

CS/CS/HB 991

2026

A bill to be entitled
An act relating to election integrity; amending s. 97.021, F.S.; revising definitions; amending s. 97.022, F.S.; revising the information the Department of State is required to include in a specified report; amending s. 97.051, F.S.; requiring persons to swear or affirm they have reviewed the voter registration instructions, are a United States citizen, and understand the penalties for providing false information; amending s. 97.052, F.S.; requiring the voter registration application to elicit documentation required by the United States Election Assistance Commission or federal law; amending s. 97.0525, F.S.; requiring that an applicant's citizenship status be verified by the records of the Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles; providing that an applicant will be registered as an unverified voter, but may not vote, if his or her legal status as a United States citizen cannot be verified through the Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles; requiring the online voter registration system to transmit certain information to the supervisor of elections and generate certain notices; requiring the supervisor of elections to verify the legal status of certain applicants and provide certain notice; providing that,

26 under specified circumstances, the online voter
27 registration system may populate the applicant's
28 information into a printable voter registration
29 application; amending s. 97.053, F.S.; requiring an
30 applicant's legal status to be verified for a voter
31 registration application to be valid; providing that
32 an applicant will be deemed an unverified voter if his
33 or her application fails to meet specified
34 requirements; requiring an applicant to provide
35 certain evidence to the supervisor of elections to
36 prove the applicant's legal status under specified
37 circumstances; providing for retroactivity; providing
38 certain applicants a provisional ballot and such
39 ballot may only be counted if the applicant can verify
40 his or her legal status within a specified timeframe;
41 amending s. 97.057, F.S.; requiring the Department of
42 Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles to provide the
43 Department of State documentary proof of an
44 applicant's citizenship; amending s. 98.015, F.S.;
45 authorizing the office of the supervisor of elections
46 to close to observe certain holidays under a specified
47 condition; amending s. 98.045, F.S.; requiring
48 supervisors to make certain determinations relating to
49 applicants who were previously registered to vote, but
50 later removed for ineligibility, and to follow

51 specified procedures to notify the applicant, if
52 applicable; amending s. 98.075, F.S.; requiring the
53 Department of State to verify the United States
54 citizenship status of any registered voter after a
55 specified date; requiring specified notices regarding
56 an applicant's potential ineligibility to vote;
57 requiring certain applicants to submit specified
58 information to the supervisor of elections; requiring
59 certain documentation be recorded in the statewide
60 voter registration system; amending s. 98.093, F.S.;
61 requiring the Department of Highway Safety and Motor
62 Vehicles to provide the Department of State with
63 information identifying United States citizens who
64 have been issued a new, renewed, or replacement
65 Florida driver license or Florida identification card;
66 requiring the Department of Highway Safety and Motor
67 Vehicles to provide the Department of State with
68 changes in residence address and Florida driver
69 license or identification card numbers of individuals
70 who have declined to register or update their voter
71 registration; creating s. 98.094, F.S.; requiring the
72 Division of Elections to provide a list of registered
73 voters to federal courts for a specified purpose;
74 requiring the jury coordinator to prepare a specified
75 list with certain information and send such list to

76 the division; specifying the manner in which such list
77 may be sent; requiring the division to provide such
78 information to the appropriate supervisor of
79 elections; amending s. 99.021, F.S.; specifying that a
80 person seeking to qualify for office as a candidate
81 must be a registered member of a political party, or
82 registered without any party affiliation, for 365
83 consecutive days preceding the beginning of the
84 qualifying before an election; authorizing qualified
85 candidates or certain political parties to challenge
86 compliance with specified provisions by filing an
87 action for declaratory and injunctive relief in a
88 specified circuit court; prohibiting a person from
89 being qualified as a candidate for nomination or
90 election and appearing on the ballot under specified
91 circumstances; providing that compliance with
92 specified requirements is mandatory; entitling certain
93 candidates and political parties to specified
94 expedited hearings and consideration; requiring the
95 supervisor of elections to remove certain candidates
96 from the ballot or provide certain notice that votes
97 for certain disqualified candidates will not be
98 counted; amending s. 101.043, F.S.; revising the forms
99 of identification required to be provided at polls;
100 amending ss. 101.048, 101.151, 101.5606, 101.5608, and

101 101.5612, F.S.; conforming provisions to changes made
102 by the act; amending s. 101.56075, F.S.; requiring
103 voting be completed on an official ballot using a pen
104 or marker; amending s. 101.591, F.S.; removing
105 provisions relating to the performance of a manual
106 audit; requiring the county canvassing board or other
107 local board responsible for certifying an election to
108 conduct an automated, independent vote validation of
109 voting systems used in all precincts; providing the
110 process for conducting such automated, independent
111 vote validation; requiring the canvassing board to
112 publish a specified notice on the county's website,
113 the supervisor's website, or in certain newspapers;
114 requiring that the vote validation be completed and
115 made public before the certification of the election;
116 providing reporting requirements for county canvassing
117 boards; requiring the results of the vote validation
118 be included in a specified report submitted to the
119 Governor and Legislature by a specified date each
120 year; amending s. 101.5911, F.S.; requiring the
121 Department of State to adopt certain rules; amending
122 s. 101.595, F.S.; revising certain reporting
123 requirements for the Department of State; amending ss.
124 101.68 and 101.6923, F.S.; conforming provisions to
125 changes made by the act; amending s. 102.111, F.S.;

126 revising the meeting time for the Elections Canvassing
127 Commission; amending s. 102.141, F.S.; revising
128 provisions relating to reporting election results;
129 requiring counties to conduct an automated independent
130 vote validation process for a specified purpose within
131 a specified timeframe after unofficial results are
132 reported; requiring the county canvassing board to
133 take specified actions upon making a determination
134 that the automated independent vote validation process
135 failed to count votes; requiring the county canvassing
136 board to conduct a system validation review under
137 specified circumstances; removing provisions relating
138 to recounts by the county canvassing board; requiring
139 the county canvassing board to publish certain notice
140 containing manual review information through specified
141 means; requiring the county canvassing board to submit
142 to the Department of State specified forms containing
143 a vote validation report; removing the requirement for
144 the supervisor to file with the Department of State
145 certain results and statistical information; amending
146 s. 102.166, F.S.; requiring manual reviews of
147 overvotes and undervotes unless certain conditions
148 exist; providing that the Secretary of State is
149 responsible for ordering such review in specified
150 races and the county canvassing board, or local board

151 responsible for certifying the election, is
152 responsible for ordering such reviews in all other
153 races; authorizing political parties to designate a
154 certain expert to be allowed in the central counting
155 room while reviews are being performed; prohibiting
156 such person from interfering with the normal operation
157 of the canvassing board; creating s. 104.042, F.S.;
158 providing a statute of limitations period for election
159 fraud; amending s. 106.08, F.S.; revising the
160 contributions or expenditures that a foreign national
161 is prohibited from making or offering to make;
162 prohibiting certain persons from accepting specified
163 contributions; prohibiting certain persons from making
164 specified contributions or expenditures; providing an
165 exception to such prohibition; providing penalties;
166 creating s. 322.034, F.S.; requiring that Florida
167 driver licenses and identification cards include
168 certain information by a specified date; requiring the
169 Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles to
170 issue certain replacement or renewal cards at no
171 charge; amending s. 895.02, F.S.; revising the
172 definition of the term "racketeering activity";
173 amending ss. 98.065, 98.0755, 101.67, and 104.16,
174 F.S.; conforming cross-references; providing effective
175 dates.

