and photograph: United States passport; debit or credit card; military identification; student identification; retirement center identification; neighborhood association identification; public assistance identification; veteran health identification card issued by the United States Department of Veterans Affairs;
29-00519A-20

2350 a Florida license to carry a concealed weapon or firearm; or an
2351 employee identification card issued by any branch, department, agency, or entity of the Federal Government, the state, a county, or a municipality; or
2354 b. Identification which shows your name and current residence address: current utility bill, bank statement, government check, paycheck, or government document (excluding voter information card).
2358 7. The identification requirements of Item 6. do not apply if you meet one of the following requirements:
2359 a. You are 65 years of age or older.
2360 b. You have a temporary or permanent physical disability.
2362 c. You are a member of a uniformed service on active duty who, by reason of such active duty, will be absent from the county on election day.
2365 d. You are a member of the Merchant Marine who, by reason of service in the Merchant Marine, will be absent from the county on election day.
2368 e. You are the spouse or dependent of a member referred to in paragraph c. or paragraph d. who, by reason of the active duty or service of the member, will be absent from the county on election day.
2372 f. You are currently residing outside the United States.
2373 8. Place the envelope bearing the Voter’s Certificate into the mailing envelope addressed to the supervisor. Insert a copy of your identification in the mailing envelope. DO NOT PUT YOUR IDENTIFICATION INSIDE THE SECRECY ENVELOPE WITH THE BALLOT OR INSIDE THE ENVELOPE WHICH BEARS THE VOTER’S CERTIFICATE OR YOUR BALLOT WILL NOT COUNT.
9. Mail, deliver, or have delivered the completed mailing envelope. Be sure there is sufficient postage if mailed.

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

Section 60. Section 101.6925, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

101.6925 Canvassing special vote-by-mail ballots.—

(1) The supervisor of the county where the absent elector resides shall receive the voted special vote-by-mail ballot, at which time the mailing envelope shall be opened to determine if the voter has enclosed the identification required or has indicated on the Voter’s Certificate that he or she is exempt from the identification requirements.

(2) If the identification is enclosed or the voter has indicated that he or she is exempt from the identification requirements, the supervisor shall make the note on the registration records of the voter and proceed to canvass the vote-by-mail ballot as provided in s. 101.0091 s. 101.68.

(3) If the identification is not enclosed in the mailing envelope and the voter has not indicated that he or she is exempt from the identification requirements, the supervisor shall check the voter registration records to determine if the voter’s identification was previously received or the voter had previously notified the supervisor that he or she was exempt. The envelope with the Voter’s Certificate shall not be opened unless the identification has been received or the voter has
indicated that he or she is exempt. The ballot shall be treated as a provisional ballot until 7 p.m. on election day and shall not be canvassed unless the supervisor has received the required identification or written indication of exemption by 7 p.m. on election day.

Section 61. Section 101.694, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

101.694 Mailing of ballots upon receipt of federal postcard application.—

(1) Upon receipt of a federal postcard application for a vote-by-mail ballot executed by a person whose registration is in order or whose application is sufficient to register or update the registration of that person, the supervisor shall send the ballot in accordance with s. 101.003(1)(b) or s. 101.62(4).

(2) Upon receipt of a federal postcard application for a vote-by-mail ballot executed by a person whose registration is not in order and whose application is insufficient to register or update the registration of that person, the supervisor shall follow the procedure set forth in s. 97.073.

(3) Ballot vote-by-mail envelopes printed for voters entitled to vote by mail under the Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act shall meet the specifications as determined by the Federal Voting Assistance Program of the United States Department of Defense and the United States Postal Service.

(4) Cognizance shall be taken of the fact that vote-by-mail ballots and other materials such as instructions and envelopes are to be carried via air mail, and, to the maximum extent
possible, such ballots and materials shall be reduced in size and weight of paper. The same ballot shall be used, however, as is used by other mail vote-by-mail voters.

Section 62. Section 101.6951, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

101.6951 State write-in vote-by-mail ballot.—

(1) An overseas voter may request, not earlier than 180 days before a general election, a state write-in vote-by-mail ballot from the supervisor of elections in the county of registration. In order to receive a state write-in ballot, the voter shall state that due to military or other contingencies that preclude normal mail delivery, the voter cannot vote a regular vote-by-mail ballot during the normal vote-by-mail voting period. State write-in vote-by-mail ballots shall be made available to voters 90 to 180 days prior to a general election. The Department of State shall prescribe by rule the form of the state write-in vote-by-mail ballot.

(2) In completing the ballot, the overseas voter may designate his or her choice by writing in the name of the candidate or by writing in the name of a political party, in which case the ballot must be counted for the candidate of that political party, if there is such a party candidate on the ballot.

(3) Any abbreviation, misspelling, or other minor variation in the form of the name of a candidate or a political party must be disregarded in determining the validity of the ballot if there is a clear indication on the ballot that the voter has made a definite choice.

