

Amendment No.

CHAMBER ACTION

Senate

House

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1 Representative Gantt offered the following:

2
3 **Amendment (with title amendment)**

4 Remove lines 276-1991 and insert:

5 **Section 5. Effective upon becoming a law, paragraphs (b)**
6 **and (c) of subsection (1) of section 99.021, Florida Statutes,**
7 **are amended, and paragraphs (f), (g), and (h) are added to that**
8 **subsection, to read:**

9 99.021 Form of candidate oath.-

10 (1)

11 (b) In addition, any person seeking to qualify for
12 nomination as a candidate of any political party shall, at the

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13 time of subscribing to the oath or affirmation, state in
14 writing:

15 1. The party of which the person is a member.

16 2. That the person has been a registered member of the
17 political party for which he or she is seeking nomination as a
18 candidate for at least 365 consecutive days preceding ~~before~~ the
19 beginning of qualifying before ~~preceding~~ the general election
20 for which the person seeks to qualify.

21 3. That the person has paid the assessment levied against
22 him or her, if any, as a candidate for said office by the
23 executive committee of the party of which he or she is a member.

24 (c) In addition, any person seeking to qualify for office
25 as a candidate with no party affiliation shall, at the time of
26 subscribing to the oath or affirmation, state in writing that he
27 or she is registered without any party affiliation and that he
28 or she has not been a registered member of any political party
29 for at least 365 consecutive days preceding ~~before~~ the beginning
30 of qualifying before ~~preceding~~ the general election for which
31 the person seeks to qualify.

32 (f) A qualified candidate or a political party with a
33 qualified candidate in the same race may challenge the accuracy
34 of the content of the statement in a candidate's oath or
35 affirmation appearing in subparagraph (a)1. that the person
36 seeking to qualify as a candidate for nomination or election is
37 qualified under the State Constitution to hold the office to

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38 which he or she desires to be nominated or elected by filing an
39 action for declaratory and injunctive relief in the circuit
40 court for the county in which the qualifying officer is
41 headquartered. A person may not be qualified as a candidate for
42 nomination or election and his or her name may not appear on the
43 ballot if in an order that has become final, the court
44 determines that the person seeking to qualify as a candidate for
45 nomination or election is not qualified under the State
46 Constitution to hold the office to which he or she desires to be
47 nominated or elected.

48 (g) The statements in subparagraph (b)2. and paragraph (c)
49 constitute substantive requirements for the person completing
50 the statement, and compliance with those requirements is
51 mandatory. The sole method to enforce compliance with such
52 requirements is contained in this paragraph. Compliance with
53 subparagraph (b)2. and paragraph (c) may be challenged by a
54 qualified candidate or a political party with a qualified
55 candidate in the same race by filing an action for declaratory
56 and injunctive relief in the circuit court for the county in
57 which the qualifying officer is headquartered. A person may not
58 be qualified as a candidate for nomination or election and his
59 or her name may not appear on the ballot if in an order that has
60 become final, the court determines that:

61 1. The person seeking to qualify for nomination as a
62 candidate of any political party has not been a registered

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63 member of that party for the 365-day period preceding the
64 beginning of qualifying; or

65 2. The person seeking to qualify for office as a candidate
66 with no party affiliation has not been registered without party
67 affiliation for, or has been a registered member of any
68 political party during, the 365-day period preceding the
69 beginning of qualifying.

70 (h) Any candidate or political party bringing an action
71 for declaratory and injunctive relief under paragraph (f) or
72 paragraph (g) is entitled to an expedited final hearing and any
73 appeal of a final hearing shall receive expedited consideration
74 by the appellate court. Upon a final order of the circuit court
75 containing a determination in paragraph (f) or paragraph (g),
76 the supervisor of elections in each county affected by such
77 candidacy shall remove the name of the candidate from the
78 ballot, or if the ballots have already been printed, post a
79 notice to be included with each vote-by-mail ballot, and at each
80 early voting location and polling precinct that a vote for such
81 candidate will not be counted.

82 **Section 6. Subsection (1) of section 101.043, Florida**
83 **Statutes, is amended to read:**

84 101.043 Identification required at polls.—

85 (1) (a) The precinct register, as prescribed in s. 98.461,
86 must ~~shall~~ be used at the polls for the purpose of identifying
87 the elector at the polls before allowing him or her to vote. The

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88 clerk or inspector shall require each elector, upon entering the
89 polling place, to present one of the following current and valid
90 picture identifications:

91 1. Florida driver license.

92 2. Florida identification card issued by the Department of
93 Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles.

94 3. United States passport or passport card.

95 ~~4. Debit or credit card.~~

96 ~~4.5. United States uniformed services or Merchant Marine~~
97 ~~Military~~ identification.

98 ~~6. Student identification.~~

99 ~~7. Retirement center identification.~~

100 ~~8. Neighborhood association identification.~~

101 ~~9. Public assistance identification.~~

102 ~~5.10.~~ Veteran health identification card issued by the
103 United States Department of Veterans Affairs.

104 ~~6.11.~~ A license to carry a concealed weapon or firearm
105 issued pursuant to s. 790.06.

106 ~~7.12.~~ Any other Employee identification card issued by any
107 branch, department, agency, or entity of the Federal Government,
108 the state, a county, or a municipality, excluding identification
109 cards issued by an educational institution.

110 (b) If the picture identification does not contain the
111 signature of the elector, an additional identification that
112 provides the elector's signature is ~~shall be~~ required. The

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113 address appearing on the identification presented by the elector
114 may not be used as the basis to challenge an elector's legal
115 residence. The elector must ~~shall~~ sign his or her name in the
116 space provided on the precinct register or on an electronic
117 device provided for recording the elector's signature. The clerk
118 or inspector shall compare the signature with that on the
119 identification provided by the elector and enter his or her
120 initials in the space provided on the precinct register or on an
121 electronic device provided for that purpose and allow the
122 elector to vote if the clerk or inspector is satisfied as to the
123 identity of the elector.

124 **Section 7. Paragraph (d) of subsection (6) of section**
125 **101.048, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:**

126 101.048 Provisional ballots.—

127 (6)

128 (d) Instructions must accompany the cure affidavit in
129 substantially the following form:

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

133 1. In order to cure the missing signature or the signature
134 discrepancy on your Provisional Ballot Voter's Certificate and
135 Affirmation, your affidavit should be completed and returned as
136 soon as possible so that it can reach the supervisor of

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137 elections of the county in which your precinct is located no
138 later than 5 p.m. on the 2nd day after the election.