176

177 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

178

179 **Section 1. Subsections (6), (43), and (47) of section**
180 **97.021, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:**

181 97.021 Definitions.—For the purposes of this code, except
182 where the context clearly indicates otherwise, the term:

183 (6) "Ballot" means a printed sheet of paper containing
184 contests, including offices and candidates, constitutional
185 amendments, and other public measures upon which a voter's
186 selections will be marked by using a pen compatible with or
187 recommended for use with the voting system, for tabulation by
188 automatic tabulating equipment or data processing equipment that
189 is part of the voting system. The term includes a voter-
190 verifiable paper output upon which a voter's selections are
191 marked by a voter interface device that meets voter
192 accessibility requirements for individuals with disabilities
193 under s. 301 of the Help America Vote Act of 2002 and s.
194 101.56062 or "official ballot" when used in reference to:

195 (a) "Electronic or electromechanical devices" means a
196 ballot that is voted by the process of electronically
197 designating, including by touchscreen, or marking with a marking
198 device for tabulation by automatic tabulating equipment or data
199 processing equipment.

200 (b) "Marksense ballots" means that printed sheet of paper,

201 used in conjunction with an electronic or electromechanical vote
202 tabulation voting system, containing the names of candidates, or
203 a statement of proposed constitutional amendments or other
204 questions or propositions submitted to the electorate at any
205 election, on which sheet of paper an elector casts his or her
206 vote.

207 (43) "Voter interface device" means any device that
208 communicates voting instructions and ballot information to a
209 voter and allows the voter to select and vote for candidates and
210 issues. A voter interface device may not be used to tabulate
211 votes. Any vote tabulation must be based upon a subsequent scan
212 of the marked ~~marksense~~ ballot ~~or the voter verifiable paper~~
213 ~~output~~ after the voter interface device process has been
214 completed.

215 (47) "Voting system" means a method of casting and
216 processing votes that ~~functions wholly or partly by use of~~
217 ~~electromechanical or electronic apparatus or by use of marksense~~
218 ~~ballots and includes, but is not limited to, equipment,~~
219 hardware, firmware, and software; ballots; the procedures for
220 casting and processing votes; ~~and the~~ programs, operating
221 manuals, and supplies; and reports, printouts, and other
222 documentation software necessary for the system's operation.

223 **Section 2. Effective July 1, 2026, subsection (7) of**
224 **section 97.022, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:**

225 97.022 Office of Election Crimes and Security; creation;

226 purpose and duties.—

227 (7) By January 15 of each year, the department shall
228 submit a report to the Governor, the President of the Senate,
229 and the Speaker of the House of Representatives detailing
230 information on investigations of alleged election law violations
231 or election irregularities conducted during the prior calendar
232 year. The report must include the total number of complaints
233 received and independent investigations initiated and the number
234 of complaints referred to another agency for further
235 investigation or prosecution, including the total number of
236 those matters sent to a special officer pursuant to s. 102.091.
237 The report must include any alleged violations of s.

238 106.08(12)(b), irregularities involving foreign national
239 influence, and the department's recommendations to the
240 Legislature to mitigate foreign national influence in elections.
241 For each alleged violation or irregularity investigated, the
242 report must include:

243 (a) The source of the alleged violation or irregularity;
244 (b) The law allegedly violated or the nature of the
245 irregularity reported;
246 (c) The county in which the alleged violation or
247 irregularity occurred;
248 (d) Whether the alleged violation or irregularity was
249 referred to another agency for further investigation or
250 prosecution and, if so, to which agency; and

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251 (e) The current status of the investigation or resulting
252 criminal case.

253 Section 3. Section 97.051, Florida Statutes, is amended to
254 read:

97.051 Oath upon registering.—A person registering to vote
must subscribe to the following oath: "I do solemnly swear (or
affirm) that I am a United States citizen and will protect and
defend the Constitution of the United States and the
Constitution of the State of Florida, that I am qualified to
register as an elector under the Constitution and laws of the
State of Florida, and that all information provided in this
application is true. I have carefully reviewed the instructions
for completing the Florida Voter Registration Application. I
understand that if I have provided false information on this
application, I could be subject to criminal penalties for
perjury, fines, or imprisonment, and deportation from the United
States if I am not a United States citizen."

268 Section 4. Paragraph (v) is added to subsection (2) of
269 section 97.052, Florida Statutes, to read:

97.052 Uniform statewide voter registration application.—

271 (2) The uniform statewide voter registration application
272 must be designed to elicit the following information from the
273 applicant:

274 (v) Documentation required by the United States Election
275 Assistance Commission or federal law.

276 **Section 5. Subsection (4) of section 97.0525, Florida**
277 **Statutes, is amended to read:**

278 97.0525 Online voter registration.—

279 (4) (a) The online voter registration system shall compare
280 the Florida driver license number or Florida identification
281 number submitted pursuant to s. 97.052(2) (n) with information
282 maintained by the Department of Highway Safety and Motor
283 Vehicles to confirm that the name and date of birth on the
284 application are consistent with the records of the Department of
285 Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles and the applicant's legal
286 status as a United States citizen can be verified by the records
287 of the Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles.

288 (b) If the applicant's name and date of birth are
289 consistent with the records of the Department of Highway Safety
290 and Motor Vehicles, and the applicant's legal status as a United
291 States citizen can be verified by the records of the Department
292 of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles, the online voter
293 registration system shall transmit, using the statewide voter
294 registration system maintained pursuant to s. 98.035, the
295 applicant's registration application, along with the digital
296 signature of the applicant on file with the Department of
297 Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles, to the supervisor of
298 elections. The applicant's digital signature satisfies the
299 signature requirement of s. 97.052(2) (q).

300 (c) If the applicant's name and date of birth cannot be

301 verified by the records of the Department of Highway Safety and
302 Motor Vehicles, ~~or if the applicant indicated that he or she has~~
303 ~~not been issued a Florida driver license or Florida~~
304 ~~identification card,~~ the online voter registration system shall
305 populate the applicant's information except for the applicant's
306 personal identifying number into a printable voter registration
307 application pursuant to s. 97.052(2) which and direct the
308 applicant may to print, complete any required field, sign, and
309 date the application and deliver the application to the
310 supervisor of elections for disposition pursuant to s. 97.073.

311 (d)1. If the applicant's legal status as a United States
312 citizen cannot be verified by the records of the Department of
313 Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles, the applicant will be
314 registered as an unverified voter provided all other
315 requirements have been met. The unverified voter will not be
316 allowed to vote until he or she has provided sufficient evidence
317 of citizenship to the supervisor of elections. The online voter
318 registration system must transmit, using the statewide voter
319 registration system maintained under s. 98.035, the applicant's
320 registration application, along with the digital signature of
321 the applicant on file with the Department of Highway Safety and
322 Motor Vehicles, to the supervisor of elections. The applicant's
323 digital signature satisfies the signature requirement of s.
324 97.052(2)(q). The system must generate a notice to the
325 supervisor of elections and to the applicant which states that

326 the applicant's legal status as a United States citizen cannot
327 be verified by the Department of Highway Safety and Motor
328 Vehicles and that the applicant must provide to the supervisor
329 of elections sufficient evidence of his or her United States
330 citizenship and the supervisor of elections must verify the
331 applicant's legal status as a United States citizen before the
332 applicant may vote. Such notice must include a list of documents
333 acceptable as evidence United States citizenship as set forth in
334 s. 98.075(6)(c).

335 2. The supervisor of elections shall verify the legal
336 status of an applicant identified by the Department of Highway
337 Safety and Motor Vehicle as a person who is potentially not a
338 United States citizen. If the supervisor determines based on
339 credible and reliable information that the applicant is
340 potentially ineligible to vote because he or she is not a United
341 States citizen, the supervisor must provide notice to the
342 applicant in accordance with s. 98.075(8). Such notice must
343 include the list of documents acceptable as evidence of United
344 States citizenship as set forth in s. 98.075(6)(c).

345 (e) If the applicant indicates that he or she has not been
346 issued a Florida driver license or Florida identification card,
347 or chooses to use the system to prepopulate an application to
348 print, sign, and deliver, the online voter registration system
349 must populate the applicant's information into a uniform
350 statewide voter registration application under s. 97.052(2) and

351 direct the applicant to print, sign, and date the application
352 and deliver the application to the supervisor of elections for
353 disposition under s. 97.073.

