Florida Senate - 2021 Bill No. CS/CS/CS/SB 90, 1st Eng.

House



LEGISLATIVE ACTION

Senate

Floor: WD/RM 04/29/2021 04:13 PM

Senator Jones moved the following:

Senate Amendment to House Amendment (107453) (with directory and title amendments)

Between lines 777 and 778

insert:

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

9 IN ORDER FOR YOUR VOTE-BY-MAIL BALLOT TO COUNT, YOUR <u>BALLOT MUST</u>
10 <u>BE POSTMARKED OR DATED NO LATER THAN THE DATE OF THE ELECTION</u>
11 AND YOUR SUPERVISOR OF ELECTIONS MUST RECEIVE YOUR BALLOT NO

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12 LATER THAN 10 DAYS AFTER THE ELECTION BY 7 P.M. ON ELECTION DAY.
13 IF YOU WAIT TO MAIL YOUR BALLOT, YOUR VOTE MIGHT NOT COUNT. TO
14 PREVENT THIS FROM OCCURRING, PLEASE MAIL OR TURN IN YOUR BALLOT
15 AS SOON AS POSSIBLE.

16 Section 22. Section 101.65, Florida Statutes, is amended to 17 read:

18 101.65 Instructions to absent electors.—The supervisor 19 shall enclose with each vote-by-mail ballot separate printed 20 instructions in substantially the following form; however, where 21 the instructions appear in capitalized text, the text of the 22 printed instructions must be in bold font:

READ THESE INSTRUCTIONS CAREFULLY BEFORE MARKING BALLOT.

27 1. VERY IMPORTANT. In order to ensure that your vote-by-28 mail ballot will be counted, it should be completed and returned 29 as soon as possible so that it can be postmarked or dated no 30 later than the day of the election, if mailed, and reach the supervisor of elections of the county in which your precinct is 31 32 located no later than 10 days after 7 p.m. on the date day of 33 the election. However, if you are an overseas voter casting a 34 ballot in a presidential preference primary or general election, 35 your vote-by-mail ballot must be postmarked or dated no later 36 than the date of the election and received by the supervisor of 37 elections of the county in which you are registered to vote no 38 later than 10 days after the date of the election. Note that the 39 later you return your ballot, the less time you will have to cure any signature deficiencies, which is authorized until 5 40

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41 p.m. on the 2nd day after the election.

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 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.

55 7. VERY IMPORTANT. In order for your vote-by-mail ballot to 56 be counted, you must sign your name on the line above (Voter's 57 Signature). A vote-by-mail ballot will be considered illegal and 58 not be counted if the signature on the voter's certificate does 59 not match the signature on record. The signature on file at the 60 time the supervisor of elections in the county in which your precinct is located receives your vote-by-mail ballot is the 61 62 signature that will be used to verify your signature on the 63 voter's certificate. If you need to update your signature for this election, send your signature update on a voter 64 65 registration application to your supervisor of elections so that 66 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.

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70 9. Mail, deliver, or have delivered the completed mailing 71 envelope. Be sure there is sufficient postage if mailed. THE 72 COMPLETED MAILING ENVELOPE CAN BE DELIVERED TO THE OFFICE OF THE 73 SUPERVISOR OF ELECTIONS OF THE COUNTY IN WHICH YOUR PRECINCT IS 74 LOCATED OR DROPPED OFF AT AN AUTHORIZED SECURE DROP BOX, 75 AVAILABLE AT EACH EARLY VOTING LOCATION. 76 10. FELONY NOTICE. It is a felony under Florida law to 77 accept any gift, payment, or gratuity in exchange for your vote 78 for a candidate. It is also a felony under Florida law to vote 79 in an election using a false identity or false address, or under 80 any other circumstances making your ballot false or fraudulent. 81 Section 23. Subsection (2) of section 101.67, Florida 82 Statutes, is amended to read: 83 101.67 Safekeeping of mailed ballots; deadline for 84 receiving vote-by-mail ballots.-85 (2) Except as provided in s. 101.6952(5), All marked absent 86 electors' ballots to be counted must be postmarked or dated no 87 later than the day of the election and received by the supervisor by 10 days after 7 p.m. the date day of the election. 88 All ballots received thereafter shall be marked with the time 89 90 and date of receipt and filed in the supervisor's office. 91 92 ===== DIRECTORY CLAUSE AMENDMENT ====== And the directory clause is amended as follows: 93 94 Delete lines 747 - 748 95 and insert: 96 Section 21. Subsections (1) and (5) of section 101.64, 97 Florida Statutes, are amended to read: 98

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99	========== T I T L E A M E N D M E N T ==============
100	And the title is amended as follows:
101	Between lines 1268 and 1269
102	insert:
103	revising the form of the secrecy envelope of a vote-
104	by-mail ballot; amending s. 101.65, F.S.; revising
105	instructions to absent electors to conform to changes
106	made by the act; amending s. 101.67, F.S.; revising
107	the deadline by which the supervisor must receive a
108	vote-by-mail ballot;