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

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

143 a. Tier 1 identification.—Current and valid identification
144 that includes your name and photograph: Florida driver license;
145 Florida identification card issued by the Department of Highway
146 Safety and Motor Vehicles; United States passport or passport
147 card; United States uniformed services or Merchant Marine; ~~debit~~
148 ~~or credit card~~; ~~military identification~~; ~~student identification~~;
149 ~~retirement center identification~~; ~~neighborhood association~~
150 ~~identification~~; ~~public assistance~~ identification; veteran health
151 identification card issued by the United States Department of
152 Veterans Affairs; Florida license to carry a concealed weapon or
153 firearm; or any other ~~employee~~ identification card issued by any
154 branch, department, agency, or entity of the Federal Government,
155 the state, a county, or a municipality; or

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

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

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

175 6. Submitting a provisional ballot affidavit does not
176 establish your eligibility to vote in this election or guarantee
177 that your ballot will be counted. The county canvassing board
178 determines your eligibility to vote through information provided
179 on the Provisional Ballot Voter's Certificate and Affirmation,
180 written evidence provided by you, including information in your
181 cure affidavit along with any supporting identification, and any
182 other evidence presented by the supervisor of elections or a
183 challenger. You may still be required to present additional
184 written evidence to support your eligibility to vote.

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185 **Section 8. Subsection (1) of section 101.151, Florida**
186 **Statutes, is amended to read:**

187 101.151 Specifications for ballots.—

188 (1) (a) ~~Marksense~~ Ballots must ~~shall~~ be printed on paper of
189 such thickness that the printing cannot be distinguished from
190 the back and must ~~shall~~ meet the specifications of the voting
191 system that will be used to tabulate the ballots.

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

197 **Section 9. Subsection (4) of section 101.5606, Florida**
198 **Statutes, is amended to read:**

199 101.5606 Requirements for approval of systems.—No
200 electronic or electromechanical voting system shall be approved
201 by the Department of State unless it is so constructed that:

202 (4) ~~For systems using marksense ballots,~~ It accepts a
203 rejected ballot pursuant to subsection (3) if a voter chooses to
204 cast the ballot, but records no vote for any office that has
205 been overvoted or undervoted.

206 **Section 10. Section 101.56075, Florida Statutes, is**
207 **amended to read:**

208 101.56075 Voting methods.—For the purpose of designating
209 ballot selections, all voting must be by official ~~marksense~~

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210 ballot, using a pen compatible with or recommended for use with
211 the voting system. Persons with disabilities may vote using
212 ~~marking device or~~ a voter interface device that produces a
213 voter-verifiable paper output and meets the voter accessibility
214 requirements for individuals with disabilities under s. 301 of
215 the federal Help America Vote Act of 2002 and s. 101.56062.

216 **Section 11. Subsections (1), (2), and (3) of section**
217 **101.5608, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:**

218 101.5608 Voting at the polls ~~by electronic or~~
219 ~~electromechanical method~~; procedures.-

220 (1) Each voter ~~elector~~ desiring to vote shall be
221 identified to the clerk or inspector of the election as a duly
222 qualified voter ~~elector~~ of such election and shall sign his or
223 her name on the precinct register or other form or device
224 provided by the supervisor. The inspector shall compare the
225 signature with the signature on the identification provided by
226 the voter ~~elector~~. If the inspector is reasonably sure that the
227 person is entitled to vote, the inspector shall provide the
228 person with a ballot.

229 (2) When an electronic or electromechanical voting system
230 utilizes a ballot ~~card or marksense ballot~~, the following
231 procedures must ~~shall~~ be followed to vote:

232 (a) After receiving a ballot from an inspector, the voter
233 ~~elector~~ shall, without leaving the polling place, retire to a
234 booth or compartment and mark the ballot. After marking his or

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235 her ballot, the voter ~~elector~~ shall place the ballot in a
236 secrecy envelope so that the ballot will be deposited in the
237 tabulator without exposing the voter's choices.

238 (b) Any voter who spoils his or her ballot or makes an
239 error may return the ballot to the election official and secure
240 another ballot, except that in no case shall a voter be
241 furnished more than three ballots. If the vote tabulation device
242 has rejected a ballot, the ballot must ~~shall~~ be considered
243 spoiled and a new ballot must ~~shall~~ be provided to the voter
244 unless the voter chooses to cast the rejected ballot. The
245 election official, without examining the original ballot, shall
246 state the possible reasons for the rejection and ~~shall~~ provide
247 instruction to the voter pursuant to s. 101.5611. A spoiled
248 ballot must ~~shall~~ be preserved, without examination, in an
249 envelope provided for that purpose. The stub must ~~shall~~ be
250 removed from the ballot and placed in an envelope.

251 (c) The supervisor of elections shall prepare for each
252 polling place at least one ballot box to contain the ballots of
253 a particular precinct, and each ballot box must ~~shall~~ be plainly
254 marked with the name of the precinct for which it is intended.

255 (3) The Department of State shall promulgate rules
256 regarding voting procedures to be used when an electronic or
257 electromechanical voting system is of a type which does not
258 utilize a ballot ~~card or marksense ballot~~.

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259 **Section 12. Subsection (5) of section 101.5612, Florida**
260 **Statutes, is amended to read:**

261 101.5612 Testing of tabulating equipment.—

262 (5) Any tests involving ~~marksense~~ ballots pursuant to this
263 section shall employ test ballots created by the supervisor of
264 elections using actual ballots that have been printed for the
265 election. If ballot-on-demand ballots will be used in the
266 election, the supervisor shall also create test ballots using
267 the ballot-on-demand technology that will be used to produce
268 ballots in the election, using the same paper stock as will be
269 used for ballots in the election.

270 **Section 13. Section 101.591, Florida Statutes, is amended**
271 **to read:**

272 101.591 Voting system automated independent vote
273 validation process; system approval; procedures audit.—

274 (1) Before ~~Immediately following~~ the certification of each
275 election, the county canvassing board or the local board
276 responsible for certifying the election shall conduct ~~a manual~~
277 ~~audit or~~ an automated, independent vote validation ~~audit~~ of the
278 voting systems used in all ~~randomly selected~~ precincts.