354 **Section 6. Subsections (2) and (6) of section 97.053, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:**

356 97.053 Acceptance of voter registration applications.—
357 (2) A voter registration application is complete and becomes the official voter registration record of that applicant when all information necessary to establish the applicant's eligibility under pursuant to s. 97.041 is received by a voter registration official and verified under pursuant to subsection (6). Except as provided in subsection (6), if the applicant fails to complete his or her voter registration application on or before prior to the date of book closing for an election, then such applicant is shall not be eligible to vote in that election.

367 (6)(a) A voter registration application, including an application with a change in name, address, or party affiliation, may be accepted as valid only after the department has verified the authenticity or nonexistence of the Florida driver license number, the Florida identification card number, or the last four digits of the social security number provided by the applicant and the applicant's legal status as a United States citizen has been verified or recorded as verified in the statewide voter registration system. If a completed voter

376 registration application has been received by the book-closing
377 deadline but the Florida driver license number, the Florida
378 identification card number, or the last four digits of the
379 social security number provided by the applicant or the
380 applicant's legal status as a United States citizen, whichever
381 is applicable, cannot be verified, the applicant must shall be
382 notified that ~~the number cannot be verified and that~~ the
383 applicant must provide evidence to the supervisor evidence
384 sufficient to verify the authenticity of the ~~applicant's driver~~
385 ~~license number, Florida identification card number, or last four~~
386 ~~digits of the social security number or provide one of the~~
387 documents acceptable as evidence of United States citizenship
388 set forth s. 98.075(6)(c), whichever is applicable. An applicant
389 whose application does not meet the requirements of this
390 subsection is deemed an unverified voter until the requirements
391 have been met.

392 (b) If the applicant provides the necessary evidence, the
393 supervisor shall place the applicant's name on the registration
394 rolls as an active voter.

395 (c) If the application is to update to the voter's record
396 with a change in name, address, or party affiliation, whichever
397 is applicable, the change is retroactive to the date the
398 application was initially received and the necessary
399 documentation is verified.

400 (d) If the applicant has not provided the necessary

401 evidence to validate the applicant's number or citizenship as
402 required under paragraph (a) before or the number has not
403 otherwise been verified prior to the applicant appears
404 presenting himself or herself to vote, the applicant must shall
405 be provided a provisional ballot. The provisional ballot must
406 shall be counted pursuant to s. 101.048, only if the requisite
407 verification occurs number is verified by the end of the
408 canvassing period or if the applicant presents evidence to the
409 supervisor of elections evidence sufficient to verify the
410 authenticity of the applicant's Florida driver license number,
411 Florida identification card number, or last four digits of the
412 social security number, or provides one of the documents
413 acceptable as evidence of United States citizenship set forth s.
414 98.075(6)(c), whichever is applicable, no later than 5 p.m. of
415 the second day following the election.

416 **Section 7. Subsections (11) and (13) of section 97.057,
417 Florida Statutes, are amended to read:**

418 97.057 Voter registration by the Department of Highway
419 Safety and Motor Vehicles.—

420 (11) The Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles
421 shall enter into an agreement with the department to match
422 information in the statewide voter registration system with
423 information in the database of the Department of Highway Safety
424 and Motor Vehicles to the extent required to verify the accuracy
425 of a person's Florida the driver license number, Florida

426 identification number, ~~or~~ last four digits of his or her the
427 social security number, or legal status as a United States
428 citizen, as applicable, provided on applications for voter
429 registration as required in s. 97.053. The department shall also
430 include the documentary proof that the applicant provided in
431 support of his or her United States citizenship.

432 (13) Notwithstanding a declination to register or to
433 update a voter registration pursuant to subparagraph (2) (b) 2.,
434 the Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles shall, in
435 accordance with s. 98.093(8), must assist the Department of
436 State in regularly identifying changes in residence address or
437 number on the Florida driver license or Florida identification
438 card of persons who may be voters of a voter. The Department of
439 State must report each such change to the appropriate supervisor
440 of elections who must change the voter's registration records in
441 accordance with s. 98.065(4).

442 **Section 8. Subsection (4) of section 98.015, Florida**
443 **Statutes, is amended to read:**

444 98.015 Supervisor of elections; election, tenure of
445 office, compensation, custody of registration-related documents,
446 office hours, successor, seal; appointment of deputy
447 supervisors; duties.—

448 (4) (a) At a minimum, the office of the supervisor must be
449 open Monday through Friday, excluding legal holidays, for a

450 period of not less than 8 hours per day, beginning no later than
451 9 a.m.

452 (b) The office of the supervisor may close to observe
453 legal holidays and other federal, state, or county-approved
454 holidays if the office is not otherwise required to be open to
455 fulfill official duties under the Florida Election Code.

456 **Section 9. Subsection (1) of section 98.045, Florida
457 Statutes, is amended to read:**

458 98.045 Administration of voter registration.—

459 (1) ELIGIBILITY OF APPLICANT.—

460 (a) The supervisor shall ~~must~~ ensure that any eligible
461 applicant for voter registration is registered to vote and that
462 each application for voter registration is processed in
463 accordance with law. The supervisor shall determine whether a
464 voter registration applicant is ineligible to vote based on any
465 of the following:

466 1.(a) The failure to complete a voter registration
467 application as specified in s. 97.053.

468 2.(b) The applicant is deceased.

469 3.(c) The applicant has been convicted of a felony for
470 which his or her voting rights have not been restored.

471 4.(d) The applicant has been adjudicated mentally
472 incapacitated with respect to the right to vote and such right
473 has not been restored.

474 5.(e) The applicant does not meet the age requirement

475 pursuant to s. 97.041.

476 6.(f) The applicant is not a United States citizen.

477 7.(g) The applicant is a fictitious person.

478 8.(h) The applicant has provided an address of legal
479 residence that is not his or her legal residence.

480 9.(i) The applicant has provided a Florida driver license
481 number, Florida identification card number, or the last four
482 digits of a social security number that is not verifiable by the
483 department.

484 (b) If the most updated voter registration records show
485 that a new applicant was previously registered but subsequently
486 removed from the statewide voter registration system under s.
487 98.075(8) for ineligibility by reason of a felony conviction
488 without voting rights restored, adjudication as mentally
489 incapacitated with respect to voting without voting rights
490 restored, death, or legal status as not a United States citizen,
491 the supervisor must, within 13 days after receiving a new
492 application, verify the current eligibility of the applicant to
493 register by reviewing any governmental entity document or source
494 to determine whether the applicant remains ineligible. If the
495 supervisor determines that the applicant is still ineligible to
496 vote, the supervisor must deny the application and notify the
497 applicant pursuant to s. 97.073.

498 **Section 10. Subsections (6), (7), and (8) of section**
499 **98.075, Florida Statutes, are renumbered as subsections (7),**

500 (8), and (9), respectively, subsections (4) and (5), present
501 subsection (6), paragraph (a) of present subsection (7), and
502 paragraph (a) of present subsection (8) are amended, and a new
503 subsection (6) is added to that section, to read:

504 98.075 Registration records maintenance activities;
505 ineligibility determinations.—

506 (4) ADJUDICATION OF MENTAL INCAPACITY.—The department
507 shall identify those registered voters who have been adjudicated
508 mentally incapacitated with respect to voting and who have not
509 had their voting rights restored by comparing information
510 received from the clerk of the circuit court as provided in s.
511 98.093. The department shall review such information and make an
512 initial determination as to whether the information is credible
513 and reliable. If the department determines that the information
514 is credible and reliable, the department must notify the
515 supervisor and provide a copy of the supporting documentation
516 indicating the potential ineligibility of the voter to be
517 registered. Upon receipt of the notice that the department has
518 made a determination of initial credibility and reliability, the
519 supervisor shall adhere to the procedures set forth in
520 subsection (8) ~~(7)~~ before the removal of a registered voter from
521 the statewide voter registration system.

