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1                   A bill to be entitled  
2     An act relating to election administration; amending  
3     s. 15.21, F.S.; requiring the Secretary of State to  
4     notify the Attorney General if signatures required for  
5     an initiative petition are no longer valid;  
6     authorizing the Secretary of State to resubmit the  
7     initiative petition to the Attorney General if certain  
8     conditions are met; amending s. 16.061, F.S.;

9     requiring the Attorney General to withdraw his or her  
10    petition for an advisory opinion by the Supreme Court  
11    if notified by the Secretary of State that the  
12    initiative petition no longer meets the criteria for  
13    review; requiring the Attorney General to file a new  
14    petition for an advisory opinion if the initiative  
15    petition subsequently qualifies for review; creating  
16    s. 97.022, F.S.; creating the Office of Election  
17    Crimes and Security within the Department of State;  
18    specifying the duties and structure of the office;  
19    providing for construction; requiring the department  
20    to annually report to the Governor and Legislature  
21    regarding the office's activities; specifying  
22    requirements for such report; amending s. 97.0291,  
23    F.S.; clarifying provisions governing the prohibition  
24    on the solicitation, acceptance, use, and disposal of  
25    private funds for certain election-related expenses;  
26    amending s. 97.052, F.S.; adding requirements to the  
27    uniform statewide voter registration application;  
28    amending s. 97.057, F.S.; conforming a cross-  
29    reference; amending s. 97.0575, F.S.; deleting a

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30 requirement that a third-party voter registration  
31 organization provide a certain notification to an  
32 applicant; revising a limitation on the amount of  
33 aggregate fines which may be assessed against a third-  
34 party voter registration organization in a calendar  
35 year; specifying that a third-party voter registration  
36 organization is liable for a certain fine if a person  
37 collecting voter registration applications on its  
38 behalf is convicted of unlawfully altering any  
39 application; amending s. 98.065, F.S.; revising the  
40 frequency with which supervisors of elections must  
41 conduct a registration list maintenance program;  
42 modifying required components of registration list  
43 maintenance programs; conforming provisions to changes  
44 made by the act; amending s. 98.0655, F.S.; revising  
45 requirements for certain registration list maintenance  
46 forms to be prescribed by the Department of State;  
47 amending s. 98.075, F.S.; requiring the Department of  
48 State to identify deceased registered voters using  
49 information received by specified agencies; amending  
50 s. 98.093, F.S.; requiring clerks of the circuit court  
51 and the Department of Highway Safety and Motor  
52 Vehicles to furnish additional information to the  
53 Department of State on a monthly basis; amending s.  
54 100.041, F.S.; providing an exception to certain  
55 county commissioner election requirements for certain  
56 districts; amending s. 100.371, F.S.; revising duties  
57 of the supervisor with respect to the processing and  
58 retention of initiative petition forms; requiring the

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59 supervisor to post additional information regarding  
60 petition forms on his or her website; requiring the  
61 Secretary of State to notify the Financial Impact  
62 Estimating Conference if the signatures for an  
63 initiative petition are no longer valid; specifying  
64 conditions under which the Financial Impact Estimating  
65 Conference does not need to complete an analysis and  
66 financial impact statement for an initiative petition;  
67 creating s. 101.019, F.S.; prohibiting the use of  
68 ranked-choice voting to determine election or  
69 nomination to elective office; voiding existing or  
70 future local ordinances authorizing the use of ranked-  
71 choice voting; amending s. 101.043, F.S.; deleting a  
72 provision that prohibits using an address appearing on  
73 identification presented by an elector as a basis to  
74 confirm an elector's legal residence; deleting a  
75 provision that prohibits a clerk or an inspector from  
76 asking an elector to provide additional identification  
77 information under specified circumstances; amending s.  
78 101.051, F.S.; replacing references to "secure drop  
79 boxes" with "secure ballot intake stations";  
80 conforming terminology to changes made by the act;  
81 amending s. 101.151, F.S.; revising requirements for  
82 Department of State rules regarding certified voting  
83 systems and ballot specifications; amending s.  
84 101.5614, F.S.; requiring specified individuals  
85 observing the ballot duplication process to sign a  
86 specified affidavit acknowledging certain criminal  
87 penalties; prohibiting persons authorized to observe,

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88 review, or inspect ballot materials or observe  
89 canvassing from releasing certain information about an  
90 election before the closing of the polls; providing  
91 criminal penalties; amending s. 101.6103, F.S.;  
92 conforming certain provisions governing the Mail  
93 Ballot Election Act to provisions applicable to the  
94 mailing and canvassing of vote-by-mail ballots;  
95 amending s. 101.65, F.S.; conforming terminology to  
96 changes made by the act; amending s. 101.655, F.S.;  
97 revising the date by which requests for supervised  
98 voting must be submitted to the supervisor; amending  
99 s. 101.69, F.S.; revising requirements for permanent  
100 branch offices of the supervisor which may be used as  
101 secure ballot intake station locations; conforming  
102 terminology to changes made by the act; amending s.  
103 102.031, F.S.; conforming terminology to changes made  
104 by the act; amending s. 102.091, F.S.; requiring the  
105 Governor, in consultation with the executive director  
106 of the Department of Law Enforcement, to appoint  
107 special officers to investigate election law  
108 violations; specifying requirements for such special  
109 officers; providing construction; amending s. 102.101,  
110 F.S.; prohibiting a special officer from entering a  
111 polling place; providing exceptions; amending s.  
112 104.0616, F.S.; increasing criminal penalties for  
113 certain unlawful acts involving vote-by-mail ballots;  
114 amending s. 104.185, F.S.; increasing criminal  
115 penalties for a person who signs another person's name  
116 or a fictitious name on specified petitions; amending

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117 s. 104.186, F.S.; increasing criminal penalties for a  
118 person who unlawfully compensates a petition  
119 circulator based on the number of petition forms  
120 gathered; amending s. 124.011, F.S.; providing that  
121 certain county commissioners must be elected at the  
122 general election immediately following redistricting;  
123 requiring such commissioners' terms to commence on a  
124 certain date; providing applicability; amending s.  
125 921.0022, F.S.; ranking a specified offense involving  
126 vote-by-mail ballots on the severity ranking chart of  
127 the Criminal Punishment Code; providing legislative  
128 findings and intent; requiring the Department of State  
129 to submit a report to the Legislature by a specified  
130 date; providing report requirements; providing  
131 effective dates.

132  
133 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

134  
135 Section 1. Section 15.21, Florida Statutes, is amended to  
136 read:

137 15.21 Initiative petitions; s. 3, Art. XI, State  
138 Constitution.—

139 (1) The Secretary of State shall immediately submit an  
140 initiative petition to the Attorney General if the sponsor has:

141 (a) ~~(1)~~ Registered as a political committee pursuant to s.  
142 106.03;

143 (b) ~~(2)~~ Submitted the ballot title, substance, and text of  
144 the proposed revision or amendment to the Secretary of State  
145 pursuant to ss. 100.371 and 101.161; and

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146 (c)~~(3)~~ Obtained a letter from the Division of Elections  
147 confirming that the sponsor has submitted to the appropriate  
148 supervisors for verification, and the supervisors have verified,  
149 forms signed and dated equal to 25 percent of the number of  
150 electors statewide required by s. 3, Art. XI of the State  
151 Constitution in one-half of the congressional districts of the  
152 state.