279 ~~(2) (a) A manual audit shall consist of a public manual~~
280 ~~tally of the votes cast in one randomly selected race that~~
281 ~~appears on the ballot. The tally sheet shall include election-~~
282 ~~day, vote-by-mail, early voting, provisional, and overseas~~
283 ~~ballots, in at least 1 percent but no more than 2 percent of the~~

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284 ~~precincts chosen at random by the county canvassing board or the~~
285 ~~local board responsible for certifying the election. If 1~~
286 ~~percent of the precincts is less than one entire precinct, the~~
287 ~~audit shall be conducted using at least one precinct chosen at~~
288 ~~random by the county canvassing board or the local board~~
289 ~~responsible for certifying the election. Such precincts shall be~~
290 ~~selected at a publicly noticed canvassing board meeting.~~

291 ~~(2) (a) (b)~~ An automated independent vote validation process
292 ~~must audit shall~~ consist of an a public automated verification
293 of the tally of the votes cast across every race that appears on
294 the ballot. The tally sheet must shall include all valid
295 election day, vote-by-mail, early voting, provisional, and
296 overseas ballots received by the start of the vote validation
297 process in all at least 20 percent of the precincts chosen at
298 random by the county canvassing board or the local board
299 ~~responsible for certifying the election. Such precincts shall be~~
300 ~~selected at a publicly noticed canvassing board meeting.~~

301 ~~(b) (c)~~ The division shall adopt rules for approval of an
302 automated independent vote validation process ~~audit system~~ which
303 provide that the process ~~system~~, at a minimum, must be:

- 304 1. Completely independent of the primary voting system.
- 305 2. Fast enough to produce final vote validation ~~audit~~
306 results within the timeframe prescribed in subsection (4).
- 307 3. Capable of demonstrating that the ballots of record
308 have been accurately adjudicated by the automated independent

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309 vote validation process in agreement with the vote tabulation
310 system and is capable of allowing the canvassing board to
311 manually adjudicate ballots needing review. A canvassing board
312 is not precluded from reviewing a digital image of a ballot
313 corresponding to a physical paper ballot in conducting its
314 review ~~audit system.~~

315 (3) The canvassing board shall publish ~~post~~ a notice of
316 the automated independent vote validation process ~~audit~~,
317 including the date, time, and place such process will occur, on
318 the county website as provided in s. 50.0311, on the supervisor
319 of election's website, or once in one or more newspapers of
320 general circulation in the county in which the process will
321 occur. Such process must be open to the public, ~~in four~~
322 ~~conspicuous places in the county and on the home page of the~~
323 ~~county supervisor of elections website.~~

324 (4) The automated independent vote validation process
325 ~~audit~~ must be completed and the results made public before the
326 certification of the election by each county canvassing board
327 and in accordance with s. 102.141 ~~no later than 11:59 p.m. on~~
328 ~~the 7th day following certification of the election by the~~
329 ~~county canvassing board or the local board responsible for~~
330 ~~certifying the election.~~

331 (5) By December 15 of each general election year, the
332 county canvassing board or the board responsible for certifying
333 the election shall provide a report with the results of the

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334 automated independent vote validation process ~~audit~~ to the
335 Department of State in a standard format as prescribed by the
336 department under s. 101.5911. ~~Each county's~~ The report must be
337 consolidated into one report and included with the overvote and
338 undervote report required under s. 101.595(1). The report must,
339 at a minimum, shall contain all of, ~~but is not limited to,~~ the
340 following items:

341 (a) The overall agreement accuracy of the automated
342 independent vote validation process ~~audit~~.

343 (b) A description of any problems or differences
344 ~~discrepancies~~ encountered during the automated independent vote
345 validation process.

346 (c) The likely cause of such problems or differences
347 ~~discrepancies~~.

348 (d) Any recommended corrective action with respect to
349 avoiding or mitigating such circumstances in future elections.

350 (6) The department shall consolidate the county automated
351 independent vote validation results and include the results as
352 part of the post-general election report submitted to the
353 Governor, the President of the Senate, and the Speaker of the
354 House of Representatives by February 15 of each year following a
355 general election as required under ss. 101.595(3) and
356 102.141(11) ~~If a manual recount is undertaken pursuant to s.~~
357 ~~102.166, the canvassing board is not required to perform the~~
358 ~~audit provided for in this section.~~

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359 **Section 14. Section 101.5911, Florida Statutes, is amended**
360 **to read:**

361 101.5911 Rulemaking authority for automated independent
362 vote validation process approval; voting system audit
363 procedures. ~~Effective upon this act becoming a law, The~~
364 ~~department of State shall adopt rules to implement the~~
365 ~~provisions of s. 101.591, as amended by s. 8, chapter 2007-30,~~
366 ~~Laws of Florida, which provides for the testing and approval of~~
367 an automated independent vote validation process, and prescribes
368 ~~prescribe~~ detailed automated independent vote validation audit
369 procedures for each voting system, which must ~~shall~~ be uniform
370 to the extent practicable, along with the standard form for
371 automated independent vote validation process audit reports.

372 **Section 15. Subsections (1) and (3) of section 101.595,**
373 **Florida Statutes, are amended to read:**

374 101.595 Analysis of overvotes and undervotes ~~reports of~~
375 ~~voting problems.~~

376 (1) No later than December 15 of each general election
377 year, the supervisor of elections in each county shall report to
378 the Department of State the total number of overvotes and
379 undervotes in the "President and Vice President" or "Governor
380 and Lieutenant Governor" race that appears first on the ballot
381 or, if neither appears, the first race appearing on the ballot
382 pursuant to s. 101.151(2), along with the likely reasons for
383 such overvotes and undervotes and other information as may be

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384 useful in evaluating the performance of the voting system and
385 identifying problems with ballot design and instructions which
386 may have contributed to voter confusion. This report must be
387 consolidated into one report with the automated independent vote
388 validation ~~audit~~ report required under s. 101.591(6) ~~s.~~
389 ~~101.591(5)~~.

390 (3) The Department of State shall submit the overvote and
391 undervote analysis required under subsection (2) as part of the
392 post-general election report to the Governor, the President of
393 the Senate, and the Speaker of the House of Representatives by
394 February 15 of each year following a general election as
395 required under ss. 101.591(6) and 102.141(11).

396 **Section 16. Paragraph (d) of subsection (4) of section**
397 **101.68, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:**

398 101.68 Canvassing of vote-by-mail ballot.—

399 (4)

400 (d) Instructions must accompany the cure affidavit in
401 substantially the following form:

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

405 1. In order to ensure that your vote-by-mail ballot will
406 be counted, your affidavit should be completed and returned as
407 soon as possible so that it can reach the supervisor of

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408 elections of the county in which your precinct is located no
409 later than 5 p.m. on the 2nd day after the election.

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

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

414 a. Tier 1 identification.—Current and valid identification
415 that includes your name and photograph: Florida driver license;
416 Florida identification card issued by the Department of Highway
417 Safety and Motor Vehicles; United States passport or passport
418 card; United States uniformed services or Merchant Marine; debit
419 or credit card; military identification; student identification;
420 retirement center identification; neighborhood association
421 identification; public assistance identification; veteran health
422 identification card issued by the United States Department of
423 Veterans Affairs; a Florida license to carry a concealed weapon
424 or firearm; or any ~~an employee~~ identification card issued by any
425 branch, department, agency, or entity of the Federal Government,
426 the state, a county, or a municipality; or

427 b. Tier 2 identification.—ONLY IF YOU DO NOT HAVE A TIER 1
428 FORM OF IDENTIFICATION, identification that shows your name and
429 current residence address: current utility bill, bank statement,
430 government check, paycheck, or government document (excluding
431 voter information card).