(4) The state write-in vote-by-mail ballot shall contain
all offices, federal, state, and local, for which the voter
would otherwise be entitled to vote.

Section 63. Section 101.6952, Florida Statutes, is amended
to read:

101.6952 **Vote-by-mail** Ballots for absent uniformed services
and overseas voters.—

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

(a) Record the voter’s e-mail address in the **vote-by-mail**
ballet record;

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

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

(2) (a) An absent uniformed services voter or an overseas
voter who makes timely application for but does not receive an
official vote-by-mail ballot may use the federal write-in
absentee ballot to vote in any federal, state, or local
election.

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

2. In a state or local election, an elector may vote in the section of the federal write-in absentee ballot designated for nonfederal races by writing on the ballot the title of each office and by writing on the ballot the name of the candidate for whom the elector is voting. Except for a primary, special primary, or nonpartisan election, the elector may alternatively designate a candidate by writing the name of a political party on the ballot. A written designation of the political party shall be counted as a vote for the candidate of that party if there is such a party candidate in the race. In addition, the elector may vote on any ballot measure presented in such election by identifying the ballot measure on which he or she desires to vote and specifying his or her vote on the measure. For purposes of this section, a vote cast in a judicial merit retention election shall be treated in the same manner as a ballot measure in which the only allowable responses are “Yes” or “No.”

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

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

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

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

(b) A federal write-in absentee ballot may not be canvassed until 7 p.m. on the day of the election. A federal write-in absentee ballot from an overseas voter in a presidential preference primary or general election may not be canvassed until the conclusion of the 10-day period specified in subsection (5). Each federal write-in absentee ballot received by 7 p.m. on the day of the election shall be canvassed pursuant to ss. 101.0091 and 101.5614(4) and 101.68, unless the elector’s regular mail official vote-by-mail ballot is received by 7 p.m. on election day. Each federal write-in
absentee ballot from an overseas voter in a presidential preference primary or general election received by 10 days after the date of the election shall be canvassed pursuant to ss. 101.0091 and 101.5614(4) ss. 101.5614(4) and 101.68, unless the overseas voter’s regular mail official vote-by-mail ballot is received by 10 days after the date of the election. If the elector’s regular mail official vote-by-mail ballot is received by 7 p.m. on election day, or, for an overseas voter in a presidential preference primary or general election, no later than 10 days after the date of the election, the federal write-in absentee ballot is invalid and the regular mail official vote-by-mail ballot shall be canvassed. The time shall be regulated by the customary time in standard use in the county seat of the locality.

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

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

Section 64. Section 101.697, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
101.697 Electronic transmission of election materials.—The Department of State shall determine whether secure electronic means can be established for receiving ballots from overseas voters. If such security can be established, the department shall adopt rules to authorize a supervisor of elections to accept from an overseas voter a request for a vote-by-mail ballot or a voted vote-by-mail ballot by secure facsimile machine transmission or other secure electronic means. The rules must provide that in order to accept a voted ballot, the verification of the voter must be established, the security of the transmission must be established, and each ballot received must be recorded.

Section 65. Section 101.71, Florida Statutes, is repealed.

Section 66. Section 101.715, Florida Statutes, is transferred, renumbered as section 101.0121, Florida Statutes, and amended to read:

101.0121 101.715 Accessibility of voter services centers polling places for people having a disability.—

(1) All voter services centers polling places must be accessible and usable by people with disabilities, as provided in this section.

(2) Only those voter services centers polling places complying with the Florida Americans With Disabilities Accessibility Implementation Act, ss. 553.501-553.513, for all portions of the voter services center polling place or the structure in which it is located that voters traverse going to and from the voter services center polling place and during the voting process, regardless of the age or function of the building, shall be used for federal, state, and local elections.
(3) The selection of a voter services center polling site must ensure accessibility with respect to the following accessible elements, spaces, scope, and technical requirements: accessible route, space allowance and reach ranges, protruding objects, ground and floor surfaces, parking and passenger loading zones, curb ramps, ramps, stairs, elevators, platform lifts, doors, entrances, path of egress, controls and operating mechanisms, signage, and all other minimum requirements.

(4) Standards required at each voter services center polling place, regardless of the age of the building or function of the building, include:
   
   (a) For voter services centers polling places that provide parking spaces for voters, one or more signed accessible parking spaces for disabled persons.
   
   (b) Signage identifying an accessible path of travel to the voter services center polling place if it differs from the primary route or entrance.
   
   (c) An unobstructed path of travel to the voter services center polling place.
   
   (d) Level, firm, stable, and slip-resistant surfaces.
   
   (e) An unobstructed area for voting.
   
   (f) Sufficient lighting along the accessible path of travel and within the voter services center polling place.

(5) The department of State may adopt any rules in accordance with s. 120.54 which are necessary to administer this section.