153 (2) If the Secretary of State has submitted an initiative  
154 petition to the Attorney General pursuant to subsection (1) but  
155 the validity of the signatures for such initiative petition have  
156 expired pursuant to s. 100.371(11)(a) before securing ballot  
157 placement, the Secretary of State must promptly notify the  
158 Attorney General. The Secretary of State may resubmit the  
159 initiative petition to the Attorney General if the initiative  
160 petition is later circulated for placement on the ballot of a  
161 subsequent general election and the criteria under subsection  
162 (1) are satisfied.

163 Section 2. Subsection (4) is added to section 16.061,  
164 Florida Statutes, to read:

165 16.061 Initiative petitions.—

166 (4) If the Attorney General is notified by the Secretary of  
167 State pursuant to s. 15.21(2) that an initiative petition no  
168 longer qualifies for ballot placement for the ensuing general  
169 election, the Attorney General must withdraw his or her request  
170 for an advisory opinion if the Supreme Court has not yet  
171 fulfilled that request. If the Secretary of State subsequently  
172 resubmits the initiative petition if the criteria in s. 15.21(1)  
173 are again satisfied and the court has not issued its advisory  
174 opinion, the Attorney General must file a new petition seeking

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175 such advisory opinion.

176 Section 3. Section 97.022, Florida Statutes, is created to  
177 read:

178 97.022 Office of Election Crimes and Security; creation;  
179 purpose and duties.—

180 (1) The Office of Election Crimes and Security is created  
181 within the Department of State. The purpose of the office is to  
182 aid the Secretary of State in completion of his or her duties  
183 under s. 97.012(12) and (15) by:

184 (a) Receiving and reviewing notices and reports generated  
185 by government officials or any other person regarding alleged  
186 occurrences of election law violations or election  
187 irregularities in this state.

188 (b) Initiating independent inquiries and conducting  
189 preliminary investigations into allegations of election law  
190 violations or election irregularities in this state.

191 (2) The office may review complaints and conduct  
192 preliminary investigations into alleged violations of the  
193 Florida Election Code or any rule adopted pursuant thereto and  
194 any election irregularities.

195 (3) The secretary shall appoint a director of the office.

196 (4) The office shall be based in Tallahassee and shall  
197 employ nonsworn investigators to conduct any investigations. The  
198 positions and resources necessary for the office to accomplish  
199 its duties shall be established through and subject to the  
200 legislative appropriations process.

201 (5) The office shall oversee the department's voter fraud  
202 hotline.

203 (6) This section does not limit the jurisdiction of any

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204 other office or agency of the state empowered by law to  
205 investigate, act upon, or dispose of alleged election law  
206 violations.

207 (7) By January 15 of each year, the department shall submit  
208 a report to the Governor, the President of the Senate, and the  
209 Speaker of the House of Representatives detailing information on  
210 investigations of alleged election law violations or election  
211 irregularities conducted during the prior calendar year. The  
212 report must include the total number of complaints received and  
213 independent investigations initiated and the number of  
214 complaints referred to another agency for further investigation  
215 or prosecution, including the total number of those matters sent  
216 to a special officer pursuant to s. 102.091. For each alleged  
217 violation or irregularity investigated, the report must include:

218 (a) The source of the alleged violation or irregularity;

219 (b) The law allegedly violated or the nature of the  
220 irregularity reported;

221 (c) The county in which the alleged violation or  
222 irregularity occurred;

223 (d) Whether the alleged violation or irregularity was  
224 referred to another agency for further investigation or  
225 prosecution, and if so, to which agency; and

226 (e) The current status of the investigation or resulting  
227 criminal case.

228 Section 4. Section 97.0291, Florida Statutes, is amended to  
229 read:

230 97.0291 Prohibition on use of private funds for election-  
231 related expenses.—No agency or state or local official  
232 responsible for conducting elections, including, but not limited

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233 to, a supervisor of elections, may solicit, accept, use, or  
234 dispose of any donation in the form of money, grants, property,  
235 or personal services from an individual or a nongovernmental  
236 entity for the purpose of funding any type of election-related  
237 expenses related to election administration, including, but not  
238 limited to, ~~or~~ voter education, voter outreach, voter ~~or~~  
239 registration programs, or the cost of any litigation related to  
240 election administration. This section does not prohibit the  
241 donation and acceptance of space to be used for a polling room  
242 or an early voting site.

243 Section 5. Paragraph (g) is added to subsection (3) of  
244 section 97.052, Florida Statutes, to read:

245 97.052 Uniform statewide voter registration application.—

246 (3) The uniform statewide voter registration application  
247 must also contain:

248 (g) A statement informing the applicant that if the  
249 application is being collected by a third-party voter  
250 registration organization, the organization might not deliver  
251 the application to the division or the supervisor in the county  
252 in which the applicant resides in less than 14 days or before  
253 registration closes for the next ensuing election, and that the  
254 applicant may instead elect to deliver the application in person  
255 or by mail or choose to register online. The statement must  
256 further inform the applicant how to determine whether the  
257 application has been delivered.

258 Section 6. Effective January 1, 2023, subsection (13) of  
259 section 97.057, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

260 97.057 Voter registration by the Department of Highway  
261 Safety and Motor Vehicles.—

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262 (13) The Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles  
263 must assist the Department of State in regularly identifying  
264 changes in residence address on the driver license or  
265 identification card of a voter. The Department of State must  
266 report each such change to the appropriate supervisor of  
267 elections who must change the voter's registration records in  
268 accordance with s. 98.065(5) ~~s. 98.065(4)~~.

269 Section 7. Present subsections (4) through (7) of section  
270 97.0575, Florida Statutes, are redesignated as subsections (5)  
271 through (8), respectively, a new subsection (4) is added to that  
272 section, and paragraph (a) of subsection (3) of that section is  
273 amended, to read:

274 97.0575 Third-party voter registrations.—

275 (3) (a) A third-party voter registration organization that  
276 collects voter registration applications serves as a fiduciary  
277 to the applicant, ensuring that any voter registration  
278 application entrusted to the organization, irrespective of party  
279 affiliation, race, ethnicity, or gender, must be promptly  
280 delivered to the division or the supervisor of elections in the  
281 county in which the applicant resides within 14 days after the  
282 application was completed by the applicant, but not after  
283 registration closes for the next ensuing election. ~~A third-party  
284 voter registration organization must notify the applicant at the  
285 time the application is collected that the organization might  
286 not deliver the application to the division or the supervisor of  
287 elections in the county in which the applicant resides in less  
288 than 14 days or before registration closes for the next ensuing  
289 election and must advise the applicant that he or she may  
290 deliver the application in person or by mail. The third party~~

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291 ~~voter registration organization must also inform the applicant~~  
292 ~~how to register online with the division and how to determine~~  
293 ~~whether the application has been delivered.~~ If a voter  
294 registration application collected by any third-party voter  
295 registration organization is not promptly delivered to the  
296 division or supervisor of elections in the county in which the  
297 applicant resides, the third-party voter registration  
298 organization is liable for the following fines:

299       1. A fine in the amount of \$50 for each application  
300 received by the division or the supervisor of elections in the  
301 county in which the applicant resides more than 14 days after  
302 the applicant delivered the completed voter registration  
303 application to the third-party voter registration organization  
304 or any person, entity, or agent acting on its behalf. A fine in  
305 the amount of \$250 for each application received if the third-  
306 party voter registration organization or person, entity, or  
307 agency acting on its behalf acted willfully.

308       2. A fine in the amount of \$100 for each application  
309 collected by a third-party voter registration organization or  
310 any person, entity, or agent acting on its behalf, before book  
311 closing for any given election for federal or state office and  
312 received by the division or the supervisor of elections in the  
313 county in which the applicant resides after the book-closing  
314 deadline for such election. A fine in the amount of \$500 for  
315 each application received if the third-party registration  
316 organization or person, entity, or agency acting on its behalf  
317 acted willfully.