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

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

446 **Section 17. Subsection (2) of section 101.6923, Florida**
447 **Statutes, is amended to read:**

448 101.6923 Special vote-by-mail ballot instructions for
449 certain first-time voters.-

450 (2) A voter covered by this section must be provided with
451 printed instructions with his or her vote-by-mail ballot in
452 substantially the following form:

453 READ THESE INSTRUCTIONS CAREFULLY BEFORE MARKING YOUR BALLOT.
454 FAILURE TO FOLLOW THESE INSTRUCTIONS MAY CAUSE YOUR BALLOT NOT
455 TO COUNT.

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456 1. In order to ensure that your vote-by-mail ballot will
457 be counted, it should be completed and returned as soon as
458 possible so that it can reach the supervisor of elections of the
459 county in which your precinct is located no later than 7 p.m. on
460 the date of the election. However, if you are an overseas voter
461 casting a ballot in a presidential preference primary or general
462 election, your vote-by-mail ballot must be postmarked or dated
463 no later than the date of the election and received by the
464 supervisor of elections of the county in which you are
465 registered to vote no later than 10 days after the date of the
466 election. Note that the later you return your ballot, the less
467 time you will have to cure signature deficiencies, which is
468 authorized until 5 p.m. local time on the 2nd day after the
469 election.

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

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

477 4. Place your marked ballot in the enclosed secrecy
478 envelope and seal the envelope.

479 5. Insert the secrecy envelope into the enclosed envelope
480 bearing the Voter's Certificate. Seal the envelope and

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481 completely fill out the Voter's Certificate on the back of the
482 envelope.

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

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

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

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

500 a. Identification which must include your name and
501 photograph: United States passport or passport card; United
502 States uniformed services or Merchant Marine; ~~debit or credit~~
503 ~~card; military identification; student identification;~~
504 ~~retirement center identification; neighborhood association~~
505 ~~identification; public assistance identification; veteran health~~

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506 identification card issued by the United States Department of
507 Veterans Affairs; a Florida license to carry a concealed weapon
508 or firearm; or any ~~an employee~~ identification card issued by any
509 branch, department, agency, or entity of the Federal Government,
510 the state, a county, or a municipality; or

511 b. Identification which shows your name and current
512 residence address: current utility bill, bank statement,
513 government check, paycheck, or government document (excluding
514 voter information card).

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

517 a. You are 65 years of age or older.

518 b. You have a temporary or permanent physical disability.

519 c. You are a member of a uniformed service on active duty
520 who, by reason of such active duty, will be absent from the
521 county on election day.

522 d. You are a member of the Merchant Marine who, by reason
523 of service in the Merchant Marine, will be absent from the
524 county on election day.

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

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

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530 8. Place the envelope bearing the Voter's Certificate into
531 the mailing envelope addressed to the supervisor. Insert a copy
532 of your identification in the mailing envelope. DO NOT PUT YOUR
533 IDENTIFICATION INSIDE THE SECRECY ENVELOPE WITH THE BALLOT OR
534 INSIDE THE ENVELOPE WHICH BEARS THE VOTER'S CERTIFICATE OR YOUR
535 BALLOT WILL NOT COUNT.

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

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

543 **Section 18. Subsection (2) of section 102.111, Florida**
544 **Statutes, is amended to read:**

545 102.111 Elections Canvassing Commission.—

546 (2) The Elections Canvassing Commission shall meet at 9 &
547 a.m. on the 9th day after a primary election and at 9 & a.m. on
548 the 14th day after a general election to certify the returns of
549 the election for each federal, state, and multicounty office and
550 for each constitutional amendment. On days the Legislature
551 convenes for organizational session pursuant to s. 3(a), Art.
552 III of the State Constitution, such meeting will begin at 8 a.m.
553 If a member of a county canvassing board that was constituted
554 pursuant to s. 102.141 determines, within 5 days after the

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555 certification by the Elections Canvassing Commission, that a
556 typographical error occurred in the official returns of the
557 county, the correction of which could result in a change in the
558 outcome of an election, the county canvassing board must certify
559 corrected returns to the Department of State within 24 hours,
560 and the Elections Canvassing Commission must correct and
561 recertify the election returns as soon as practicable.

562 **Section 19. Subsections (3) through (11) of section**
563 **102.141, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:**

564 102.141 County canvassing board; duties.—

565 (3) The canvass, except the canvass of absent electors'
566 returns and the canvass of provisional ballots, must ~~shall~~ be
567 made from the returns and certificates of the inspectors as
568 signed and filed by them with the supervisor, and the county
569 canvassing board may ~~shall~~ not change the number of votes cast
570 for a candidate, nominee, constitutional amendment, or other
571 measure submitted to the electorate of the county, respectively,
572 in any polling place, as shown by the returns. All returns must
573 ~~shall~~ be made to the board on or before 2 a.m. of the day
574 following any primary, general, or other election. If the
575 returns from any precinct are missing, if there are any
576 omissions on the returns from any precinct, or if there is an
577 obvious error on any such returns, the canvassing board must
578 ~~shall~~ order a retabulation of the returns from such precinct.
579 Before canvassing such returns, the canvassing board shall

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580 examine the tabulation of the ballots cast in such precinct and
581 determine whether the returns correctly reflect the votes cast.
582 If there is a discrepancy between the returns and the tabulation
583 of the ballots cast, the tabulation of the ballots cast must
584 ~~shall~~ be presumed correct and such votes shall be canvassed
585 accordingly.

586 (4) (a) The supervisor of elections shall upload into the
587 county's election management system by 7 p.m. local time on the
588 day before the election the results of all early voting and
589 vote-by-mail ballots that have been canvassed and tabulated by
590 the end of the early voting period. Pursuant to ss. 101.5614(8),
591 101.657, and 101.68(2), the tabulation of votes cast or the
592 results of such uploads may not be made public before the close
593 of the polls on election day.

594 (b) The supervisor of elections, on behalf of the
595 canvassing board, shall report all early voting and all
596 tabulated vote-by-mail results to the Department of State within
597 30 minutes after the polls close. Thereafter, the canvassing
598 board shall report, with the exception of provisional ballot
599 results, updated precinct election results, which must be
600 uploaded to the department at least every 45 minutes until all
601 results are completely reported. The supervisor of elections
602 shall notify the department immediately of any circumstances
603 that do not permit periodic updates as required. Results must
604 ~~shall~~ be submitted in a format prescribed by the department.