522 (5) FELONY CONVICTION.—

523 (a) The department shall identify those registered voters
524 who have been convicted of a felony and whose voting rights have

525 not been restored by comparing information received from, but
526 not limited to, a clerk of the circuit court, the Board of
527 Executive Clemency, the Department of Corrections, the
528 Department of Law Enforcement, or a United States Attorney's
529 Office, as provided in s. 98.093. The department shall review
530 such information and make an initial determination as to whether
531 the information is credible and reliable. If the department
532 determines that the information is credible and reliable, the
533 department must notify the supervisor and provide a copy of the
534 supporting documentation indicating the potential ineligibility
535 of the voter to be registered. Upon receipt of the notice that
536 the department has made a determination of initial credibility
537 and reliability, the supervisor shall adhere to the procedures
538 set forth in subsection (8) ~~(7)~~ before the removal of a
539 registered voter's name from the statewide voter registration
540 system.

541 (b) The supervisors shall coordinate with their respective
542 clerks of the court to obtain information pursuant to s. 98.093
543 to identify registered voters within their respective
544 jurisdictions who have been convicted of a felony during the
545 preceding week and whose voting rights have not been restored.
546 The supervisor shall adhere to the procedures set forth in
547 subsection (8) ~~(7)~~ before the removal of a registered voter's
548 name from the statewide voter registration system. For purposes
549 of this paragraph, a supervisor's duties under subsection (8)

550 (+7) begin upon his or her determination that the information
551 received from the clerk is credible and reliable.

552 (6) CITIZENSHIP.—

553 (a) The Department of State shall verify the citizenship
554 status of all registered voters whose legal status has not
555 already been verified as a United States citizen. If the
556 citizenship status of a registered voter cannot be verified or
557 the voter record does not indicate that the registered voter's
558 citizenship is verified, the department must notify the
559 supervisor of elections who must notify the registered voter.

560 (b) The department shall review the information received
561 from the Department of Highway Safety under s. 98.093(8) and
562 make an initial determination as to whether the information and
563 any other information regarding citizenship is credible and
564 reliable. If the department determines that the information is
565 credible and reliable, the department must notify the supervisor
566 and provide a copy of the supporting documentation indicating
567 the potential ineligibility of the voter.

568 (c) Upon receipt of the notice under paragraph (a) or
569 paragraph (b), the supervisor of elections must notify the
570 registered voter in accordance with subsection (8) that his or
571 her United States citizenship could not be verified and require
572 the registered voter to submit evidence sufficient to verify his
573 or her citizenship status. The notice to the registered voter
574 must include the following list of documents that will be

575 accepted as evidence of United States citizenship:

576 1. A current and valid United States passport.

577 2. A United States birth certificate.

578 3. A Consular Report of Birth Abroad provided by the

579 United States Department of State.

580 4. A current and valid Florida driver license or Florida

581 identification card issued by the Department of Highway Safety

582 and Motor Vehicles if such driver license or identification card

583 indicates United States citizenship.

584 5. A naturalization certificate, a certificate of

585 citizenship, a certificate number, or an alien registration

586 number issued by the United States Department of Homeland

587 Security.

588 6. A current and valid photo identification issued by the

589 Federal Government or the government of this state which

590 indicates United States citizenship.

591 7. An order from a federal court granting United States

592 citizenship.

593 (d) If the registered voter's legal name is different than

594 the name that appears on one of the documents specified in

595 paragraph (c), the applicant must also provide official

596 documentation providing proof of a legal name change.

597 (e) The type of document provided or used to verify

598 citizenship must be recorded in the statewide voter registration

599 system.

600 (7)-(6) OTHER BASES FOR INELIGIBILITY.—Subsections (2)-(6)
601 ~~(2)-(5)~~ do not limit or restrict the department or the
602 supervisor in his or her duty to act upon direct receipt of,
603 access to, or knowledge of information from any governmental
604 entity that identifies a registered voter as potentially
605 ineligible. If the department or supervisor receives information
606 from any governmental entity other than those identified in
607 subsections (2)-(6) ~~(2)-(5)~~ that a registered voter is
608 ineligible because the voter is deceased, adjudicated a
609 convicted felon without having had his or her voting rights
610 restored, adjudicated mentally incapacitated without having had
611 his or her voting rights restored, does not meet the age
612 requirement pursuant to s. 97.041, is not a United States
613 citizen, is a fictitious person, or has listed an address that
614 is not his or her address of legal residence, the supervisor
615 must adhere to the procedures set forth in subsection (8) ~~(7)~~
616 before the removal of the name of a registered voter who is
617 determined to be ineligible from the statewide voter
618 registration system.

619 (8)-(7) PROCEDURES FOR REMOVAL.—

620 (a) If the supervisor receives notice or information
621 pursuant to subsections (4)-(7) ~~(4)-(6)~~, the supervisor of the
622 county in which the voter is registered must:

623 1. Notify the registered voter of his or her potential
624 ineligibility by mail within 7 days after receipt of notice or

625 information. The notice must include:

626 a. A statement of the basis for the registered voter's
627 potential ineligibility and a copy of any documentation upon
628 which the potential ineligibility is based. Such documentation
629 must include any conviction from another jurisdiction determined
630 to be a similar offense to murder or a felony sexual offense, as
631 those terms are defined in s. 98.0751.

632 b. A statement that failure to respond within 30 days
633 after receipt of the notice may result in a determination of
634 ineligibility and in removal of the registered voter's name from
635 the statewide voter registration system.

636 c. A return form that requires the registered voter to
637 admit or deny the accuracy of the information underlying the
638 potential ineligibility for purposes of a final determination by
639 the supervisor.

640 d. A statement that, if the voter is denying the accuracy
641 of the information underlying the potential ineligibility, the
642 voter has a right to request a hearing for the purpose of
643 determining eligibility.

644 e. Instructions for the registered voter to contact the
645 supervisor of elections of the county in which the voter is
646 registered if assistance is needed in resolving the matter.

647 f. Instructions for seeking restoration of civil rights
648 pursuant to s. 8, Art. IV of the State Constitution and
649 information explaining voting rights restoration pursuant to s.

650 4, Art. VI of the State Constitution following a felony
651 conviction, if applicable.

652 g. The following statement: "If you attempt to vote at an
653 early voting site or your normal election day polling place, you
654 will be required to vote a provisional ballot. If you vote by
655 mail, your ballot will be treated as a provisional ballot. In
656 either case, your ballot may not be counted until a final
657 determination of eligibility is made. If you wish for your
658 ballot to be counted, you must contact the supervisor of
659 elections office within 2 days after the election and present
660 evidence that you are eligible to vote."

661 2. If the mailed notice is returned as undeliverable, the
662 supervisor must, within 14 days after receiving the returned
663 notice, either publish notice once in a newspaper of general
664 circulation in the county in which the voter was last registered
665 or publish notice on the county's website as provided in s.
666 50.0311 or on the supervisor's website, as deemed appropriate by
667 the supervisor. The notice must contain the following:

668 a. The voter's name and address.

669 b. A statement that the voter is potentially ineligible to
670 be registered to vote.

671 c. A statement that failure to respond within 30 days
672 after the notice is published may result in a determination of
673 ineligibility by the supervisor and removal of the registered
674 voter's name from the statewide voter registration system.

675 d. An instruction for the voter to contact the supervisor
676 no later than 30 days after the date of the published notice to
677 receive information regarding the basis for the potential
678 ineligibility and the procedure to resolve the matter.

679 e. An instruction to the voter that, if further assistance
680 is needed, the voter should contact the supervisor of elections
681 of the county in which the voter is registered.

682 f. A statement that, if the voter denies the accuracy of
683 the information underlying the potential ineligibility, the
684 voter has a right to request a hearing for the purpose of
685 determining eligibility.

686 g. The following statement: "If you attempt to vote at an
687 early voting site or your normal election day polling place, you
688 will be required to vote a provisional ballot. If you vote by
689 mail, your ballot will be treated as a provisional ballot. In
690 either case, your ballot may not be counted until a final
691 determination of eligibility is made. If you wish for your
692 ballot to be counted, you must contact the supervisor of
693 elections office within 2 days after the election and present
694 evidence that you are eligible to vote."