Section 67. Subsection (3) of section 101.733, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

101.733 Election emergency; purpose; elections emergency
contingency plan. — Because of the existing and continuing possibility of an emergency or common disaster occurring before or during a regularly scheduled or special election, and in order to ensure maximum citizen participation in the electoral process and provide a safe and orderly procedure for persons seeking to exercise their right to vote, generally to minimize to whatever degree possible a person’s exposure to danger during declared states of emergency, and to protect the integrity of the electoral process, it is hereby found and declared to be necessary to designate a procedure for the emergency suspension or delay and rescheduling of elections.

(3) The division of Elections of the Department of State shall adopt, by rule, an elections emergency contingency plan, which must contain goals and policies that give specific direction to state and local elections officials when an election has been suspended or delayed due to an emergency. The contingency plan must be statewide in scope and must address, but is not limited to, the following concerns:

(a) Providing a procedure for state and local elections officials to follow when an election has been suspended or delayed to ensure notice of the suspension or delay to the proper authorities, the electorate, the communications media, election poll workers, and the custodians of voting locations polling places.

(b) Providing a procedure for the orderly conduct of a rescheduled election, whether municipal, county, district, or statewide in scope; coordinating those efforts with the appropriate elections official, and the members of the governing body holding such election, if appropriate; and working with the
appropriate emergency management officials in determining the safety of existing voter services centers and drop box locations polling places or designating additional centers or locations polling places.

(c) Providing a procedure for the release and certification of election returns to the department for elections suspended or delayed and subsequently rescheduled under the provisions of ss. 101.731-101.74.

Section 68. Section 101.74, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

101.74 Temporary change of voter services center or drop box location polling place in case of emergency.—In case of an emergency existing in any precinct at the time of the holding of any election, the supervisor of elections may establish, at any safe and convenient point outside such precinct, an additional voter services center or drop box location to allow any affected, qualified elector to either vote or drop off a ballot polling place for the electors of that precinct, in which place the qualified electors may vote. The registration books of the affected precinct shall be applicable to, and shall be used at, the polling place so established.

Section 69. Section 102.012, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

102.012 Inspectors and clerks to conduct elections.—

(1) (a) The supervisor of elections of each county, at least 20 days prior to the holding of any election, shall appoint an election board comprised of election poll workers who serve as clerks or inspectors for each voter services center precinct in the county. The clerk shall be in charge of, and responsible
for, seeing that the election board carries out its duties and responsibilities. Each inspector and each clerk shall take and subscribe to an oath or affirmation, which shall be written or printed, to the effect that he or she will perform the duties of inspector or clerk of election, respectively, according to law and will endeavor to prevent all fraud, deceit, or abuse in conducting the election. The oath may be taken before an officer authorized to administer oaths or before any of the persons who are to act as inspectors, one of them to swear the others, and one of the others sworn thus, in turn, to administer the oath to the one who has not been sworn. The oaths shall be returned with the poll list and the returns of the election to the supervisor. In all questions that may arise before the members of an election board, the decision of a majority of them shall decide the question. The supervisor of elections of each county shall be responsible for the attendance and diligent performance of his or her duties by each clerk and inspector.

(b) If two or more precincts share the same building and voting place, the supervisor of elections may appoint one election board for the collocated precincts. The supervisor shall provide that a sufficient number of poll workers are appointed to adequately handle the processing of the voters in the collocated precincts.

(2) Each member of the election board shall be able to read and write the English language and shall be a registered qualified elector of the county in which the member is appointed or a person who has preregistered to vote, pursuant to s. 97.041(1)(b), in the county in which the member is appointed. No election board shall be composed solely of members of one
political party; however, in any primary in which only one party has candidates appearing on the ballot, all clerks and inspectors may be of that party. Any person whose name appears as an opposed candidate for any office shall not be eligible to serve on an election board.

(3) The supervisor shall furnish inspectors of election for each voter services center precinct with the list of registered voters for that county precinct. The supervisor shall also furnish to the inspectors of election at the polling place at each precinct in the supervisor’s county a sufficient number of forms and blanks for use on election day.

(4) The election board of each precinct shall attend the polling place by 6 a.m. of the day of the election and shall arrange the furniture, stationery, and voting equipment. The election board shall conduct the voting, beginning and closing at the time set forth in s. 100.011.

Section 70. Section 102.014, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

102.014 Election Poll worker recruitment and training.—

(1) The supervisor of elections shall conduct training for inspectors, clerks, and deputy sheriffs prior to each primary, general, and special election for the purpose of instructing such persons in their duties and responsibilities as election officials. The division of Elections shall develop a statewide uniform training curriculum for election poll workers, and each supervisor shall use such curriculum in training election poll workers. A certificate may be issued by the supervisor of elections to each person completing such training. No person shall serve as an inspector, clerk, or deputy sheriff for an
election unless such person has completed the training as required. A clerk may not work in an election unless he or she demonstrates a working knowledge of the laws and procedures relating to voter registration, voting system operation, balloting and voter services center procedures, and problem-solving and conflict-resolution skills.