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605 (5) (a) The canvassing board shall submit on forms or in
606 formats provided by the division unofficial returns to the
607 Department of State for each federal, statewide, state, or
608 multicounty office or ballot measure no later than noon on the
609 third day after any primary election and no later than noon on
610 the fourth day after any general or other election. Such returns
611 must ~~shall~~ include the canvass of all ballots, including write-
612 in votes, as required by subsection (2).

613 (b) After unofficial results are reported, each county
614 must conduct an automated independent vote validation process,
615 in accordance with s. 101.591, to validate that the votes
616 processed through the vote tabulation system for a candidate for
617 any office, candidate for retention to a judicial office, or a
618 measure appearing on the ballot do not:

619 1. Have a discrepancy of more than one-half of a percent
620 when compared to the results of the automated independent vote
621 validation process; or

622 2. Result in a change in the outcome of the election.

623
624 The automated independent vote validation process must be
625 completed no later than noon on the 6th day after any primary
626 election and no later than noon on the 7th day after any general
627 or other election.

628 (c) ~~(6)~~ If the county canvassing board determines, after
629 the county conducts the automated independent vote validation

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630 process in accordance with s. 101.591, and the comparison of the
631 results of the vote tabulation and the automated independent
632 vote validation process indicates that the unofficial returns
633 may contain a counting error in which the vote tabulation system
634 or the automated independent vote validation process failed to
635 count votes that were properly marked in accordance with the
636 instructions on the ballot, the county canvassing board shall:

637 1.(a) Correct the error and retabulate the affected
638 ballots with the vote tabulation system or the automated
639 independent vote validation process; or

640 2.(b) Request that the Department of State verify the
641 tabulation software of the affected system or process. When the
642 Department of State verifies such software, the department shall
643 compare the software used to tabulate the votes with the
644 software filed with the department pursuant to s. 101.5607 and
645 check the election parameters.

646 (6)(a)-(7) If the comparison of the results of the vote
647 tabulation system and the automated independent vote validation
648 process reflects a difference as described in paragraph (5)(b),
649 the proper county election official under the oversight of the
650 county canvassing board must conduct a system validation review
651 using the images in the automated independent vote validation
652 process of the ballots in disagreement, which must include, but
653 is not limited to, a review of any clear overvotes or undervotes
654 that appear in the automated independent vote validation process

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655 to adjudicate the voter's intent of such ballots before
656 certification of the county's official results. If the
657 unofficial returns reflect that a candidate for any office was
658 defeated or eliminated by one-half of a percent or less of the
659 votes cast for such office, that a candidate for retention to a
660 judicial office was retained or not retained by one-half of a
661 percent or less of the votes cast on the question of retention,
662 or that a measure appearing on the ballot was approved or
663 rejected by one-half of a percent or less of the votes cast on
664 such measure, a system validation review must ~~recount shall~~ be
665 ordered of the votes cast with respect to such office or
666 measure. The Secretary of State is responsible for ordering such
667 system validation reviews ~~recounts~~ in all federal, state, and
668 multicounty races. The county canvassing board or the local
669 board responsible for certifying the election is responsible for
670 ordering a system validation review under this subsection
671 ~~recounts~~ in all other races. A system validation review ~~recount~~
672 need not be ordered with respect to the returns for any office,
673 however, if the candidate or candidates defeated or eliminated
674 from contention for such office by one-half of a percent or less
675 of the votes cast for such office request in writing that a
676 system validation review ~~recount~~ not be made.

677 ~~(a) Each canvassing board responsible for conducting a~~
678 ~~recount shall put each marksense ballot through automatic~~
679 ~~tabulating equipment and determine whether the returns correctly~~

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680 ~~reflect the votes cast. If any marksense ballot is physically~~
681 ~~damaged so that it cannot be properly counted by the automatic~~
682 ~~tabulating equipment during the recount, a true duplicate shall~~
683 ~~be made of the damaged ballot pursuant to the procedures in s.~~
684 ~~101.5614(4). Immediately before the start of the recount, a test~~
685 ~~of the tabulating equipment shall be conducted as provided in s.~~
686 ~~101.5612. If the test indicates no error, the recount tabulation~~
687 ~~of the ballots cast shall be presumed correct and such votes~~
688 ~~shall be canvassed accordingly. If an error is detected, the~~
689 ~~cause therefor shall be ascertained and corrected and the~~
690 ~~recount repeated, as necessary. The canvassing board shall~~
691 ~~immediately report the error, along with the cause of the error~~
692 ~~and the corrective measures being taken, to the Department of~~
693 ~~State. No later than 11 days after the election, the canvassing~~
694 ~~board shall file a separate incident report with the Department~~
695 ~~of State, detailing the resolution of the matter and identifying~~
696 ~~any measures that will avoid a future recurrence of the error.~~
697 ~~If the automatic tabulating equipment used in a recount is not~~
698 ~~part of the voting system and the ballots have already been~~
699 ~~processed through such equipment, the canvassing board is not~~
700 ~~required to put each ballot through any automatic tabulating~~
701 ~~equipment again.~~

702 ~~(b) Each canvassing board responsible for conducting a~~
703 ~~recount where touchscreen ballots were used shall examine the~~
704 ~~counters on the precinct tabulators to ensure that the total of~~

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705 ~~the returns on the precinct tabulators equals the overall~~
706 ~~election return. If there is a discrepancy between the overall~~
707 ~~election return and the counters of the precinct tabulators, the~~
708 ~~counters of the precinct tabulators shall be presumed correct~~
709 ~~and such votes shall be canvassed accordingly.~~

710 ~~(c) The canvassing board shall submit on forms or in~~
711 ~~formats provided by the division a second set of unofficial~~
712 ~~returns to the Department of State for each federal, statewide,~~
713 ~~state, or multicounty office or ballot measure. The returns~~
714 ~~shall be filed no later than 3 p.m. on the 5th day after any~~
715 ~~primary election and no later than 3 p.m. on the 9th day after~~
716 ~~any general election in which a recount was ordered by the~~
717 ~~Secretary of State. If the canvassing board is unable to~~
718 ~~complete the recount prescribed in this subsection by the~~
719 ~~deadline, the second set of unofficial returns submitted by the~~
720 ~~canvassing board shall be identical to the initial unofficial~~
721 ~~returns and the submission shall also include a detailed~~
722 ~~explanation of why it was unable to timely complete the recount.~~
723 ~~However, the canvassing board shall complete the recount~~
724 ~~prescribed in this subsection, along with any manual recount~~
725 ~~prescribed in s. 102.166, and certify election returns in~~
726 ~~accordance with the requirements of this chapter.~~

727 ~~(d) The Department of State shall adopt detailed rules~~
728 ~~prescribing additional recount procedures for each certified~~
729 ~~voting system, which shall be uniform to the extent practicable.~~

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730 (b) ~~(8)~~ The canvassing board may employ such clerical help
731 to assist with the work of the board as it deems necessary, with
732 at least one member of the board present at all times, until the
733 canvass of the returns is completed. The clerical help must
734 ~~shall~~ be paid from the same fund as inspectors and other
735 necessary election officials.