695 3. If a registered voter fails to respond to a notice
696 pursuant to subparagraph 1. or subparagraph 2., the supervisor
697 must make a final determination of the voter's eligibility
698 within 7 days after expiration of the voter's timeframe to
699 respond. If the supervisor determines that the voter is

700 ineligible, the supervisor must remove the name of the
701 registered voter from the statewide voter registration system
702 within 7 days. The supervisor shall notify the registered voter
703 of the supervisor's determination and action.

704 4. If a registered voter responds to the notice pursuant
705 to subparagraph 1. or subparagraph 2. and admits the accuracy of
706 the information underlying the potential ineligibility, the
707 supervisor must, as soon as practicable, make a final
708 determination of ineligibility and remove the voter's name from
709 the statewide voter registration system. The supervisor shall
710 notify the registered voter of the supervisor's determination
711 and action.

712 5. If a registered voter responds to the notice issued
713 pursuant to subparagraph 1. or subparagraph 2. and denies the
714 accuracy of the information underlying the potential
715 ineligibility but does not request a hearing, the supervisor
716 must review the evidence and make a determination of eligibility
717 no later than 30 days after receiving the response from the
718 voter. If the supervisor determines that the registered voter is
719 ineligible, the supervisor must remove the voter's name from the
720 statewide voter registration system upon such determination and
721 notify the registered voter of the supervisor's determination
722 and action and that the removed voter has a right to appeal a
723 determination of ineligibility pursuant to s. 98.0755. If such
724 registered voter requests a hearing, the supervisor must send

725 notice to the registered voter to attend a hearing at a time and
726 place specified in the notice. The supervisor shall schedule and
727 issue notice for the hearing within 7 days after receiving the
728 voter's request for a hearing and shall hold the hearing no
729 later than 30 days after issuing the notice of the hearing. A
730 voter may request an extension upon showing good cause by
731 submitting an affidavit to the supervisor as to why he or she is
732 unable to attend the scheduled hearing. Upon hearing all
733 evidence presented at the hearing, the supervisor shall make a
734 determination of eligibility within 7 days. If the supervisor
735 determines that the registered voter is ineligible, the
736 supervisor must remove the voter's name from the statewide voter
737 registration system and notify the registered voter of the
738 supervisor's determination and action and that the removed voter
739 has a right to appeal a determination of ineligibility pursuant
740 to s. 98.0755.

741 (9)-(8) CERTIFICATION.—

742 (a) No later than July 31 and January 31 of each year, the
743 supervisor shall certify to the department that the supervisor
744 has conducted the activities required pursuant to this section
745 during the first 6 months and the second 6 months of the year,
746 respectively. The certification must include the number of
747 persons to whom notices were sent pursuant to subsection (8)
748 ~~(7)~~; the number of persons who responded to the notices; the
749 number of notices returned as undeliverable; the number of

750 notices published in the newspaper, on the county's website, or
751 on the supervisor's website; the number of hearings conducted;
752 and the number of persons removed from the statewide voter
753 registration system and the reasons for such removals.

754 **Section 11. Effective July 1, 2026, subsection (9) of**
755 **section 98.093, Florida Statutes, is amended, and paragraphs**
756 **(d), (e), and (f) are added to subsection (8) of that section,**
757 **to read:**

758 98.093 Duty of officials to furnish information relating
759 to deceased persons, persons adjudicated mentally incapacitated,
760 persons convicted of a felony, and persons who are not United
761 States citizens.—

762 (8) DEPARTMENT OF HIGHWAY SAFETY AND MOTOR VEHICLES.—The
763 Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles shall furnish
764 weekly to the department the following information:

765 (d) Information identifying those persons who during the
766 preceding week presented evidence of United States citizenship
767 upon being issued a new, renewed, or replacement Florida driver
768 license or Florida identification card. The information must
769 contain the person's name; address; date of birth; last four
770 digits of his or her social security number, if applicable;
771 Florida driver license number or Florida identification card
772 number, if available; the type of documentary proof the person
773 provided in support of his or her citizenship; and, if
774 applicable, the person's alien registration number or other

775 legal status identifier.

776 (e) Information identifying a change in residence address
777 on the Florida driver license or Florida identification card of
778 any person who declined to register or update his or her voter's
779 registration record under s. 97.057(2)(b)2. The information must
780 contain the person's name; date of birth; sex; last four digits
781 of his or her social security number, if available; and Florida
782 driver license or Florida identification card number in order to
783 identify a voter's registration record. The Department of State
784 must report each such change to the appropriate supervisor of
785 elections who must change the voter's registration records in
786 accordance with s. 98.065(4).

787 (f) Information identifying new, renewed, or replacement
788 Florida driver license or Florida identification card numbers
789 issued to persons who declined to register or update his or her
790 voter's registration record under s. 97.057(2)(b)2. The
791 information must contain the person's name; date of birth; last
792 four digits of his or her social security number, if available;
793 and the person's prior and current Florida driver license or
794 Florida identification card number in order to identify a
795 voter's registration record. The Department of State must report
796 the prior and current Florida driver license or Florida
797 identification card numbers to the appropriate supervisor of
798 elections who must update the voter's registration records and
799 provide notice of the change to the registered voter in the same

800 manner as a change of address made in accordance with s.
801 98.065(4).

802 (9) CONSTRUCTION.—This section does not limit or restrict
803 the supervisor in his or her duty to act upon direct receipt of,
804 access to, or knowledge of official information from these and
805 other governmental entities that identify a registered voter as
806 potentially ineligible and to initiate removal of the name of
807 the registered voter who is determined to be ineligible from the
808 statewide voter registration system pursuant to s. 98.075(8) s.
809 98.075(7).

810 **Section 12. Section 98.094, Florida Statutes, is created**
811 **to read:**

812 98.094 Federal jury notice.—

813 (1) The Division of Elections shall provide a list,
814 monthly, of registered voters to federal courts for purposes of
815 selecting jurors and the jury coordinator must provide the
816 division notice regarding any ineligible or potentially
817 ineligible voters.

818 (2) The jury coordinator shall prepare or cause to be
819 prepared a list of each person disqualified or potentially
820 disqualified as a prospective juror from jury service because
821 the person is not a United States citizen, was convicted of a
822 felony, is deceased, is not a resident of this state, or is not
823 a resident of the county in which such jury service is required.
824 The list must be prepared and sent to the division according to

825 the jury summons cycle used by the clerk of court. This section
826 does not prevent the list from being sent more frequently. The
827 list prepared by the jury coordinator may be provided by mail,
828 e-mail, or other electronic means to the division.

829 (3) The jury coordinator shall provide the division with
830 all of the following information about each disqualified or
831 potentially disqualified juror:

- 832 (a) The full name of the juror.
- 833 (b) Current and prior addresses, if any.
- 834 (c) Telephone number, if available.
- 835 (d) Date of birth.
- 836 (e) The reason the prospective juror is disqualified.

837 (4) The division shall provide the information received
838 under subsection (3) to the appropriate supervisor of elections
839 in the county of residence of the disqualified juror in order
840 for the supervisor to initiate address list maintenance under s.
841 98.065 or eligibility maintenance under s. 98.075(8), as
842 applicable.

843 **Section 13. Effective upon becoming a law, paragraphs (b)**
844 **and (c) of subsection (1) of section 99.021, Florida Statutes,**
845 **are amended, and paragraphs (f), (g), and (h) are added to that**
846 **subsection, to read:**

847 99.021 Form of candidate oath.—

848 (1)

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849 (b) In addition, any person seeking to qualify for
850 nomination as a candidate of any political party shall, at the
851 time of subscribing to the oath or affirmation, state in
852 writing:

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

854 2. That the person has been a registered member of the
855 political party for which he or she is seeking nomination as a
856 candidate for at least 365 consecutive days preceding before the
857 beginning of qualifying before preceding the general election
858 for which the person seeks to qualify.