318       3. A fine in the amount of \$500 for each application  
319 collected by a third-party voter registration organization or

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320 any person, entity, or agent acting on its behalf, which is not  
321 submitted to the division or supervisor of elections in the  
322 county in which the applicant resides. A fine in the amount of  
323 \$1,000 for any application not submitted if the third-party  
324 voter registration organization or person, entity, or agency  
325 acting on its behalf acted willfully.

326

327 The aggregate fine pursuant to this paragraph which may be  
328 assessed against a third-party voter registration organization,  
329 including affiliate organizations, for violations committed in a  
330 calendar year is \$50,000 ~~\$1,000~~.

331 (4) If a person collecting voter registration applications  
332 on behalf of a third-party voter registration organization  
333 alters the voter registration application of any other person,  
334 without the other person's knowledge and consent, in violation  
335 of s. 104.012(4) and is subsequently convicted of such offense,  
336 the applicable third-party voter registration organization is  
337 liable for a fine in the amount of \$1,000 for each application  
338 altered.

339 Section 8. Effective January 1, 2023, present subsections  
340 (3) through (6) of section 98.065, Florida Statutes, are  
341 redesignated as subsections (4) through (7), respectively, a new  
342 subsection (3) is added to that section, and subsection (2) and  
343 present subsections (3), (4), and (5) of that section are  
344 amended, to read:

345 98.065 Registration list maintenance programs.—

346 (2) A supervisor must incorporate one or more of the  
347 following procedures in the supervisor's annual ~~biennial~~  
348 registration list maintenance program under which the supervisor

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349 shall:

350 (a) Use change-of-address information supplied by the  
351 United States Postal Service through its licensees ~~is used~~ to  
352 identify registered voters whose addresses might have changed.  
353 Additionally, in odd-numbered years, unless the supervisor is  
354 conducting the procedure specified in paragraph (b), the  
355 supervisor must identify change-of-address information from  
356 returned nonforwardable return-if-undeliverable address  
357 confirmation requests mailed to all registered voters who have  
358 not voted in the preceding two general elections or any  
359 intervening election and who have not made a request that their  
360 registration records be updated during that time; or

361 (b) Identify change-of-address information ~~is identified~~  
362 from returned nonforwardable return-if-undeliverable mail sent  
363 to all registered voters in the county; ~~or~~

364 ~~(c) Change-of-address information is identified from~~  
365 ~~returned nonforwardable return-if-undeliverable address~~  
366 ~~confirmation requests mailed to all registered voters who have~~  
367 ~~not voted in the last 2 years and who did not make a written~~  
368 ~~request that their registration records be updated during that~~  
369 ~~time.~~

370 (3) Address confirmation requests sent pursuant to  
371 paragraph (2) (a) and mail sent pursuant to paragraph (b) must be  
372 addressed to the voter's address of legal residence, not  
373 including voters temporarily residing outside the county and  
374 registered in the precinct designated by the supervisor pursuant  
375 to s. 101.045(1). If a request is returned as undeliverable, any  
376 other notification sent to the voter pursuant to subsection (5)  
377 or s. 98.0655 must be addressed to the voter's mailing address

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378 on file, if any.

379 (4) A registration list maintenance program must be  
380 conducted by each supervisor, at a minimum, once ~~in~~ each ~~odd-~~  
381 ~~numbered~~ year and must be completed not later than 90 days  
382 before ~~prior to~~ the date of any federal election. All list  
383 maintenance actions associated with each voter must be entered,  
384 tracked, and maintained in the statewide voter registration  
385 system.

386 (5) (a) ~~(4) (a)~~ If the supervisor receives change-of-address  
387 information pursuant to the activities conducted in subsection  
388 (2), from jury notices signed by the voter and returned to the  
389 courts, from the Department of Highway Safety and Motor  
390 Vehicles, or from other sources which indicates that a  
391 registered voter's legal residence might have changed to another  
392 location within the state, the supervisor must change the  
393 registration records to reflect the new address and must send  
394 the voter an address change notice as provided in s. 98.0655(2).

395 (b) If the supervisor of elections receives change-of-  
396 address information pursuant to the activities conducted in  
397 subsection (2), from jury notices signed by the voter and  
398 returned to the courts, or from other sources which indicates  
399 that a registered voter's legal residence might have changed to  
400 a location outside the state, the supervisor of elections shall  
401 send an address confirmation final notice to the voter as  
402 provided in s. 98.0655(3).

403 (c) If an address confirmation request required by  
404 paragraph (2) (a) is returned as undeliverable without indication  
405 of an address change, or there is no response from the voter  
406 within 30 days, or if any other nonforwardable return-if-

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407 undeliverable mail is returned as undeliverable with no  
408 indication of an address change, the supervisor shall send an  
409 address confirmation final notice to all addresses on file for  
410 the voter.

411 (d) The supervisor must designate as inactive all voters  
412 who have been sent an address confirmation final notice and who  
413 have not returned the postage prepaid, preaddressed return form  
414 within 30 days or for which the final notice has been returned  
415 as undeliverable. Names on the inactive list may not be used to  
416 calculate the number of signatures needed on any petition. A  
417 voter on the inactive list may be restored to the active list of  
418 voters upon the voter updating his or her registration and  
419 confirming his or her current address of legal residence,  
420 requesting a vote-by-mail ballot and confirming his or her  
421 current address of legal residence, or appearing to vote and  
422 confirming his or her current address of legal residence.

423 However, if the voter does not update his or her voter  
424 registration information, request a vote-by-mail ballot, or vote  
425 by the second general election after being placed on the  
426 inactive list, the voter's name shall be removed from the  
427 statewide voter registration system and the voter shall be  
428 required to reregister to have his or her name restored to the  
429 statewide voter registration system.

430 (6)~~(5)~~ A notice may not be issued pursuant to this section  
431 and a voter's name may not be removed from the statewide voter  
432 registration system later than 90 days prior to the date of a  
433 federal election. However, this section does not preclude the  
434 correction of registration records based on information  
435 submitted by the voter or removal of the name of a voter from

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436 the statewide voter registration system at any time upon the  
437 voter's written request, by reason of the voter's death, or upon  
438 a determination of the voter's ineligibility as provided in s.  
439 98.075(7).

440 Section 9. Effective January 1, 2023, subsections (1) and  
441 (3) of section 98.0655, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

442 98.0655 Registration list maintenance forms.—The department  
443 shall prescribe registration list maintenance forms to be used  
444 by the supervisors which must include:

445 (1) An address confirmation request that must contain:

446 (a) The voter's name and address of legal residence as  
447 shown on the voter registration record; ~~and~~

448 (b) A request that the voter notify the supervisor if  
449 either the voter's name or address of legal residence is  
450 incorrect;

451 (c) If the address confirmation request is required by s.  
452 98.065(2)(a), a statement that if the voter has not changed his  
453 or her legal residence or has changed his or her legal residence  
454 within the state, the voter should return the form within 30  
455 days after the date on which the notice was sent to the voter;  
456 and

457 (d) Information about updating voter information through  
458 the online voter registration system.

459 (3) An address confirmation final notice that must be sent  
460 to the newly recorded address of legal residence, or to all  
461 addresses on file for the voter if no indication of new address  
462 has been received, by forwardable mail and must contain a  
463 postage prepaid, preaddressed return form and a statement that:

464 (a) If the voter has not changed his or her legal residence

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465 or has changed his or her legal residence within the state, the  
466 voter should return the form within 30 days after the date on  
467 which the notice was sent to the voter.