736 (c) The canvassing board shall publish notice of the
737 system validation review, including the date, time, and place
738 such review will occur, on the county website as provided in s.
739 50.0311, on the supervisor of elections' website, or once in one
740 or more newspapers of general circulation in the county in which
741 the review will occur. Such review is open to the public.

742 (d) The canvassing board shall submit on forms or in
743 formats provided by the division a vote validation report to the
744 department for each federal, state, or multicounty office or
745 ballot measure in accordance with paragraph (5) (b). If the
746 canvassing board is unable to complete the system validation
747 review by the deadline, the vote validation report submitted by
748 the canvassing board must be identical to the initial unofficial
749 returns and the submission must also include a detailed
750 explanation of the reason the board was unable to timely
751 complete the system validation review. However, the canvassing
752 board shall complete the system validation review prescribed in
753 this subsection, and certify official election returns, in
754 accordance with the requirements of this chapter.

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755 (e) The department shall adopt detailed rules prescribing
756 additional system validation review procedures for each
757 certified voting system, which must be uniform to the extent
758 practicable.

759 (7)(9) Each member, substitute member, and alternate
760 member of the county canvassing board and all clerical help must
761 wear identification badges during any period in which the county
762 canvassing board is canvassing votes or engaging in other
763 official duties. The identification badges must ~~should~~ be worn
764 in a conspicuous and unobstructed area, and include the name of
765 the individual and his or her official position.

766 (8)(10)(a) The supervisor shall file a report with the
767 Division of Elections on the conduct of the election no later
768 than 20 business days after the Elections Canvassing Commission
769 certifies the election. The report must, at a minimum, describe
770 all of the following:

771 1. All equipment or software malfunctions at the precinct
772 level, at a counting location, or within computer and
773 telecommunications networks supporting a county location, or
774 issues encountered with any state approved election system,
775 including, but not limited to, vote tabulation systems and
776 automated independent vote validation processes, and the steps
777 that were taken to address the malfunctions.

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

781 3. All ballot printing errors, vote-by-mail ballot mailing
782 errors, or ballot supply problems, and the steps that were taken
783 to address the errors or problems.

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

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

791 6. Any additional information regarding material issues or
792 problems associated with the conduct of the election.

793 (b) If a supervisor discovers new or additional
794 information on any of the items required to be included in the
795 report pursuant to paragraph (a) after the report is filed, the
796 supervisor must notify the division that new information has
797 been discovered no later than the next business day after the
798 discovery, and the supervisor must file an amended report signed
799 by the supervisor of elections on the conduct of the election
800 within 10 days after the discovery.

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801 (c) Such reports must be maintained on file in the
802 Division of Elections and must be available for public
803 inspection.

804 (d) The division shall review the conduct of election
805 reports to determine what problems may be likely to occur in
806 other elections and disseminate such information, along with
807 possible solutions and training, to the supervisors of
808 elections.

809 (e) For the general election, the department shall submit
810 the analysis of these reports for the post-general ~~general~~
811 election report ~~as part of the consolidated reports~~ required
812 under ss. 101.591 and 101.595 to the Governor, the President of
813 the Senate, and the Speaker of the House of Representatives by
814 February 15 of each year following a general election.

815 ~~(11) The supervisor shall file with the department a copy~~
816 ~~of or an export file from the results database of the county's~~
817 ~~voting system and other statistical information as may be~~
818 ~~required by the department, the Legislature, or the Election~~
819 ~~Assistance Commission. The department shall adopt rules~~
820 ~~establishing the required content and acceptable formats for the~~
821 ~~filings and time for filings.~~

822 **Section 20. Section 102.166, Florida Statutes, is amended**
823 **to read:**

824 102.166 Manual review ~~recounts~~ of overvotes and undervotes
825 in contests.-

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826 (1) If the vote tabulation system indicates and automated
827 independent vote validation process conducted under ss. 101.591
828 and 102.141 confirms ~~second set of unofficial returns pursuant~~
829 ~~to s. 102.141 indicates~~ that a candidate for any office was
830 defeated or eliminated by one-quarter of a percent or less of
831 the votes cast for such office, that a candidate for retention
832 to a judicial office was retained or not retained by one-quarter
833 of a percent or less of the votes cast on the question of
834 retention, or that a measure appearing on the ballot was
835 approved or rejected by one-quarter of a percent or less of the
836 votes cast on such measure, a manual review ~~recount~~ of the
837 overvotes and undervotes cast in the entire geographic
838 jurisdiction of such office or ballot measure must ~~shall~~ be
839 ordered and conducted in a manner consistent with s. 102.141(6)
840 unless:

841 (a) The candidate or candidates defeated or eliminated
842 from contention by one-quarter of 1 percent or fewer of the
843 votes cast for such office request in writing that a manual
844 review ~~recount~~ not be made; or

845 (b) The number of overvotes and undervotes is fewer than
846 the number of votes needed to change the outcome of the
847 election.

848
849 The Secretary of State is responsible for ordering manual
850 reviews of all ~~a manual recount for~~ federal, state, and

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851 multicounty races. The county canvassing board or local board
852 responsible for certifying the election is responsible for
853 ordering a manual review ~~recount~~ for all other races. A manual
854 review ~~recount~~ consists of a review by a designee of the
855 canvassing board ~~recount~~ of paper ~~marksense~~ ballots or of
856 digital images from an independent vote validation system, if
857 applicable ~~of those ballots by a person.~~

858 (2) Any hardware or software used to identify and sort
859 overvotes and undervotes for a given race or ballot measure must
860 be certified by the Department of State. Any such hardware or
861 software must be capable of simultaneously identifying and
862 sorting overvotes and undervotes in multiple races while
863 simultaneously counting votes. Overvotes and undervotes must be
864 identified and sorted while conducting the automated independent
865 vote validation process ~~recounting ballots~~ pursuant to s.
866 102.141. Overvotes and undervotes must ~~may~~ be identified and
867 sorted physically or digitally.

868 (3) Any manual review ~~must~~ ~~shall~~ be open to the
869 public. Each political party may designate one person with
870 expertise in the computer field who must be allowed in the
871 central counting room when the manual review is being conducted
872 and when the official votes are being counted. The designee may
873 not interfere with the normal operation of the canvassing board.

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874 (4) (a) A vote for a candidate or ballot measure must ~~shall~~
875 be counted if there is a clear indication on the ballot that the
876 voter has made a definite choice.