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

862 (c) In addition, any person seeking to qualify for office
863 as a candidate with no party affiliation shall, at the time of
864 subscribing to the oath or affirmation, state in writing that he
865 or she is registered without any party affiliation and that he
866 or she has not been a registered member of any political party
867 for at least 365 consecutive days preceding before the beginning
868 of qualifying before preceding the general election for which
869 the person seeks to qualify.

870 (f) A qualified candidate or a political party with a
871 qualified candidate in the same race may challenge the accuracy
872 of the content of the statement in a candidate's oath or
873 affirmation appearing in subparagraph (a)1. that the person

874 seeking to qualify as a candidate for nomination or election is
875 qualified under the State Constitution to hold the office to
876 which he or she desires to be nominated or elected by filing an
877 action for declaratory and injunctive relief in the circuit
878 court for the county in which the qualifying officer is
879 headquartered. A person may not be qualified as a candidate for
880 nomination or election and his or her name may not appear on the
881 ballot if in an order that has become final, the court
882 determines that the person seeking to qualify as a candidate for
883 nomination or election is not qualified under the State
884 Constitution to hold the office to which he or she desires to be
885 nominated or elected.

886 (g) The statements in subparagraph (b)2. and paragraph (c)
887 constitute substantive requirements for the person completing
888 the statement, and compliance with those requirements is
889 mandatory. The sole method to enforce compliance with such
890 requirements is contained in this paragraph. Compliance with
891 subparagraph (b)2. and paragraph (c) may be challenged by a
892 qualified candidate or a political party with a qualified
893 candidate in the same race by filing an action for declaratory
894 and injunctive relief in the circuit court for the county in
895 which the qualifying officer is headquartered. A person may not
896 be qualified as a candidate for nomination or election and his
897 or her name may not appear on the ballot if in an order that has
898 become final, the court determines that:

899 1. The person seeking to qualify for nomination as a
900 candidate of any political party has not been a registered
901 member of that party for the 365-day period preceding the
902 beginning of qualifying; or

903 2. The person seeking to qualify for office as a candidate
904 with no party affiliation has not been registered without party
905 affiliation for, or has been a registered member of any
906 political party during, the 365-day period preceding the
907 beginning of qualifying.

908 (h) Any candidate or political party bringing an action
909 for declaratory and injunctive relief under paragraph (f) or
910 paragraph (g) is entitled to an expedited final hearing and any
911 appeal of a final hearing shall receive expedited consideration
912 by the appellate court. Upon a final order of the circuit court
913 containing a determination in paragraph (f) or paragraph (g),
914 the supervisor of elections in each county affected by such
915 candidacy shall remove the name of the candidate from the
916 ballot, or if the ballots have already been printed, post a
917 notice to be included with each vote-by-mail ballot, and at each
918 early voting location and polling precinct that a vote for such
919 candidate will not be counted.

920 **Section 14. Subsection (1) of section 101.043, Florida**
921 **Statutes, is amended to read:**

922 101.043 Identification required at polls.—

923 (1) (a) The precinct register, as prescribed in s. 98.461,

924 must shall be used at the polls for the purpose of identifying
925 the elector at the polls before allowing him or her to vote. The
926 clerk or inspector shall require each elector, upon entering the
927 polling place, to present one of the following current and valid
928 picture identifications:

929 1. Florida driver license.

930 2. Florida identification card issued by the Department of
931 Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles.

932 3. United States passport or passport card.

933 4. ~~Debit or credit card.~~

934 4.5. United States uniformed services or Merchant Marine
935 Military identification.

936 ~~6. Student identification.~~

937 ~~7. Retirement center identification.~~

938 ~~8. Neighborhood association identification.~~

939 ~~9. Public assistance identification.~~

940 5.10. Veteran health identification card issued by the
941 United States Department of Veterans Affairs.

942 6.11. A license to carry a concealed weapon or firearm
943 issued pursuant to s. 790.06.

944 7.12. Any other Employee identification card issued by any
945 branch, department, agency, or entity of the Federal Government,
946 the state, a county, or a municipality, excluding identification
947 cards issued by an educational institution.

948 (b) If the picture identification does not contain the

949 signature of the elector, an additional identification that
950 provides the elector's signature ~~is~~ shall be required. The
951 address appearing on the identification presented by the elector
952 may not be used as the basis to challenge an elector's legal
953 residence. The elector must shall sign his or her name in the
954 space provided on the precinct register or on an electronic
955 device provided for recording the elector's signature. The clerk
956 or inspector shall compare the signature with that on the
957 identification provided by the elector and enter his or her
958 initials in the space provided on the precinct register or on an
959 electronic device provided for that purpose and allow the
960 elector to vote if the clerk or inspector is satisfied as to the
961 identity of the elector.

962 **Section 15. Subsection (1) and paragraph (d) of subsection
963 (6) of section 101.048, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:**

964 101.048 Provisional ballots.—

965 (1) At all elections, a voter claiming to be properly
966 registered in the state and eligible to vote at the precinct in
967 the election but whose eligibility cannot be determined, a
968 person whom an election official asserts is not eligible,
969 including, but not limited to, a person to whom notice has been
970 sent pursuant to s. 98.075(8) ~~s. 98.075(7)~~, but for whom a final
971 determination of eligibility has not been made, and other
972 persons specified in the code shall be entitled to vote a
973 provisional ballot. Once voted, the provisional ballot must be

974 placed in a secrecy envelope and thereafter sealed in a
975 provisional ballot envelope. The provisional ballot must be
976 deposited in a ballot box. All provisional ballots must remain
977 sealed in their envelopes for return to the supervisor of
978 elections. The department shall prescribe the form of the
979 provisional ballot envelope. A person casting a provisional
980 ballot has the right to present written evidence supporting his
981 or her eligibility to vote to the supervisor of elections by not
982 later than 5 p.m. on the second day following the election.

983 (6)

984 (d) Instructions must accompany the cure affidavit in
985 substantially the following form:

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

989 1. In order to cure the missing signature or the signature
990 discrepancy on your Provisional Ballot Voter's Certificate and
991 Affirmation, your affidavit should be completed and returned as
992 soon as possible so that it can reach the supervisor of
993 elections of the county in which your precinct is located no
994 later than 5 p.m. on the 2nd day after the election.

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

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

999 a. Tier 1 identification.—Current and valid identification
1000 that includes your name and photograph: Florida driver license;
1001 Florida identification card issued by the Department of Highway
1002 Safety and Motor Vehicles; United States passport or passport
1003 card; United States uniformed services or Merchant Marine; debit
1004 or credit card; military identification; student identification;
1005 retirement center identification; neighborhood association
1006 identification; public assistance identification; veteran health
1007 identification card issued by the United States Department of
1008 Veterans Affairs; Florida license to carry a concealed weapon or
1009 firearm; or any other employee identification card issued by any
1010 branch, department, agency, or entity of the Federal Government,
1011 the state, a county, or a municipality; or

1012 b. Tier 2 identification.—ONLY IF YOU DO NOT HAVE A TIER 1
1013 FORM OF IDENTIFICATION, identification that shows your name and
1014 current residence address: current utility bill; bank statement;
1015 government check; paycheck; or government document (excluding
1016 voter information card).

1017 4. Place the envelope bearing the affidavit into a mailing
1018 envelope addressed to the supervisor. Insert a copy of your
1019 identification in the mailing envelope. Mail (if time permits),
1020 deliver, or have delivered the completed affidavit along with
1021 the copy of your identification to your county supervisor of
1022 elections. Be sure there is sufficient postage if mailed and
1023 that the supervisor's address is correct. Remember, your

1024 information MUST reach your county supervisor of elections no
1025 later than 5 p.m. on the 2nd day following the election or your
1026 ballot will not count.

1027 5. Alternatively, you may fax or e-mail your completed
1028 affidavit and a copy of your identification to the supervisor of
1029 elections. If e-mailing, please provide these documents as
1030 attachments.