468 (b) If the voter has changed his or her legal residence to  
469 a location outside the state:

470 1. The voter shall return the form, which serves as a  
471 request to be removed from the registration books; and

472 2. The voter shall be provided with information on how to  
473 register in the new jurisdiction in order to be eligible to  
474 vote.

475 (c) If the return form is not returned, the voter's name  
476 shall be designated as inactive in the statewide voter  
477 registration system, and confirmation of the voter's address of  
478 legal residence may be required before the voter is authorized  
479 to vote in an election.

480 Section 10. Paragraph (a) of subsection (3) of section  
481 98.075, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

482 98.075 Registration records maintenance activities;  
483 ineligibility determinations.—

484 (3) DECEASED PERSONS.—

485 (a)1. The department shall identify those registered voters  
486 who are deceased by comparing information received from ~~either~~:

487 a. The Department of Health as provided in s. 98.093; ~~or~~

488 b. The United States Social Security Administration,  
489 including, but not limited to, any master death file or index  
490 compiled by the United States Social Security Administration;  
491 and

492 c. The Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles.

493 2. Within 7 days after receipt of such information through

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494 the statewide voter registration system, the supervisor shall  
495 remove the name of the registered voter.

496 Section 11. Section 98.093, Florida Statutes, is amended to  
497 read:

498 98.093 Duty of officials to furnish information relating to  
499 deceased persons, persons adjudicated mentally incapacitated,  
500 ~~and persons convicted of a felony, and persons who are not~~  
501 United States citizens.—

502 (1) In order to identify ineligible registered voters and  
503 maintain accurate and current voter registration records in the  
504 statewide voter registration system pursuant to procedures in s.  
505 98.065 or s. 98.075, it is necessary for the department and  
506 supervisors of elections to receive or access certain  
507 information from state and federal officials and entities in the  
508 format prescribed.

509 (2) To the maximum extent feasible, state and local  
510 government agencies shall facilitate provision of information  
511 and access to data to the department, including, but not limited  
512 to, databases that contain reliable criminal records and records  
513 of deceased persons. State and local government agencies that  
514 provide such data shall do so without charge if the direct cost  
515 incurred by those agencies is not significant.

516 (a) The Department of Health shall furnish monthly to the  
517 department a list containing the name, address, date of birth,  
518 date of death, social security number, race, and sex of each  
519 deceased person 17 years of age or older.

520 (b) Each clerk of the circuit court shall furnish monthly  
521 to the department:

522 1. A list of those persons who have been adjudicated

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523 mentally incapacitated with respect to voting during the  
524 preceding calendar month, a list of those persons whose mental  
525 capacity with respect to voting has been restored during the  
526 preceding calendar month, and a list of those persons who have  
527 returned signed jury notices during the preceding months to the  
528 clerk of the circuit court indicating a change of address. Each  
529 list shall include the name, address, date of birth, race, sex,  
530 and, whichever is available, the Florida driver license number,  
531 Florida identification card number, or social security number of  
532 each such person.

533 2. Information on the terms of sentence for felony  
534 convictions, including any financial obligations for court  
535 costs, fees, and fines, of all persons listed in the clerk's  
536 records whose last known address in the clerk's records is  
537 within this state and who have been convicted of a felony during  
538 the preceding month. The information may be provided directly by  
539 individual clerks of the circuit court or may be provided on  
540 their behalf through the Comprehensive Case Information System.  
541 For each felony conviction reported, the information must  
542 include:

543 a. The full name, last known address, date of birth, race,  
544 sex, and, if available, the Florida driver license number or  
545 Florida identification card number, as applicable, and the  
546 social security number of the person convicted.

547 b. The amounts of all financial obligations, including  
548 restitution and court costs, fees, and fines, and, if known, the  
549 amount of financial obligations not yet satisfied.

550 c. The county in which the conviction occurred.

551 d. The statute number violated, statute table text, date of

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552 conviction, and case number.

553 (c) Upon receipt of information from the United States  
554 Attorney, listing persons convicted of a felony in federal  
555 court, the department shall use such information to identify  
556 registered voters or applicants for voter registration who may  
557 be potentially ineligible based on information provided in  
558 accordance with s. 98.075.

559 (d) The Department of Law Enforcement shall identify those  
560 persons who have been convicted of a felony who appear in the  
561 voter registration records supplied by the statewide voter  
562 registration system, in a time and manner that enables the  
563 department to meet its obligations under state and federal law.

564 (e) The Florida Commission on Offender Review shall furnish  
565 at least bimonthly to the department data, including the  
566 identity of those persons granted clemency in the preceding  
567 month or any updates to prior records which have occurred in the  
568 preceding month. The data shall contain the commission's case  
569 number and the person's name, address, date of birth, race,  
570 gender, Florida driver license number, Florida identification  
571 card number, or the last four digits of the social security  
572 number, if available, and references to record identifiers  
573 assigned by the Department of Corrections and the Department of  
574 Law Enforcement, a unique identifier of each clemency case, and  
575 the effective date of clemency of each person.

576 (f) The Department of Corrections shall identify those  
577 persons who have been convicted of a felony and committed to its  
578 custody or placed on community supervision. The information must  
579 be provided to the department at a time and in a manner that  
580 enables the department to identify registered voters who are

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581 convicted felons and to meet its obligations under state and  
582 federal law.

583 (g) The Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles  
584 shall furnish monthly to the department:

585 1. A list of those persons whose names have been removed  
586 from the driver license database because they have been licensed  
587 in another state. The list must ~~shall~~ contain the name, address,  
588 date of birth, sex, social security number, and driver license  
589 number of each such person.

590 2. A list of those persons who presented evidence of non-  
591 United States citizenship upon being issued a new or renewed  
592 Florida driver license or Florida identification card. The list  
593 must contain the name; address; date of birth; social security  
594 number, if applicable; and Florida driver license number or  
595 Florida identification card number, as applicable, of each such  
596 person.

597 (3) This section does not limit or restrict the supervisor  
598 in his or her duty to remove the names of persons from the  
599 statewide voter registration system pursuant to s. 98.075(7)  
600 based upon information received from other sources.

601 Section 12. Paragraph (a) of subsection (2) of section  
602 100.041, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

603 100.041 Officers chosen at general election.—

604 (2) (a) Except as provided in s. 124.011 relating to single  
605 member districts after decennial redistricting, each county  
606 commissioner from an odd-numbered district shall be elected at  
607 the general election in each year the number of which is a  
608 multiple of 4, for a 4-year term commencing on the second  
609 Tuesday following such election, and each county commissioner

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610 from an even-numbered district shall be elected at the general  
611 election in each even-numbered year the number of which is not a  
612 multiple of 4, for a 4-year term commencing on the second  
613 Tuesday following such election. A county commissioner is  
614 "elected" for purposes of this paragraph on the date that the  
615 county canvassing board certifies the results of the election  
616 pursuant to s. 102.151.