(2) A person who has attended previous training conducted within 2 years before the election may be appointed by the supervisor to fill a vacancy on an election board. If no person with prior training is available to fill such vacancy, the supervisor of elections may fill such vacancy in accordance with the provisions of subsection (3) from among persons who have not received the training required by this section.

(3) In the case of absence or refusal to act on the part of any inspector or clerk, the supervisor shall appoint a replacement who meets the qualifications prescribed in s. 102.012(2). The inspector or clerk so appointed shall be a member of the same political party as the clerk or inspector whom he or she replaces.

(4) Each supervisor of elections is shall be responsible for training inspectors and clerks, subject to the following minimum requirements:

(a) No clerk shall be entitled to work in an election unless he or she has had a minimum of 3 hours of training prior to each election.

(b) No inspector shall work in an election unless he or she has had a minimum of 2 hours of training prior to each election.

(5) The department of State shall create a uniform voter
services center polling place procedures manual and adopt the manual by rule. Each supervisor of elections shall ensure that the manual is available in hard copy or electronic form in every voter services center polling place. The manual shall guide inspectors, clerks, and deputy sheriffs in the proper implementation of election procedures and laws. The manual shall be indexed by subject, and written in plain, clear, unambiguous language. The manual shall provide specific examples of common problems encountered at centers the polls and detail specific procedures for resolving those problems. The manual shall include, without limitation:

(a) Regulations governing solicitation by individuals and groups at the voter services center polling place;

(b) Procedures to be followed with respect to voters whose names are not in the registration books on the precinct register;

(c) Proper operation of the voting system;

(d) Ballot handling procedures;

(e) Procedures governing spoiled ballots;

(f) Procedures to be followed after voting hours end the polls close;

(g) Rights of voters at the polls;

(h) Procedures for handling emergency situations;

(i) Procedures for dealing with irate voters;

(j) The handling and processing of provisional ballots; and

(k) Security procedures.

The department of state shall revise the manual as necessary to address new procedures in law or problems encountered by voters.
and election poll workers at the precincts.

(6) Supervisors of elections shall work with the business and local community to develop public-private programs to ensure the recruitment of skilled inspectors and clerks.

(7) The department of State shall develop a mandatory, statewide, and uniform program for training election poll workers on issues of etiquette and sensitivity with respect to voters having a disability. The program must be conducted locally by each supervisor of elections, and each election poll worker must complete the program before working during the current election cycle. The supervisor of elections shall contract with a recognized disability-related organization, such as a center for independent living, family network on disabilities, deaf service bureau, or other such organization, to develop and assist with training the trainers in the disability sensitivity programs. The program must include actual demonstrations of obstacles confronted by disabled persons during the voting process, including obtaining access to the voter services center polling place, traveling through the polling area, and using the voting system.

Section 71. Subsection (2) of section 102.021, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

102.021 Compensation of inspectors, clerks, and deputy sheriffs.—

(2) Inspectors and clerks of election and deputy sheriffs serving at voter services centers or secure drop box locations the precincts may receive compensation and travel expenses, as provided in s. 112.061, for attending the election poll worker training required by s. 102.014.
Section 72. Section 102.031, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

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

(1) Each election board shall possess full authority to maintain order at the polls and enforce obedience to its lawful commands during an election and the canvass of the votes.

(2) The sheriff shall deputize a deputy sheriff for each voter services center polling place and each early voting site who shall be present during the time the center polls or early voting sites are open and until the election is completed, who shall be subject to all lawful commands of the clerk or inspectors, and who shall maintain good order. The deputy may summon assistance from among bystanders to aid him or her when necessary to maintain peace and order at the center polls or early voting sites.

(3)(a) No person may enter any polling room or polling place where the polling place is also a polling room, or any early voting area during voting hours except the following:

1. Official poll watchers;
2. Inspectors;
3. Election clerks;
4. The supervisor of elections or his or her deputy;
5. Persons there to vote, persons in the care of a voter, or persons caring for such voter;
6. Law enforcement officers or emergency service personnel there with permission of the clerk or a majority of the inspectors; or
7. A person, whether or not a registered voter, who is assisting with or participating in a simulated election for minors, as approved by the supervisor of elections.

(b) The restriction in this subsection does not apply where the voting area polling room is in an area commonly traversed by the public in order to gain access to businesses or homes or in an area traditionally utilized as a public area for discussion.