877 (b) The Department of State shall adopt specific rules for
878 the federal write-in absentee ballot and for each certified
879 voting system prescribing what constitutes a "clear indication
880 on the ballot that the voter has made a definite choice." The
881 rules must ~~shall~~ be consistent, to the extent practicable, and
882 may not:

883 1. Authorize the use of any electronic or
884 electromechanical reading device to review a hybrid voting
885 system ballot that is produced using a voter interface device
886 and that contains both machine-readable fields and machine-
887 printed text of the contest titles and voter selections, unless
888 the printed text is illegible;

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

891 3. Contain a catch-all provision that fails to identify
892 specific standards, such as "any other mark or indication
893 clearly indicating that the voter has made a definite choice."

894 (c) The rule for the federal write-in absentee ballot must
895 address, at a minimum, the following issues:

896 1. The appropriate lines or spaces for designating a
897 candidate choice and, for state and local races, the office or

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898 ballot measure to be voted, including the proximity of each to
899 the other and the effect of intervening blank lines.

900 2. The sufficiency of designating a candidate's first or
901 last name when no other candidate in the race has the same or a
902 similar name.

903 3. The sufficiency of designating a candidate's first or
904 last name when an opposing candidate has the same or a similar
905 name, notwithstanding generational suffixes and titles such as
906 "Jr.," "Sr.," or "III." The rule should contemplate the
907 sufficiency of additional first names and first initials, middle
908 names and middle initials, generational suffixes and titles,
909 nicknames, and, in general elections, the name or abbreviation
910 of a political party.

911 4. Candidate designations containing both a qualified
912 candidate's name and a political party, including those in which
913 the party designated is the candidate's party, is not the
914 candidate's party, has an opposing candidate in the race, or
915 does not have an opposing candidate in the race.

916 5. Situations where the abbreviation or name of a
917 candidate is the same as the abbreviation or name of a political
918 party to which the candidate does not belong, including those in
919 which the party designated has another candidate in the race or
920 does not have a candidate in the race.

921 6. The use of marks, symbols, or language, such as arrows,
922 quotation marks, or the word "same" or "ditto," to indicate that

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923 the same political party designation applies to all listed
924 offices or the elector's approval or disapproval of all listed
925 ballot measures.

926 7. Situations in which an elector designates the name of a
927 qualified candidate for an incorrect office.

928 8. Situations in which an elector designates an otherwise
929 correct office name that includes an incorrect district number.

930 (5) Procedures for a manual review ~~recount~~ are as follows:

931 (a) The county canvassing board shall appoint as many
932 counting teams of at least two electors as is necessary to
933 manually review ~~recount~~ the ballots. A counting team must have,
934 when possible, members of at least two political parties. A
935 candidate involved in the race may ~~shall~~ not be a member of the
936 counting team.

937 (b) Each duplicate ballot prepared pursuant to s.
938 101.5614(4) or s. 102.141(6) must ~~s. 102.141(7) shall~~ be
939 compared with the original ballot to ensure the correctness of
940 the duplicate.

941 (c) If a counting team is unable to determine whether the
942 ballot contains a clear indication that the voter has made a
943 definite choice, the ballot must ~~shall~~ be presented to the
944 county canvassing board for a determination.

945 (d) The Department of State shall adopt detailed rules
946 prescribing additional review ~~recount~~ procedures for each
947 certified voting system which must ~~shall~~ be uniform to the

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948 extent practicable. The rules must, at a minimum, ~~shall address,~~
949 ~~at a minimum,~~ the following areas:

950 1. Security of ballots during the manual review ~~recount~~
951 ~~process.~~

952 2. Time and place of manual reviews. ~~recounts;~~

953 3. Public observance of manual reviews. ~~recounts;~~

954 4. Objections to ballot determinations.~~;~~

955 5. Record of manual review ~~recount~~ proceedings.~~;~~

956 6. Procedures relating to candidate and petitioner
957 representatives.~~;~~ and

958 7. Procedures relating to the certification and the use of
959 automatic tabulating equipment that is not part of a voting
960 system.

961 (6) Nothing in this section precludes a county canvassing
962 board or local board involved in the manual review ~~recount~~ from
963 comparing a digital image of a ballot to the corresponding
964 physical paper ballot during a manual review ~~recount~~.

965 **Section 21. Effective July 1, 2026, section 104.042,**
966 **Florida Statutes, is created to read:**

967 104.042 Limitations on actions for election fraud.—A
968 prosecution for a felony violation under the Election Code must
969 be commenced within 5 years after the date the violation is
970 committed.

971 **Section 22. Effective July 1, 2026, paragraph (a) of**
972 **subsection (12) of section 106.08, Florida Statutes, is amended,**

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973 **paragraphs (c) through (g) are added to that subsection, and**
974 **paragraph (b) of that subsection is reenacted, to read:**

975 106.08 Contributions; limitations on.—

976 (12) (a)1. For purposes of this subsection, the term
977 "foreign national" means:

978 a. A foreign government;

979 b. A foreign political party;

980 c. A foreign corporation, partnership, association,
981 organization, or other combination of persons organized under
982 the laws of or having its principal place of business in a
983 foreign country;

984 d. A person with foreign citizenship; or

985 e. A person who is not a citizen or national of the United
986 States and is not lawfully admitted to the United States for
987 permanent residence.

988 2. The term does not include:

989 a. A person who is a dual citizen or dual national of the
990 United States and a foreign country.

991 b. A domestic subsidiary of a foreign corporation,
992 partnership, association, organization, or other combination of
993 persons organized under the laws of or having its principal
994 place of business in a foreign country if:

995 (I) The donations and disbursements used toward a
996 contribution or an expenditure are derived entirely from funds

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997 generated by the subsidiary's operations in the United States;
998 and

999 (II) All decisions concerning donations and disbursements
1000 used toward a contribution or an expenditure are made by
1001 individuals who either hold United States citizenship or are
1002 permanent residents of the United States. For purposes of this
1003 sub-sub-subparagraph, decisions concerning donations and
1004 disbursements do not include decisions regarding the
1005 subsidiary's overall budget for contributions or expenditures in
1006 connection with an election or decisions regarding the
1007 subsidiary's support or opposition of an issue in this state.

1008 (b) A foreign national may not make or offer to make,
1009 directly or indirectly, a contribution or expenditure in
1010 connection with any election held in the state.

1011 (c) A political party, a political committee, an
1012 electioneering communications organization, or a candidate may
1013 not knowingly and willfully accept or solicit, directly or
1014 indirectly, a contribution from a foreign national in connection
1015 with any election held in this state.

1016 (d) A person, acting either alone or jointly with,
1017 through, or on behalf of another person, who has knowingly and
1018 willfully received monetary or in-kind donations or gifts from
1019 one or more foreign nationals in an aggregate amount exceeding
1020 \$100,000 over the preceding 4 years, may not make a contribution
1021 or independent expenditure:

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1022 1. To a political committee supporting or opposing an
1023 issue in this state; or

1024 2. In support or opposition of an issue in this state.