617 Section 13. Paragraphs (a) and (c) of subsection (11) and  
618 paragraph (a) of subsection (13) of section 100.371, Florida  
619 Statutes, are amended to read:

620 100.371 Initiatives; procedure for placement on ballot.—

621 (11) (a) An initiative petition form circulated for  
622 signature may not be bundled with or attached to any other  
623 petition. Each signature shall be dated when made and shall be  
624 valid until the next February 1 occurring in an even-numbered  
625 year for the purpose of the amendment appearing on the ballot  
626 for the general election occurring in that same year, provided  
627 all other requirements of law are met. The sponsor shall submit  
628 signed and dated forms to the supervisor of elections for the  
629 county of residence listed by the person signing the form for  
630 verification of the number of valid signatures obtained. If a  
631 signature on a petition is from a registered voter in another  
632 county, the supervisor shall notify the petition sponsor of the  
633 misfiled petition. The supervisor shall promptly verify the  
634 signatures within 60 days after receipt of the petition forms  
635 and payment of a fee for the actual cost of signature  
636 verification incurred by the supervisor. However, for petition  
637 forms submitted less than 60 days before February 1 of an even-  
638 numbered year, the supervisor shall promptly verify the

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639 signatures within 30 days after receipt of the form and payment  
640 of the fee for signature verification. The supervisor shall  
641 promptly record, in the manner prescribed by the Secretary of  
642 State, the date each form is received by the supervisor, and the  
643 date the signature on the form is verified as valid. The  
644 supervisor may verify that the signature on a form is valid only  
645 if:

646 1. The form contains the original signature of the  
647 purported elector.

648 2. The purported elector has accurately recorded on the  
649 form the date on which he or she signed the form.

650 3. The form sets forth the purported elector's name,  
651 address, city, county, and voter registration number or date of  
652 birth.

653 4. The purported elector is, at the time he or she signs  
654 the form and at the time the form is verified, a duly qualified  
655 and registered elector in the state.

656 5. The signature was obtained legally, including that if a  
657 paid petition circulator was used, the circulator was validly  
658 registered under subsection (3) when the signature was obtained.  
659

660 The supervisor shall retain all the signature forms, separating  
661 forms verified as valid from those deemed invalid, for at least  
662 1 year following the election for in which the petition was  
663 circulated ~~issue appeared on the ballot or until the division~~  
664 ~~notifies the supervisors of elections that the committee that~~  
665 ~~circulated the petition is no longer seeking to obtain ballot~~  
666 ~~position.~~

667 (c) On the last day of each month, or on the last day of

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668 each week from December 1 of an odd-numbered year through  
669 February 1 of the following year, each supervisor shall post on  
670 his or her website the total number of signatures submitted, the  
671 total number of invalid signatures, the total number of  
672 signatures processed, and the aggregate number of verified valid  
673 signatures and the distribution of such signatures by  
674 congressional district for each proposed amendment proposed by  
675 initiative, along with the following information specific to the  
676 reporting period: the total number of signed petition forms  
677 received, the total number of signatures verified, the  
678 distribution of verified valid signatures by congressional  
679 district, and the total number of verified petition forms  
680 forwarded to the Secretary of State.

681 (13) (a) At the same time the Secretary of State submits an  
682 initiative petition to the Attorney General pursuant to s.  
683 15.21, the secretary shall submit a copy of the initiative  
684 petition to the Financial Impact Estimating Conference. Within  
685 75 days after receipt of a proposed revision or amendment to the  
686 State Constitution by initiative petition from the Secretary of  
687 State, the Financial Impact Estimating Conference shall complete  
688 an analysis and financial impact statement to be placed on the  
689 ballot of the estimated increase or decrease in any revenues or  
690 costs to state or local governments and the overall impact to  
691 the state budget resulting from the proposed initiative. The 75-  
692 day time limit is tolled when the Legislature is in session. The  
693 Financial Impact Estimating Conference shall submit the  
694 financial impact statement to the Attorney General and Secretary  
695 of State. If the initiative petition has been submitted to the  
696 Financial Impact Estimating Conference but the validity of

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697 signatures has expired and the initiative petition no longer  
698 qualifies for ballot placement at the ensuing general election,  
699 the Secretary of State must notify the Financial Impact  
700 Estimating Conference. The Financial Impact Estimating  
701 Conference is not required to complete an analysis and financial  
702 impact statement for an initiative petition that fails to meet  
703 the requirements of subsection (1) for placement on the ballot  
704 before the 75-day time limit, including any tolling period,  
705 expires. The initiative petition may be resubmitted to the  
706 Financial Impact Estimating Conference if the initiative  
707 petition meets the requisite criteria for a subsequent general  
708 election cycle. A new Financial Impact Estimating Conference  
709 shall be established at such time as the initiative petition  
710 again satisfies the criteria in s. 15.21(1).

711 Section 14. Section 101.019, Florida Statutes, is created  
712 to read:

713 101.019 Ranked-choice voting prohibited.—

714 (1) A ranked-choice voting method that allows voters to  
715 rank candidates for an office in order of preference and has  
716 ballots cast be tabulated in multiple rounds following the  
717 elimination of a candidate until a single candidate attains a  
718 majority may not be used in determining the election or  
719 nomination of any candidate to any local, state, or federal  
720 elective office in this state.

721 (2) Any existing or future ordinance enacted or adopted by  
722 a county, a municipality, or any other local governmental entity  
723 which is in conflict with this section is void.

724 Section 15. Paragraphs (b) and (c) of subsection (1) of  
725 section 101.043, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

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726 101.043 Identification required at polls.-

727 (1)

728 (b) If the picture identification does not contain the  
729 signature of the elector, an additional identification that  
730 provides the elector's signature shall be required. The address  
731 appearing on the identification presented by the elector may not  
732 be used as the basis to ~~confirm an elector's legal residence or~~  
733 ~~otherwise~~ challenge an elector's legal residence. The elector  
734 shall sign his or her name in the space provided on the precinct  
735 register or on an electronic device provided for recording the  
736 elector's signature. The clerk or inspector shall compare the  
737 signature with that on the identification provided by the  
738 elector and enter his or her initials in the space provided on  
739 the precinct register or on an electronic device provided for  
740 that purpose and allow the elector to vote if the clerk or  
741 inspector is satisfied as to the identity of the elector.

742 ~~(c) When an elector presents his or her picture~~  
743 ~~identification to the clerk or inspector and the elector's~~  
744 ~~address on the picture identification matches the elector's~~  
745 ~~address in the supervisor's records, the elector may not be~~  
746 ~~asked to provide additional information or to recite his or her~~  
747 ~~home address.~~

748 Section 16. Subsections (2) and (5) of section 101.051,  
749 Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

750 101.051 Electors seeking assistance in casting ballots;  
751 oath to be executed; forms to be furnished.-

752 (2) It is unlawful for any person to be in the voting booth  
753 with any elector except as provided in subsection (1). A person  
754 at a polling place, a secure ballot intake station ~~drop box~~

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755 location, or an early voting site, or within 150 feet of a  
756 secure ballot intake station ~~drop box~~ location or the entrance  
757 of a polling place or an early voting site, may not solicit any  
758 elector in an effort to provide assistance to vote pursuant to  
759 subsection (1). Any person who violates this subsection commits  
760 a misdemeanor of the first degree, punishable as provided in s.  
761 775.082 or s. 775.083.

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

767

768 DECLARATION TO PROVIDE ASSISTANCE

769

770 State of Florida

771 County of ....

772 Date ....

773 Precinct ....

774

775 I, ...(Print name)..., have been requested by ...(print  
776 name of elector needing assistance)... to provide him or her  
777 with assistance to vote. I swear or affirm that I am not the  
778 employer, an agent of the employer, or an officer or agent of  
779 the union of the voter and that I have not solicited this voter  
780 at the polling place, secure ballot intake station ~~drop box~~  
781 location, or early voting site or within 150 feet of such  
782 locations in an effort to provide assistance.

783

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784 ... (Signature of assistor) ...

785  
786 Sworn and subscribed to before me this .... day of ....,  
787 ... (year) ....

788  
789 ... (Signature of Official Administering Oath) ...