1031 6. Submitting a provisional ballot affidavit does not
1032 establish your eligibility to vote in this election or guarantee
1033 that your ballot will be counted. The county canvassing board
1034 determines your eligibility to vote through information provided
1035 on the Provisional Ballot Voter's Certificate and Affirmation,
1036 written evidence provided by you, including information in your
1037 cure affidavit along with any supporting identification, and any
1038 other evidence presented by the supervisor of elections or a
1039 challenger. You may still be required to present additional
1040 written evidence to support your eligibility to vote.

1041 **Section 16. Subsection (1) of section 101.151, Florida
1042 Statutes, is amended to read:**

1043 101.151 Specifications for ballots.—

1044 (1) (a) Marksense Ballots must shall be printed on paper of
1045 such thickness that the printing cannot be distinguished from
1046 the back and must shall meet the specifications of the voting
1047 system that will be used to tabulate the ballots.

1048 (b) Polling places and early voting sites may employ a

1049 ballot-on-demand production system to print individual ~~marksense~~
1050 ballots, including provisional ballots, for eligible voters
1051 ~~electors~~. Ballot-on-demand technology may be used to produce
1052 ~~marksense~~ vote-by-mail, early voting, and election-day ballots.

1053 **Section 17. Subsection (4) of section 101.5606, Florida
1054 Statutes, is amended to read:**

1055 101.5606 Requirements for approval of systems.—No
1056 electronic or electromechanical voting system shall be approved
1057 by the Department of State unless it is so constructed that:

1058 (4) ~~For systems using marksense ballots,~~ It accepts a
1059 rejected ballot pursuant to subsection (3) if a voter chooses to
1060 cast the ballot, but records no vote for any office that has
1061 been overvoted or undervoted.

1062 **Section 18. Section 101.56075, Florida Statutes, is
1063 amended to read:**

1064 101.56075 Voting methods.—For the purpose of designating
1065 ballot selections, all voting must be by official marksense
1066 ballot, using a pen compatible with or recommended for use with
1067 the voting system. Persons with disabilities may vote using
1068 marking device or a voter interface device that produces a
1069 voter-verifiable paper output and meets the voter accessibility
1070 requirements for individuals with disabilities under s. 301 of
1071 the federal Help America Vote Act of 2002 and s. 101.56062.

1072 **Section 19. Subsections (1), (2), and (3) of section
1073 101.5608, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:**

1074 101.5608 Voting at the polls ~~by electronic or~~
1075 ~~electromechanical method~~; procedures.—

1076 (1) Each voter ~~elector~~ desiring to vote shall be
1077 identified to the clerk or inspector of the election as a duly
1078 qualified voter ~~elector~~ of such election and shall sign his or
1079 her name on the precinct register or other form or device
1080 provided by the supervisor. The inspector shall compare the
1081 signature with the signature on the identification provided by
1082 the voter ~~elector~~. If the inspector is reasonably sure that the
1083 person is entitled to vote, the inspector shall provide the
1084 person with a ballot.

1085 (2) When an electronic or electromechanical voting system
1086 utilizes a ballot ~~card or marksense ballot~~, the following
1087 procedures must ~~shall~~ be followed to vote:

1088 (a) After receiving a ballot from an inspector, the voter
1089 ~~elector~~ shall, without leaving the polling place, retire to a
1090 booth or compartment and mark the ballot. After marking his or
1091 her ballot, the voter ~~elector~~ shall place the ballot in a
1092 secrecy envelope so that the ballot will be deposited in the
1093 tabulator without exposing the voter's choices.

1094 (b) Any voter who spoils his or her ballot or makes an
1095 error may return the ballot to the election official and secure
1096 another ballot, except that in no case shall a voter be
1097 furnished more than three ballots. If the vote tabulation device
1098 has rejected a ballot, the ballot must ~~shall~~ be considered

1099 spoiled and a new ballot must ~~shall~~ be provided to the voter
1100 unless the voter chooses to cast the rejected ballot. The
1101 election official, without examining the original ballot, shall
1102 state the possible reasons for the rejection and ~~shall~~ provide
1103 instruction to the voter pursuant to s. 101.5611. A spoiled
1104 ballot must ~~shall~~ be preserved, without examination, in an
1105 envelope provided for that purpose. The stub must ~~shall~~ be
1106 removed from the ballot and placed in an envelope.

1107 (c) The supervisor of elections shall prepare for each
1108 polling place at least one ballot box to contain the ballots of
1109 a particular precinct, and each ballot box must ~~shall~~ be plainly
1110 marked with the name of the precinct for which it is intended.

1111 (3) The Department of State shall promulgate rules
1112 regarding voting procedures to be used when an electronic or
1113 electromechanical voting system is of a type which does not
1114 utilize a ballot ~~card or marksense ballot~~.

1115 **Section 20. Subsection (5) of section 101.5612, Florida
1116 Statutes, is amended to read:**

1117 101.5612 Testing of tabulating equipment.—

1118 (5) Any tests involving ~~marksense~~ ballots pursuant to this
1119 section shall employ test ballots created by the supervisor of
1120 elections using actual ballots that have been printed for the
1121 election. If ballot-on-demand ballots will be used in the
1122 election, the supervisor shall also create test ballots using
1123 the ballot-on-demand technology that will be used to produce

1124 ballots in the election, using the same paper stock as will be
1125 used for ballots in the election.

1126 **Section 21. Section 101.591, Florida Statutes, is amended**
1127 **to read:**

1128 101.591 Voting system automated independent vote
1129 validation process; system approval; procedures audit.—

1130 (1) Before ~~Immediately following~~ the certification of each
1131 election, the county canvassing board or the local board
1132 responsible for certifying the election shall conduct a ~~manual~~
1133 audit ~~or an automated,~~ independent vote validation audit of the
1134 voting systems used in ~~all randomly selected~~ precincts.

1135 (2) (a) ~~A manual audit shall consist of a public manual~~
1136 ~~tally of the votes cast in one randomly selected race that~~
1137 ~~appears on the ballot. The tally sheet shall include election-~~
1138 ~~day, vote by mail, early voting, provisional, and overseas~~
1139 ~~ballots, in at least 1 percent but no more than 2 percent of the~~
1140 ~~precincts chosen at random by the county canvassing board or the~~
1141 ~~local board responsible for certifying the election. If 1~~
1142 ~~percent of the precincts is less than one entire precinct, the~~
1143 ~~audit shall be conducted using at least one precinct chosen at~~
1144 ~~random by the county canvassing board or the local board~~
1145 ~~responsible for certifying the election. Such precincts shall be~~
1146 ~~selected at a publicly noticed canvassing board meeting.~~

1147 (2) (a) ~~(b)~~ An automated independent vote validation process
1148 must audit shall consist of ~~an a public~~ automated verification

1149 of the tally of the votes cast across every race that appears on
1150 the ballot. The tally sheet must shall include all valid
1151 election day, vote-by-mail, early voting, provisional, and
1152 overseas ballots received by the start of the vote validation
1153 process in all at least 20 percent of the precincts chosen at
1154 random by the county canvassing board or the local board
1155 responsible for certifying the election. Such precincts shall be
1156 selected at a publicly noticed canvassing board meeting.

1157 (b) (e) The division shall adopt rules for approval of an
1158 automated independent vote validation process audit system which
1159 provide that the process system, at a minimum, must be:

1160 1. Completely independent of the primary voting system.
1161 2. Fast enough to produce final vote validation audit
1162 results within the timeframe prescribed in subsection (4).
1163 3. Capable of demonstrating that the ballots of record
1164 have been accurately adjudicated by the automated independent
1165 vote validation process in agreement with the vote tabulation
1166 system and is capable of allowing the canvassing board to
1167 manually adjudicate ballots needing review. A canvassing board
1168 is not precluded from reviewing a digital image of a ballot
1169 corresponding to a physical paper ballot in conducting its
1170 review audit system.