1025 (e) A political committee supporting or opposing an issue
1026 in this state may not knowingly and willfully accept
1027 contributions from a person, acting either alone or jointly
1028 with, through, or on behalf of another person, who has received
1029 monetary or in-kind donations or gifts from one or more foreign
1030 nationals in an aggregate amount exceeding \$100,000 over the
1031 preceding 4 years.

1032 (f) For purposes of compliance with subsections (d) and
1033 (e), monetary or in-kind donations or gifts from one or more
1034 foreign nationals received by a domestic subsidiary who meets
1035 the requirements of subparagraph (a)2. shall not count towards
1036 the \$100,000 aggregate threshold provided in subsections (d) and
1037 (e), as long as the monetary or in-kind donations or gifts
1038 received are not used for political activity by the domestic
1039 subsidiary.

1040 (g) A person or entity who violates this subsection
1041 commits a felony of the third degree, punishable as provided in
1042 s. 775.082, s. 775.083, or s. 775.084, and shall also be subject
1043 to a civil penalty equal to three times the amount contributed.
1044 Such penalty shall be paid into the General Revenue Fund. Any
1045 penalty imposed against a person that is not an individual
1046 jointly and severally attaches to the chair of the entity if the

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1047 entity does not pay the penalty within 30 days. The Florida
 1048 Elections Commission shall be responsible for determining
 1049 violations, imposing civil penalties, and collecting any unpaid
 1050 civil penalties. The Florida Elections Commission shall report
 1051 any violations of this subsection to the Office of Election
 1052 Crimes and Security to include in the department's report under
 1053 s. 97.022.

1054 **Section 23. Effective July 1, 2026, paragraph (d) of**
 1055 **subsection (8) of section 895.02, Florida Statutes, is amended**
 1056 **to read:**

1057 895.02 Definitions.—As used in ss. 895.01–895.08, the
 1058 term:

1059 (8) "Racketeering activity" means to commit, to attempt to
 1060 commit, to conspire to commit, or to solicit, coerce, or
 1061 intimidate another person to commit:

1062 (d) Any A violation of chapter 104 the Florida Election
 1063 Code relating to irregularities or fraud involving issue
 1064 petition activities.

1066 -----
 1067 **T I T L E A M E N D M E N T**

1068 Remove lines 13-174 and insert:
 1069 Commission or federal law; amending s. 99.021, F.S.;
 1070 specifying that a person seeking to qualify for office
 1071 as a candidate must be a registered member of a

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1072 political party, or registered without any party
1073 affiliation, for 365 consecutive days preceding the
1074 beginning of the qualifying before an election;
1075 authorizing qualified candidates or certain political
1076 parties to challenge compliance with specified
1077 provisions by filing an action for declaratory and
1078 injunctive relief in a specified circuit court;
1079 prohibiting a person from being qualified as a
1080 candidate for nomination or election and appearing on
1081 the ballot under specified circumstances; providing
1082 that compliance with specified requirements is
1083 mandatory; entitling certain candidates and political
1084 parties to specified expedited hearings and
1085 consideration; requiring the supervisor of elections
1086 to remove certain candidates from the ballot or
1087 provide certain notice that votes for certain
1088 disqualified candidates will not be counted; amending
1089 s. 101.043, F.S.; revising the forms of identification
1090 required to be provided at polls; amending ss.
1091 101.048, 101.151, 101.5606, 101.5608, and 101.5612,
1092 F.S.; conforming provisions to changes made by the
1093 act; amending s. 101.56075, F.S.; requiring voting be
1094 completed on an official ballot using a pen or marker;
1095 amending s. 101.591, F.S.; removing provisions
1096 relating to the performance of a manual audit;

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1097 requiring the county canvassing board or other local
1098 board responsible for certifying an election to
1099 conduct an automated, independent vote validation of
1100 voting systems used in all precincts; providing the
1101 process for conducting such automated, independent
1102 vote validation; requiring the canvassing board to
1103 publish a specified notice on the county's website,
1104 the supervisor's website, or in certain newspapers;
1105 requiring that the vote validation be completed and
1106 made public before the certification of the election;
1107 providing reporting requirements for county canvassing
1108 boards; requiring the results of the vote validation
1109 be included in a specified report submitted to the
1110 Governor and Legislature by a specified date each
1111 year; amending s. 101.5911, F.S.; requiring the
1112 Department of State to adopt certain rules; amending
1113 s. 101.595, F.S.; revising certain reporting
1114 requirements for the Department of State; amending ss.
1115 101.68 and 101.6923, F.S.; conforming provisions to
1116 changes made by the act; amending s. 102.111, F.S.;
1117 revising the meeting time for the Elections Canvassing
1118 Commission; amending s. 102.141, F.S.; revising
1119 provisions relating to reporting election results;
1120 requiring counties to conduct an automated independent
1121 vote validation process for a specified purpose within

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1122 a specified timeframe after unofficial results are
1123 reported; requiring the county canvassing board to
1124 take specified actions upon making a determination
1125 that the automated independent vote validation process
1126 failed to count votes; requiring the county canvassing
1127 board to conduct a system validation review under
1128 specified circumstances; removing provisions relating
1129 to recounts by the county canvassing board; requiring
1130 the county canvassing board to publish certain notice
1131 containing manual review information through specified
1132 means; requiring the county canvassing board to submit
1133 to the Department of State specified forms containing
1134 a vote validation report; removing the requirement for
1135 the supervisor to file with the Department of State
1136 certain results and statistical information; amending
1137 s. 102.166, F.S.; requiring manual reviews of
1138 overvotes and undervotes unless certain conditions
1139 exist; providing that the Secretary of State is
1140 responsible for ordering such review in specified
1141 races and the county canvassing board, or local board
1142 responsible for certifying the election, is
1143 responsible for ordering such reviews in all other
1144 races; authorizing political parties to designate a
1145 certain expert to be allowed in the central counting
1146 room while reviews are being performed; prohibiting

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1147 such person from interfering with the normal operation
1148 of the canvassing board; creating s. 104.042, F.S.;
1149 providing a statute of limitations period for election
1150 fraud; amending s. 106.08, F.S.; revising the
1151 contributions or expenditures that a foreign national
1152 is prohibited from making or offering to make;
1153 prohibiting certain persons from accepting specified
1154 contributions; prohibiting certain persons from making
1155 specified contributions or expenditures; providing an
1156 exception to such prohibition; providing penalties;
1157 amending s. 895.02, F.S.; revising the definition of
1158 the term "racketeering activity"; providing effective

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