790  
791 Section 17. Subsection (9) of section 101.151, Florida  
792 Statutes, is amended to read:

793 101.151 Specifications for ballots.—

794 (9) (a) The Department of State shall adopt rules  
795 prescribing a uniform primary and general election ballot for  
796 each certified voting system. The rules shall incorporate the  
797 requirements set forth in this section and shall prescribe  
798 additional matters and forms that include, without limitation:

799 1. The ballot title followed by clear and unambiguous  
800 ballot instructions and directions limited to a single location  
801 on the ballot, either:

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

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

805 2. Individual race layout; and

806 3. Overall ballot layout; ~~and~~

807 ~~4. Oval vote targets as the only permissible type of vote~~  
808 ~~target, except as provided in s. 101.56075.~~

809 (b) The rules must graphically depict a sample uniform  
810 primary and general election ballot form for each certified  
811 voting system.

812 Section 18. Paragraph (a) of subsection (4) and subsection

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813 (8) of section 101.5614, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:  
814 101.5614 Canvass of returns.—

815 (4) (a) If any vote-by-mail ballot is physically damaged so  
816 that it cannot properly be counted by the voting system's  
817 automatic tabulating equipment, a true duplicate copy shall be  
818 made of the damaged ballot in an open and accessible room in the  
819 presence of witnesses and substituted for the damaged ballot.  
820 Likewise, a duplicate ballot shall be made of a vote-by-mail  
821 ballot containing an overvoted race if there is a clear  
822 indication on the ballot that the voter has made a definite  
823 choice in the overvoted race or ballot measure. A duplicate  
824 shall include all valid votes as determined by the canvassing  
825 board based on rules adopted by the division pursuant to s.  
826 102.166(4). A duplicate may be made of a ballot containing an  
827 undervoted race or ballot measure if there is a clear indication  
828 on the ballot that the voter has made a definite choice in the  
829 undervoted race or ballot measure. A duplicate may not include a  
830 vote if the voter's intent in such race or on such measure is  
831 not clear. Upon request, a physically present candidate, a  
832 political party official, a political committee official, or an  
833 authorized designee thereof, must be allowed to observe the  
834 duplication of ballots upon signing an affidavit affirming his  
835 or her acknowledgment that disclosure of election results  
836 discerned from observing the ballot duplication process while  
837 the election is ongoing is a felony, as provided under  
838 subsection (8). The observer must be allowed to observe the  
839 duplication of ballots in such a way that the observer is able  
840 to see the markings on each ballot and the duplication taking  
841 place. All duplicate ballots must be clearly labeled

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842 "duplicate," bear a serial number which shall be recorded on the  
843 defective ballot, and be counted in lieu of the defective  
844 ballot. The duplication of ballots must happen in the presence  
845 of at least one canvassing board member. After a ballot has been  
846 duplicated, the defective ballot shall be placed in an envelope  
847 provided for that purpose, and the duplicate ballot shall be  
848 tallied with the other ballots for that precinct. If any  
849 observer makes a reasonable objection to a duplicate of a  
850 ballot, the ballot must be presented to the canvassing board for  
851 a determination of the validity of the duplicate. The canvassing  
852 board must document the serial number of the ballot in the  
853 canvassing board's minutes. The canvassing board must decide  
854 whether the duplication is valid. If the duplicate ballot is  
855 determined to be valid, the duplicate ballot must be counted. If  
856 the duplicate ballot is determined to be invalid, the duplicate  
857 ballot must be rejected and a proper duplicate ballot must be  
858 made and counted in lieu of the original.

859 (8) Any supervisor of elections, deputy supervisor of  
860 elections, canvassing board member, election board member, ~~or~~  
861 election employee, or other person authorized to observe,  
862 review, or inspect ballot materials or observe canvassing who  
863 releases any information about votes cast for or against any  
864 candidate or ballot measure or any ~~the~~ results of any election  
865 before ~~prior to~~ the closing of the polls in that county on  
866 election day commits a felony of the third degree, punishable as  
867 provided in s. 775.082, s. 775.083, or s. 775.084.

868 Section 19. Subsections (1) and (6) of section 101.6103,  
869 Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

870 101.6103 Mail ballot election procedure.—

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871 (1) Except as otherwise provided in subsection (7), the  
872 supervisor of elections shall mail all official ballots with a  
873 secrecy envelope, a return mailing envelope, and instructions  
874 sufficient to describe the voting process to each elector  
875 entitled to vote in the election within the timeframes specified  
876 in s. 101.62(4) not sooner than the 20th day before the election  
877 and not later than the 10th day before the date of the election.  
878 All such ballots shall be mailed by first-class mail. Ballots  
879 shall be addressed to each elector at the address appearing in  
880 the registration records and placed in an envelope which is  
881 prominently marked "Do Not Forward."

882 (6) The canvassing board may begin the canvassing of mail  
883 ballots as provided by s. 101.68(2)(a). The criminal penalty  
884 specified in that paragraph for the release of results before 7  
885 p.m. on election day is also applicable to canvassing conducted  
886 under this act at 7 a.m. on the sixth day before the election,  
887 including processing the ballots through the tabulating  
888 equipment. However, results may not be released until after 7  
889 p.m. on election day. Any canvassing board member or election  
890 employee who releases any result before 7 p.m. on election day  
891 commits a felony of the third degree, punishable as provided in  
892 s. 775.082, s. 775.083, or s. 775.084.

893 Section 20. Section 101.65, Florida Statutes, is amended to  
894 read:

895 101.65 Instructions to absent electors.—The supervisor  
896 shall enclose with each vote-by-mail ballot separate printed  
897 instructions in substantially the following form; however, where  
898 the instructions appear in capitalized text, the text of the  
899 printed instructions must be in bold font:

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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.

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

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

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

946           9. Mail, deliver, or have delivered the completed mailing  
947 envelope. Be sure there is sufficient postage if mailed. THE  
948 COMPLETED MAILING ENVELOPE CAN BE DELIVERED TO THE OFFICE OF THE  
949 SUPERVISOR OF ELECTIONS OF THE COUNTY IN WHICH YOUR PRECINCT IS  
950 LOCATED OR DROPPED OFF AT AN AUTHORIZED SECURE BALLOT INTAKE  
951 STATION ~~DROP BOX~~, AVAILABLE AT EACH EARLY VOTING LOCATION.

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

957           Section 21. Subsection (1) of section 101.655, Florida

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958 Statutes, is amended to read:

959 101.655 Supervised voting by absent electors in certain  
960 facilities.—

961 (1) The supervisor of elections of a county shall provide  
962 supervised voting for absent electors residing in any assisted  
963 living facility, as defined in s. 429.02, or nursing home  
964 facility, as defined in s. 400.021, within that county at the  
965 request of any administrator of such a facility. Such request  
966 for supervised voting in the facility shall be made by  
967 submitting a written request to the supervisor of elections no  
968 later than 28 ~~21~~ days prior to the election for which that  
969 request is submitted. The request shall specify the name and  
970 address of the facility and the name of the electors who wish to  
971 vote by mail in that election. If the request contains the names  
972 of fewer than five voters, the supervisor of elections is not  
973 required to provide supervised voting.

974 Section 22. Subsections (2) and (3) of section 101.69,  
975 Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

976 101.69 Voting in person; return of vote-by-mail ballot.—

977 (2) (a) The supervisor shall allow an elector who has  
978 received a vote-by-mail ballot to physically return a voted  
979 vote-by-mail ballot to the supervisor by placing the return mail  
980 envelope containing his or her marked ballot in a secure ballot  
981 intake station ~~drop box~~. Secure ballot intake stations ~~drop~~  
982 ~~boxes~~ shall be placed at the main office of the supervisor, at  
983 each permanent branch office of the supervisor which meets the  
984 criteria set forth in s. 101.657(1) (a) for branch offices used  
985 for early voting and is open for at least the minimum amount of  
986 hours prescribed by s. 98.015(4), and at each early voting site.