(4)(a) No person, political committee, or other group or organization may solicit voters inside the voter services center polling place or within 150 feet of a secure drop box location or the entrance to any voter services center polling place, a polling room where the polling place is also a polling room, an early voting site, or an office of the supervisor where vote-by-mail ballots are requested and printed on demand for the convenience of electors who appear in person to request them. Before the opening of a voter services center or secure drop box location the polling place or early voting site, the clerk or supervisor shall designate the no-solicitation zone and mark the boundaries.

(b) For the purpose of this subsection, the terms “solicit” or “solicitation” shall include, but not be limited to, seeking or attempting to seek any vote, fact, opinion, or contribution; distributing or attempting to distribute any political or campaign material, leaflet, or handout; conducting a poll except as specified in this paragraph; seeking or attempting to seek a signature on any petition; and selling or attempting to sell any item. The terms “solicit” or “solicitation” may not be construed to prohibit exit polling.

(c) Each supervisor of elections shall inform the clerk of
the area within which soliciting is unlawful, based on the
particular characteristics of that site polling place. The
supervisor or the clerk may take any reasonable action necessary
to ensure order at the polling places, including, but not
limited to, having disruptive and unruly persons removed by law
enforcement officers from the voting area polling room or place
or from the 150-foot no-solicitation zone surrounding the
polling place.

(d) Except as provided in paragraph (a), the supervisor may
not designate a no-solicitation zone or otherwise restrict
access to any person, political committee, candidate, or other
group or organization for the purposes of soliciting voters.
This paragraph applies to any public or private property used as
a voter services center or any other site used for conducting an
election polling place or early voting site.

(e) The owner, operator, or lessee of the property on which
a voter services center or secure drop box location polling
place or an early voting site is located, or an agent or
employee thereof, may not prohibit the solicitation of voters
outside of the no-solicitation zone during polling hours of
operation.

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

Section 73. Section 102.101, Florida Statutes, is amended
to read:

102.101 Sheriff and other officers not allowed in voter
services center polling place. No sheriff, deputy sheriff,
police officer, or other officer of the law shall be allowed
within the voter services center polling place without permission from the clerk or a majority of the inspectors, except to cast his or her ballot. Upon the failure of any of said officers to comply with this provision, the clerk or the inspectors or any one of them shall make an affidavit against such officer for his or her arrest.

Section 74. Present subsections (5) through (11) of section 102.141, Florida Statutes, are renumbered as subsections (4) through (10), respectively, and subsections (2), (3), and (4) and paragraph (a) of present subsection (10) of that section are amended, to read:

102.141 County canvassing board; duties.—

(2)(a) The county canvassing board shall meet in a building accessible to the public in the county where the election occurred at a time and place to be designated by the supervisor to publicly canvass the absent electors’ ballots as provided for in ss. 101.0091, 101.68, and provisional ballots as provided by ss. 101.048, 101.049, and 101.6925. Provisional ballots cast pursuant to s. 101.049 shall be canvassed in a manner that votes for candidates and issues on those ballots can be segregated from other votes. As soon as mail the absent electors’ ballots and the provisional ballots are canvassed, the board shall proceed to publicly canvass the vote given each candidate, nominee, constitutional amendment, or other measure submitted to the electorate of the county, as shown by the returns then on file in the office of the supervisor.

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

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

(d) During any meeting of the county canvassing board, a physical notice must be placed in a conspicuous area near the public entrance to the building in which the meeting is taking place. The physical notice must include the names of the individuals officially serving as the county canvassing board, the names of any alternate members, the time of the meeting, and a brief statement as to the anticipated activities of the county canvassing board.

(3) The canvass, except the canvass of absent electors’ returns and the canvass of provisional ballots, shall be made from the returns and certificates of the inspectors as signed and filed by them with the supervisor, and the county canvassing board shall not change the number of votes cast for a candidate.
nominee, constitutional amendment, or other measure submitted to
the electorate of the county, respectively, in any polling
place, as shown by the returns. All returns shall be made to the
board on or before 2 a.m. of the day following any primary,
general, or other election. If the returns from any precinct are
missing, if there are any omissions on the returns from any
precinct, or if there is an obvious error on any such returns,
the canvassing board shall order a retabulation of the returns
from such precinct. Before canvassing such returns, the
canvassing board shall examine the tabulation of the ballots
cast in such precinct and determine whether the returns
correctly reflect the votes cast. If there is a discrepancy
between the returns and the tabulation of the ballots cast, the
tabulation of the ballots cast shall be presumed correct and
such votes shall be canvassed accordingly.

(3)(a) The supervisor of elections shall upload into
the county’s election management system by 7 p.m. on the day
before the election the results of all early voting and vote-by-
mail ballots that have been canvassed and tabulated through the
2nd day before the election by the end of the early voting
period. Pursuant to ss. 101.0091(2) and 101.5614(8), 101.657,
and 101.69(2), the tabulation of votes cast or the results of
such uploads may not be made public before 7 p.m. the close of
the polls on election day.