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987 Secure ballot intake stations ~~drop boxes~~ may also be placed at  
988 any other site that would otherwise qualify as an early voting  
989 site under s. 101.657(1). Secure ballot intake stations ~~Drop~~  
990 ~~boxes~~ must be geographically located so as to provide all voters  
991 in the county with an equal opportunity to cast a ballot,  
992 insofar as is practicable. Except for secure ballot intake  
993 stations ~~drop boxes~~ at an office of the supervisor, a secure  
994 ballot intake station ~~drop box~~ may only be used during the  
995 county's early voting hours of operation and must be monitored  
996 in person by an employee of the supervisor's office. A secure  
997 ballot intake station ~~drop box~~ at an office of the supervisor  
998 must be continuously monitored in person by an employee of the  
999 supervisor's office when the secure ballot intake station ~~drop~~  
1000 ~~box~~ is accessible for deposit of ballots.

1001 (b) A supervisor shall designate each secure ballot intake  
1002 station location ~~drop box site~~ at least 30 days before an  
1003 election. The supervisor shall provide the address of each  
1004 secure ballot intake station ~~drop box~~ location to the division  
1005 at least 30 days before an election. After a secure ballot  
1006 intake station ~~drop box~~ location has been designated, it may not  
1007 be moved or changed except as approved by the division to  
1008 correct a violation of this subsection.

1009 (c)1. On each day of early voting, all secure ballot intake  
1010 stations ~~drop boxes~~ must be emptied at the end of early voting  
1011 hours and all ballots retrieved from the secure ballot intake  
1012 stations ~~drop boxes~~ must be returned to the supervisor's office.

1013 2. For secure ballot intake stations ~~drop boxes~~ located at  
1014 an office of the supervisor, all ballots must be retrieved  
1015 before the secure ballot intake station ~~drop box~~ is no longer

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1016 monitored by an employee of the supervisor.

1017 3. Employees of the supervisor must comply with procedures  
1018 for the chain of custody of ballots as required by s.

1019 101.015(4).

1020 (3) If any secure ballot intake station ~~drop box~~ is left  
1021 accessible for ballot receipt other than as authorized by this  
1022 section, the supervisor is subject to a civil penalty of  
1023 \$25,000. The division is authorized to enforce this provision.

1024 Section 23. Paragraph (a) of subsection (4) of section  
1025 102.031, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

1026 102.031 Maintenance of good order at polls; authorities;  
1027 persons allowed in polling rooms and early voting areas;  
1028 unlawful solicitation of voters.—

1029 (4) (a) No person, political committee, or other group or  
1030 organization may solicit voters inside the polling place or  
1031 within 150 feet of a secure ballot intake station ~~drop box~~ or  
1032 the entrance to any polling place, a polling room where the  
1033 polling place is also a polling room, an early voting site, or  
1034 an office of the supervisor where vote-by-mail ballots are  
1035 requested and printed on demand for the convenience of electors  
1036 who appear in person to request them. Before the opening of a  
1037 secure ballot intake station ~~drop box~~ location, a polling place,  
1038 or an early voting site, the clerk or supervisor shall designate  
1039 the no-solicitation zone and mark the boundaries.

1040 Section 24. Section 102.091, Florida Statutes, is amended  
1041 to read:

1042 102.091 Duty of sheriff to watch for violations;  
1043 appointment of special officers.—

1044 (1) The sheriff shall exercise strict vigilance in the

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1045 detection of any violations of the election laws and in  
1046 apprehending the violators.

1047 (2) The Governor, in consultation with the executive  
1048 director of the Department of Law Enforcement, shall ~~may~~ appoint  
1049 special officers to investigate alleged violations of the  
1050 election laws, ~~when it is deemed necessary~~ to see that violators  
1051 of the election laws are apprehended and punished. A special  
1052 officer must be a sworn special agent employed by the Department  
1053 of Law Enforcement. At least one special officer must be  
1054 designated in each operational region of the Department of Law  
1055 Enforcement to serve as a dedicated investigator of alleged  
1056 violations of the election laws. Appointment as a special  
1057 officer does not preclude a sworn special agent from conducting  
1058 other investigations of alleged violations of law, provided that  
1059 such other investigations do not hinder or interfere with the  
1060 individual's ability to investigate alleged violations of the  
1061 election laws.

1062 Section 25. Section 102.101, Florida Statutes, is amended  
1063 to read:

1064 102.101 Sheriff and other officers not allowed in polling  
1065 place.—A ~~No~~ sheriff, a deputy sheriff, a police officer, a  
1066 special officer appointed pursuant to s. 102.091, or any other  
1067 officer of the law is not ~~shall be~~ allowed within a ~~the~~ polling  
1068 place without permission from the clerk or a majority of the  
1069 inspectors, except to cast his or her ballot. Upon the failure  
1070 of any such officer ~~of said officers~~ to comply with this section  
1071 provision, the clerk or the inspectors must ~~or any one of them~~  
1072 ~~shall~~ make an affidavit against the ~~such~~ officer for his or her  
1073 arrest.

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1074 Section 26. Subsection (2) of section 104.0616, Florida  
1075 Statutes, is amended to read:

1076 104.0616 Vote-by-mail ballots and voting; violations.—

1077 (2) Any person who distributes, orders, requests, collects,  
1078 delivers, or otherwise physically possesses more than two vote-  
1079 by-mail ballots per election in addition to his or her own  
1080 ballot or a ballot belonging to an immediate family member,  
1081 except as provided in ss. 101.6105-101.694, including supervised  
1082 voting at assisted living facilities and nursing home facilities  
1083 as authorized under s. 101.655, commits a felony ~~misdemeanor~~ of  
1084 the third ~~first~~ degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082, ~~or~~  
1085 s. 775.083, or s. 775.084.

1086 Section 27. Subsection (2) of section 104.185, Florida  
1087 Statutes, is amended to read:

1088 104.185 Petitions; knowingly signing more than once;  
1089 signing another person's name or a fictitious name.—

1090 (2) A person who signs another person's name or a  
1091 fictitious name to any petition to secure ballot position for a  
1092 candidate, a minor political party, or an issue commits a felony  
1093 ~~misdemeanor~~ of the third ~~first~~ degree, punishable as provided in  
1094 s. 775.082, ~~or~~ s. 775.083, or s. 775.084.

1095 Section 28. Section 104.186, Florida Statutes, is amended  
1096 to read:

1097 104.186 Initiative petitions; violations.—A person who  
1098 compensates a petition circulator as defined in s. 97.021 based  
1099 on the number of petition forms gathered commits a felony  
1100 ~~misdemeanor~~ of the third ~~first~~ degree, punishable as provided in  
1101 s. 775.082, ~~or~~ s. 775.083, or s. 775.084. This section does not  
1102 prohibit employment relationships that do not base payment on

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1103 the number of signatures collected.

1104 Section 29. Subsection (2) of section 124.011, Florida  
1105 Statutes, is amended to read:

1106 124.011 Alternate procedure for the election of county  
1107 commissioners to provide for single-member representation;  
1108 applicability.—

1109 (2) (a) All commissioners shall be elected for 4-year terms  
1110 which shall be staggered so that, alternately, one more or one  
1111 less than half of the commissioners elected from residence areas  
1112 and, if applicable, one of the commissioners elected at large  
1113 from the entire county are elected every 2 years, except that  
1114 any commissioner may be elected to an initial term of less than  
1115 4 years if necessary to achieve or maintain such system of  
1116 staggered terms. Notwithstanding any law to the contrary, at the  
1117 general election immediately following redistricting directed by  
1118 s. 1(e), Art. VIII of the State Constitution, each commissioner  
1119 elected only by electors who reside in the district must be  
1120 elected and terms thereafter shall be staggered as provided in  
1121 s. 100.041.