(b) The canvassing board shall report all early voting and
all tabulated vote-by-mail results to the Department of State
within 30 minutes after 7 p.m. on election day the polls close.
Thereafter, the canvassing board shall report, with the
exception of provisional ballot results, updated precinct
election results to the department at least every 45 minutes until all results are completely reported. The supervisor of elections shall notify the department immediately of any circumstances that do not permit periodic updates as required. Results shall be submitted in a format prescribed by the department.

(9)(a) (10)(a) At the same time that the official results of an election are certified to the department of State, the county canvassing board shall file a report with the division of Elections on the conduct of the election. The report must describe:

1. All equipment or software malfunctions at the precinct level, at a counting location, or within computer and telecommunications networks supporting a county location, and the steps that were taken to address the malfunctions;

2. All election definition errors that were discovered after the logic and accuracy test, and the steps that were taken to address the errors;

3. All ballot printing errors or ballot supply problems, and the steps that were taken to address the errors or problems;

4. All staffing shortages or procedural violations by employees or precinct workers which were addressed by the supervisor of elections or the county canvassing board during the conduct of the election, and the steps that were taken to correct such issues;

5. All instances where needs for staffing or equipment were insufficient to meet the needs of the voters; and

6. Any additional information regarding material issues or problems associated with the conduct of the election.
Section 75. Paragraph (b) of subsection (5) of section 304.166, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

102.166 Manual recounts of overvotes and undervotes.—

102.166 Procedures for a manual recount are as follows:

(b) Each duplicate ballot prepared pursuant to s. 101.5614(4) or s. 102.141(6) must be compared with the original ballot to ensure the correctness of the duplicate.

Section 76. Subsection (8) of section 102.168, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

102.168 Contest of election.—

(8) In any contest that requires a review of the canvassing board’s decision on the legality of a mail or provisional or vote-by-mail ballot pursuant to s. 101.0091 or s. 101.048 or s. 101.68 based upon a comparison of the signature of the elector in the registration records with the signature on the provisional or vote-by-mail voter’s certificate or the provisional or vote-by-mail cure affidavit, the circuit court may not review or consider any evidence other than the signature of the elector in the registration records, the signature on the respective voter’s certificate or cure affidavit, and any supporting identification that the elector submitted with the cure affidavit. The court’s review of such issue shall be to determine only if the canvassing board abused its discretion in making its decision.

Section 77. Section 104.047, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

104.047 Vote-by-mail Ballots and voting; violations.—

(1) Except as provided in s. 101.014(3) or s. 101.62 or s.
101.655, any person who requests a vote-by-mail ballot on behalf of an elector commits is guilty of a felony of the third degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082, s. 775.083, or s. 775.084.

(2) Any person who marks or designates a choice on the ballot of another person, except as provided in s. 101.006, s. 101.051, or s. 101.661, commits is guilty of a felony of the third degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082, s. 775.083, or s. 775.084.

Section 78. Paragraph (b) of subsection (2) of section 104.0515, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

104.0515 Voting rights; deprivation of, or interference with, prohibited; penalty.—

(2) No person acting under color of law shall:

(a) In determining whether any individual is qualified under law to vote in any election, apply any standard, practice, or procedure different from the standards, practices, or procedures applied under law to other individuals within the same political subdivision who have been found to be qualified to vote; or

(b) Deny the right of any individual to vote in any election because of an error or omission on any record or paper relating to any application, registration, or other act requisite to voting, if such error or omission is not material in determining whether such individual is qualified under law to vote in such election. This paragraph shall apply to vote-by-mail ballots only if there is a pattern or history of discrimination on the basis of race, color, or previous condition of servitude in regard to vote-by-mail ballots.

Section 79. Paragraph (d) of subsection (2) and paragraph
(c) of subsection (3) of section 104.0615, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

104.0615 Voter intimidation or suppression prohibited; criminal penalties.—

(2) A person may not directly or indirectly use or threaten to use force, violence, or intimidation or any tactic of coercion or intimidation to induce or compel an individual to:

(d) Refrain from acting as a legally authorized election official or poll watcher.

(3) A person may not knowingly use false information to:

(c) Induce or attempt to induce an individual to refrain from acting as a legally authorized election official or poll watcher.

Section 80. Section 104.0616, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

104.0616 vote-by-mail Ballots and voting; violations.—

(1) For purposes of this section, the term “immediate family” means a person’s spouse or the parent, child, grandparent, or sibling of the person or the person’s spouse.

(2) Any person who provides or offers to provide, and any person who accepts, a pecuniary or other benefit in exchange for distributing, ordering, requesting, collecting, delivering, or otherwise physically possessing more than two vote-by-mail ballots per election in addition to his or her own ballot or a ballot belonging to an immediate family member, except as provided in ss. 101.6105-101.694, commits a misdemeanor of the first degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082, s. 775.083, or s. 775.084.

Section 81. Section 104.17, Florida Statutes, is amended to
 read:

104.17 Voting in person after casting mail vote-by-mail ballot.—Any person who willfully votes or attempts to vote both in person and by mail vote-by-mail ballot at any election commits is guilty of a felony of the third degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082, s. 775.083, or s. 775.084.

Section 82. Section 104.20, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

104.20 Ballot not to be seen, and other offenses.—Any elector who, except as provided by law, allows his or her ballot to be seen by any person; takes or removes, or attempts to take or remove, any ballot from the voter services center polling place before the close of the polls; places any mark on his or her ballot by which it may be identified; endeavors to induce any elector to show how he or she voted; aids or attempts to aid any elector unlawfully; or prints or procures to be printed, or has in his or her possession, any copies of any ballot prepared to be voted commits is guilty of a misdemeanor of the first degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082 or s. 775.083.

Section 83. Section 104.29, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

104.29 Inspectors refusing to allow watchers while ballots are counted.—The inspectors or other election officials at the voter services center polling place shall, after the polls close, allow as many as three persons near to them to see whether the ballots are being reconciled correctly. Any official who denies this privilege or interferes therewith commits a misdemeanor of the first degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082 or s. 775.083.
Section 84. Subsection (2) of section 117.05, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

117.05 Use of notary commission; unlawful use; notary fee; seal; duties; employer liability; name change; advertising; photocopies; penalties.—

(2)(a) The fee of a notary public may not exceed $10 for any one notarial act, except as provided in s. 117.045 or s. 117.275.

(b) A notary public may not charge a fee for witnessing a vote-by-mail ballot in an election, and must witness such a ballot upon the request of an elector, provided the notarial act is in accordance with the provisions of this chapter.

Section 85. Paragraph (c) of subsection (3) of section 153.53, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

153.53 Establishment of districts in unincorporated areas.—

(3) (c) The ballot to be used at said election shall be in substantially the following form:

OFFICIAL BALLOT

.... WATER AND SEWER DISTRICT

.... COUNTY, FLORIDA

SPECIAL ELECTION ...(Insert date)...

1. Shall .... Water and Sewer District .... County, Florida, be created?

.... Yes
2. Make a cross mark (x) before the names of the candidates of your choice.

FOR COMMISSIONERS OF
WATER AND SEWER DISTRICT

VOTE FOR THREE WRITE-IN VOTES

Blank lines shall be placed on the ballot so that the name of any person who did not file a petition and who is otherwise qualified may be written in, in the form of an irregular or write-in vote. The inspectors and clerks for said election shall be appointed by the board of county commissioners. The ballots shall be furnished by the board of county commissioners. The board of county commissioners shall designate an appropriate voter services center polling place or voter services centers to supplement mail balloting polling places where said election shall be held. The inspectors and clerks shall make returns to the board of county commissioners and said board of county commissioners shall canvass said election returns and declare the results thereof at a meeting to be held as soon as practical.

CODING: Words stricken are deletions; words underlined are additions.
Section 86. Subsection (1) of section 155.04, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

155.04 County hospitals; petition; election; establishment.—

(1) Whenever the board of county commissioners of any county in the state shall be presented with a petition signed by 5 percent of the resident freeholders of such county, asking that an annual tax may be levied for the establishment and maintenance of a public hospital at a place in the county named therein, and shall specify in said petition the maximum amount of money proposed to be expended in purchasing or building said hospital, such board of county commissioners shall submit the question to the qualified electors of the county who are freeholders at the next general election to be held in the county, or at a special election called for that purpose, first giving 30 days’ notice thereof in one or more newspapers published in the county, if any be published therein, or posting written or printed notices at each voter services center in each precinct of the county, which notice shall include the text of the petition and state the amount of the tax to be levied upon the assessed property of the said county which tax shall not exceed 5 mills on the dollar, and be for the issue of the county bonds, to provide funds for the purchase of the site, or sites, and the erection thereon of a public hospital and hospital buildings, and for the support of same, which bonds shall be payable within 30 years, which said election shall be held at the usual places in such county for voting upon county officers, and shall be canvassed in the same manner as the vote for the
county officers is canvassed. The ballots to be used in any
election at which such hospital question is submitted, shall be
printed with a statement substantially as follows:

For a .... mill tax for a bond issue for a public hospital,
and for maintenance of same:

YES ....
NO ....

Section 87. Paragraph (a) of subsection (16) of section
163.514, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

163.514 Powers of neighborhood improvement districts.—
Unless prohibited by ordinance, the board of any district shall
be empowered to:

(16)(a) Subject to referendum approval, make and collect
special assessments pursuant to ss. 197.3632 and 197.3635 to pay
for improvements to the district and for reasonable expenses of
operating the district, including the payment of expenses
included in the district’s budget, subject to an affirmative
vote by a majority of the registered voters residing in the
district. Such assessments shall not exceed $500 for each
individual parcel of land per year. Notwithstanding the
provisions of s. 101.6102, the referendum to approve the special
assessment shall be by mail ballot.