1122 (b) The term of a commissioner elected under paragraph (a)  
1123 commences on the second Tuesday after such election.

1124 (c) This subsection does not apply to:

1125 1. Miami-Dade County.

1126 2. Any noncharter county.

1127 3. Any county the charter of which limits the number of  
1128 terms a commissioner may serve.

1129 4. Any county in which voters have never approved a charter  
1130 amendment limiting the number of terms a commissioner may serve  
1131 regardless of subsequent judicial nullification.

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1132 Section 30. Paragraph (a) of subsection (3) of section  
 1133 921.0022, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:  
 1134 921.0022 Criminal Punishment Code; offense severity ranking  
 1135 chart.—

1136 (3) OFFENSE SEVERITY RANKING CHART

1137 (a) LEVEL 1

1138

Florida Statute	Felony Degree	Description
24.118 (3) (a)	3rd	Counterfeit or altered state lottery ticket.
<u>104.0616 (2)</u>	<u>3rd</u>	<u>Unlawfully distributing, ordering, requesting, collecting, delivering, or possessing vote-by-mail ballots.</u>
212.054 (2) (b)	3rd	Discretionary sales surtax; limitations, administration, and collection.
212.15 (2) (b)	3rd	Failure to remit sales taxes, amount \$1,000 or more but less than \$20,000.
316.1935 (1)	3rd	Fleeing or attempting to elude law enforcement

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			officer.
1144	319.30 (5)	3rd	Sell, exchange, give away certificate of title or identification number plate.
1145	319.35 (1) (a)	3rd	Tamper, adjust, change, etc., an odometer.
1146	320.26 (1) (a)	3rd	Counterfeit, manufacture, or sell registration license plates or validation stickers.
1147	322.212 (1) (a) - (c)	3rd	Possession of forged, stolen, counterfeit, or unlawfully issued driver license; possession of simulated identification.
1148	322.212 (4)	3rd	Supply or aid in supplying unauthorized driver license or identification card.
1149	322.212 (5) (a)	3rd	False application for driver license or identification card.
1150	414.39 (3) (a)	3rd	Fraudulent misappropriation

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			of public assistance funds by employee/official, value more than \$200.
1151	443.071 (1)	3rd	False statement or representation to obtain or increase reemployment assistance benefits.
1152	509.151 (1)	3rd	Defraud an innkeeper, food or lodging value \$1,000 or more.
1153	517.302 (1)	3rd	Violation of the Florida Securities and Investor Protection Act.
1154	713.69	3rd	Tenant removes property upon which lien has accrued, value \$1,000 or more.
1155	812.014 (3) (c)	3rd	Petit theft (3rd conviction); theft of any property not specified in subsection (2).
1156	815.04 (5) (a)	3rd	Offense against intellectual property (i.e., computer programs, data).

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1157	817.52 (2)	3rd	Hiring with intent to defraud, motor vehicle services.
1158	817.569 (2)	3rd	Use of public record or public records information or providing false information to facilitate commission of a felony.
1159	826.01	3rd	Bigamy.
1160	828.122 (3)	3rd	Fighting or baiting animals.
1161	831.04 (1)	3rd	Any erasure, alteration, etc., of any replacement deed, map, plat, or other document listed in s. 92.28.
1162	831.31 (1) (a)	3rd	Sell, deliver, or possess counterfeit controlled substances, all but s. 893.03(5) drugs.
1163	832.041 (1)	3rd	Stopping payment with intent to defraud \$150 or more.
1164	832.05 (2) (b) &	3rd	Knowing, making, issuing

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	(4) (c)		worthless checks \$150 or more or obtaining property in return for worthless check \$150 or more.
1165			
	838.15 (2)	3rd	Commercial bribe receiving.
1166			
	838.16	3rd	Commercial bribery.
1167			
	843.18	3rd	Fleeing by boat to elude a law enforcement officer.
1168			
	847.011 (1) (a)	3rd	Sell, distribute, etc., obscene, lewd, etc., material (2nd conviction).
1169			
	849.09 (1) (a) - (d)	3rd	Lottery; set up, promote, etc., or assist therein, conduct or advertise drawing for prizes, or dispose of property or money by means of lottery.
1170			
	849.23	3rd	Gambling-related machines; "common offender" as to property rights.
1171			
	849.25 (2)	3rd	Engaging in bookmaking.
1172			

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1173 860.08 3rd Interfere with a railroad  
signal.

1174 860.13(1) (a) 3rd Operate aircraft while under  
the influence.

1175 893.13(2) (a)2. 3rd Purchase of cannabis.

1176 893.13(6) (a) 3rd Possession of cannabis (more  
than 20 grams).

1177 934.03(1) (a) 3rd Intercepts, or procures any  
other person to intercept,  
any wire or oral  
communication.

1178 Section 31. (1) It is the intent of the Legislature to  
1179 balance the security of vote-by-mail balloting with voter  
1180 privacy and election transparency. The Legislature finds that  
1181 further modifications to procedures governing vote-by-mail  
1182 balloting would help to further ensure election integrity while  
1183 also protecting voters from identity theft and preserving the  
1184 public's right to participate in election processes. To achieve  
1185 this purpose, the Legislature directs the Department of State to  
1186 provide a plan to prescribe the use of a Florida driver license  
1187 number, Florida identification card number, social security  
1188 number, or any part thereof to confirm the identity of each  
1189 elector returning a vote-by-mail ballot.

1190 (2) The Department of State shall review issues involving

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1191 the feasibility, development, and implementation of such a plan,  
1192 including issues related to:

1193 (a) In coordination with other agencies such as the  
1194 Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles, obtaining a  
1195 Florida driver license number or Florida identification card  
1196 number and the last four digits of a social security number for  
1197 each registered voter who does not have such numbers on file in  
1198 the Florida Voter Registration System.

1199 (b) Populating such numbers in the Florida Voter  
1200 Registration System.

1201 (c) Protecting identifying numbers submitted with a vote-  
1202 by-mail ballot, including, but not limited to, prescribing the  
1203 form of the return mailing envelope.

1204 (d) Any necessary modifications to canvassing procedures  
1205 for vote-by-mail ballots.

1206 (e) Costs associated with development and implementation of  
1207 the plan.

1208 (f) A proposal for a program to educate electors on changes  
1209 to the vote-by-mail process.

1210 (g) A proposal for including a declaration of an elector's  
1211 current address of legal residence with each written request for  
1212 a vote-by-mail ballot.

1213 (3) In the course of reviewing the required issues, the  
1214 Department of State must, at a minimum:

1215 (a) Review relevant processes of other states.

1216 (b) Review relevant federal law.

1217 (c) Seek input from supervisors of elections, which must  
1218 include representation from supervisors of counties with large,  
1219 medium, and small populations.

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1220           (4) By February 1, 2023, the Department of State shall  
1221 submit to the President of the Senate and the Speaker of the  
1222 House of Representatives a report on the plan and draft  
1223 legislation for any statutory changes needed to implement the  
1224 plan, including any necessary public records exemptions.

1225           Section 32. Except as otherwise expressly provided in this  
1226 act, this act shall take effect upon becoming a law.