Section 88. Paragraph (c) of subsection (2) of section
171.0413, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

171.0413 Annexation procedures.—Any municipality may annex
contiguous, compact, unincorporated territory in the following
manner:
(2) Following the final adoption of the ordinance of annexation by the governing body of the annexing municipality, the ordinance shall be submitted to a vote of the registered electors of the area proposed to be annexed. The governing body of the annexing municipality may also choose to submit the ordinance of annexation to a separate vote of the registered electors of the annexing municipality. The referendum on annexation shall be called and conducted and the expense thereof paid by the governing body of the annexing municipality.

(c) On the day of the referendum on annexation there shall be prominently displayed at each voter services center polling place a copy of the ordinance of annexation and a description of the property proposed to be annexed. The description shall be by metes and bounds and shall include a map clearly showing such area.

Section 89. Section 256.011, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

256.011 Display of flag at voter services center on election day.—

(1) The supervisor of elections of each county in this state shall provide a flag of the United States for each voter services center polling place in the county. The flag shall be displayed properly and prominently at all designated voter services centers polling places on all days when an election is being held.

(2) The supervisor of elections of each county in the state shall make the flags available to each municipality or governmental body holding an election within such county for each election held for any such municipality or governmental...
body within such county. The municipality or governmental body shall have the responsibility of properly and prominently displaying the flag at each such voter services center polling place on all days when an election is being held and shall bear the expense of displaying the flag of the United States.

(3) Each supervisor of elections is authorized to purchase a sufficient number of flags to carry out the purpose of this act out of the general revenue fund of each such county.

(4) In lieu of a flag of the United States, a picture or representation of the flag may be displayed at the voter services center polling place, provided such picture or representation measures, at a minimum, 1 square foot in size.

Section 90. Subsection (7) of section 394.459, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

394.459 Rights of patients.—

(7) VOTING IN PUBLIC ELECTIONS.—A patient who is eligible to vote according to the laws of the state has the right to vote in the primary and general elections. The department shall establish rules to enable patients to obtain voter registration forms, applications for vote-by-mail ballots, and vote-by-mail ballots.

Section 91. Section 741.406, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

741.406 Voting by program participant; use of designated address by supervisor of elections.—A program participant who is otherwise qualified to vote may request a vote-by-mail ballot pursuant to s. 101.62. The program participant shall automatically receive vote-by-mail ballots for all elections in the jurisdictions in which that individual resides in the same
manner as vote-by-mail voters. The supervisor of elections shall transmit a vote-by-mail ballot to the program participant at the address designated by the participant in his or her voter registration record in the same manner as other voters application as a vote-by-mail voter. However, the name, address, and telephone number of a program participant may not be included in any list of registered voters available to the public.

Section 92. Paragraph (a) of subsection (12) of section 790.06, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

790.06 License to carry concealed weapon or firearm.—
(12)(a) A license issued under this section does not authorize any person to openly carry a handgun or carry a concealed weapon or firearm into:
1. Any place of nuisance as defined in s. 823.05;
2. Any police, sheriff, or highway patrol station;
3. Any detention facility, prison, or jail;
4. Any courthouse;
5. Any courtroom, except that nothing in this section would preclude a judge from carrying a concealed weapon or determining who will carry a concealed weapon in his or her courtroom;
6. Any voter services center polling place;
7. Any meeting of the governing body of a county, public school district, municipality, or special district;
8. Any meeting of the Legislature or a committee thereof;
9. Any school, college, or professional athletic event not related to firearms;
10. Any elementary or secondary school facility or administration building;
11. Any career center;

12. Any portion of an establishment licensed to dispense alcoholic beverages for consumption on the premises, which portion of the establishment is primarily devoted to such purpose;

13. Any college or university facility unless the licensee is a registered student, employee, or faculty member of such college or university and the weapon is a stun gun or nonlethal electric weapon or device designed solely for defensive purposes and the weapon does not fire a dart or projectile;

14. The inside of the passenger terminal and sterile area of any airport, provided that no person shall be prohibited from carrying any legal firearm into the terminal, which firearm is encased for shipment for purposes of checking such firearm as baggage to be lawfully transported on any aircraft; or

15. Any place where the carrying of firearms is prohibited by federal law.

Section 93. Subsection (7) of section 916.107, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

916.107 Rights of forensic clients.—

(7) VOTING IN PUBLIC ELECTIONS.—A forensic client who is eligible to vote according to the laws of the state has the right to vote in the primary and general elections. The department and agency shall establish rules to enable clients to obtain voter registration forms, applications for vote-by-mail ballots, and vote-by-mail ballots.

Section 94. This act shall take effect January 1, 2021.