1171 (3) The canvassing board shall publish post a notice of
1172 the automated independent vote validation process audit,
1173 including the date, time, and place such process will occur, on

1174 the county website as provided in s. 50.0311, on the supervisor
1175 of election's website, or once in one or more newspapers of
1176 general circulation in the county in which the process will
1177 occur. Such process must be open to the public, ~~in four~~
1178 ~~conspicuous places in the county and on the home page of the~~
1179 ~~county supervisor of elections website.~~

1180 (4) The automated independent vote validation process
1181 ~~audit~~ must be completed and the results made public before the
1182 certification of the election by each county canvassing board
1183 and in accordance with s. 102.141 no later than 11:59 p.m. on
1184 ~~the 7th day following certification of the election by the~~
1185 ~~county canvassing board or the local board responsible for~~
1186 ~~certifying the election.~~

1187 (5) By December 15 of each general election year, the
1188 county canvassing board or the board responsible for certifying
1189 the election shall provide a report with the results of the
1190 automated independent vote validation process audit to the
1191 Department of State in a standard format as prescribed by the
1192 department under s. 101.5911. Each county's ~~The~~ report must be
1193 consolidated into one report and included with the overvote and
1194 undervote report required under s. 101.595(1). The report must,
1195 at a minimum, shall contain all of, ~~but is not limited to~~, the
1196 following ~~items~~:

1197 (a) The overall agreement accuracy of the automated
1198 independent vote validation process audit.

1199 (b) A description of any problems or differences
1200 ~~discrepancies~~ encountered during the automated independent vote
1201 validation process.

1202 (c) The likely cause of such problems or differences
1203 ~~discrepancies~~.

1204 (d) Any recommended corrective action with respect to
1205 avoiding or mitigating such circumstances in future elections.

1206 (6) The department shall consolidate the county automated
1207 independent vote validation results and include the results as
1208 part of the post-general election report submitted to the
1209 Governor, the President of the Senate, and the Speaker of the
1210 House of Representatives by February 15 of each year following a
1211 general election as required under ss. 101.595(3) and
1212 102.141(11) If a manual recount is undertaken pursuant to s.
1213 102.166, the canvassing board is not required to perform the
1214 audit provided for in this section.

1215 **Section 22. Section 101.5911, Florida Statutes, is amended**
1216 **to read:**

1217 101.5911 Rulemaking authority for automated independent
1218 vote validation process approval; voting system audit
1219 procedures. Effective upon this act becoming a law, The
1220 department of State shall adopt rules to implement the
1221 provisions of s. 101.591, as amended by s. 8, chapter 2007-30,
1222 Laws of Florida, which provides for the testing and approval of
1223 an automated independent vote validation process, and prescribes

1224 prescribe detailed automated independent vote validation audit
1225 procedures for each voting system, which must shall be uniform
1226 to the extent practicable, along with the standard form for
1227 automated independent vote validation process audit reports.

1228 **Section 23. Subsections (1) and (3) of section 101.595,
1229 Florida Statutes, are amended to read:**

1230 101.595 Analysis of overvotes and undervotes reports of
1231 voting problems.—

1232 (1) No later than December 15 of each general election
1233 year, the supervisor of elections in each county shall report to
1234 the Department of State the total number of overvotes and
1235 undervotes in the "President and Vice President" or "Governor
1236 and Lieutenant Governor" race that appears first on the ballot
1237 or, if neither appears, the first race appearing on the ballot
1238 pursuant to s. 101.151(2), along with the likely reasons for
1239 such overvotes and undervotes and other information as may be
1240 useful in evaluating the performance of the voting system and
1241 identifying problems with ballot design and instructions which
1242 may have contributed to voter confusion. This report must be
1243 consolidated into one report with the automated independent vote
1244 validation audit report required under s. 101.591(6) s.
1245 101.591(5).

1246 (3) The Department of State shall submit the overvote and
1247 undervote analysis required under subsection (2) as part of the
1248 post-general election report to the Governor, the President of

1249 the Senate, and the Speaker of the House of Representatives by
1250 February 15 of each year following a general election as
1251 required under ss. 101.591(6) and 102.141(11).

1252 **Section 24. Paragraph (d) of subsection (4) of section
1253 101.68, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:**

1254 101.68 Canvassing of vote-by-mail ballot.—

1255 (4)

1256 (d) Instructions must accompany the cure affidavit in
1257 substantially the following form:

1258 READ THESE INSTRUCTIONS CAREFULLY BEFORE COMPLETING THE
1259 AFFIDAVIT. FAILURE TO FOLLOW THESE INSTRUCTIONS MAY CAUSE YOUR
1260 BALLOT NOT TO COUNT.

1261 1. In order to ensure that your vote-by-mail ballot will
1262 be counted, your affidavit should be completed and returned as
1263 soon as possible so that it can reach the supervisor of
1264 elections of the county in which your precinct is located no
1265 later than 5 p.m. on the 2nd day after the election.

1266 2. You must sign your name on the line above (Voter's
1267 Signature).

1268 3. You must make a copy of one of the following forms of
1269 identification:

1270 a. Tier 1 identification.—Current and valid identification
1271 that includes your name and photograph: Florida driver license;
1272 Florida identification card issued by the Department of Highway
1273 Safety and Motor Vehicles; United States passport or passport

1274 card; United States uniformed services or Merchant Marine; debit
1275 ~~or credit card; military identification; student identification;~~
1276 ~~retirement center identification; neighborhood association~~
1277 ~~identification; public assistance identification; veteran health~~
1278 identification card issued by the United States Department of
1279 Veterans Affairs; a Florida license to carry a concealed weapon
1280 or firearm; or any ~~an employee~~ identification card issued by any
1281 branch, department, agency, or entity of the Federal Government,
1282 the state, a county, or a municipality; or

1283 b. Tier 2 identification.—ONLY IF YOU DO NOT HAVE A TIER 1
1284 FORM OF IDENTIFICATION, identification that shows your name and
1285 current residence address: current utility bill, bank statement,
1286 government check, paycheck, or government document (excluding
1287 voter information card).

1288 4. Place the envelope bearing the affidavit into a mailing
1289 envelope addressed to the supervisor. Insert a copy of your
1290 identification in the mailing envelope. Mail (if time permits),
1291 deliver, or have delivered the completed affidavit along with
1292 the copy of your identification to your county supervisor of
1293 elections. Be sure there is sufficient postage if mailed and
1294 that the supervisor's address is correct. Remember, your
1295 information MUST reach your county supervisor of elections no
1296 later than 5 p.m. on the 2nd day after the election, or your
1297 ballot will not count.

1298 5. Alternatively, you may fax or e-mail your completed

1299 affidavit and a copy of your identification to the supervisor of
1300 elections. If e-mailing, please provide these documents as
1301 attachments.

1302 **Section 25. Subsection (2) of section 101.6923, Florida
1303 Statutes, is amended to read:**

1304 101.6923 Special vote-by-mail ballot instructions for
1305 certain first-time voters.—

1306 (2) A voter covered by this section must be provided with
1307 printed instructions with his or her vote-by-mail ballot in
1308 substantially the following form:

1309 READ THESE INSTRUCTIONS CAREFULLY BEFORE MARKING YOUR BALLOT.
1310 FAILURE TO FOLLOW THESE INSTRUCTIONS MAY CAUSE YOUR BALLOT NOT
1311 TO COUNT.

1312 1. In order to ensure that your vote-by-mail ballot will
1313 be counted, it should be completed and returned as soon as
1314 possible so that it can reach the supervisor of elections of the
1315 county in which your precinct is located no later than 7 p.m. on
1316 the date of the election. However, if you are an overseas voter
1317 casting a ballot in a presidential preference primary or general
1318 election, your vote-by-mail ballot must be postmarked or dated
1319 no later than the date of the election and received by the
1320 supervisor of elections of the county in which you are
1321 registered to vote no later than 10 days after the date of the
1322 election. Note that the later you return your ballot, the less
1323 time you will have to cure signature deficiencies, which is

1324 authorized until 5 p.m. local time on the 2nd day after the
1325 election.

1326 2. Mark your ballot in secret as instructed on the ballot.
1327 You must mark your own ballot unless you are unable to do so
1328 because of blindness, disability, or inability to read or write.

1329 3. Mark only the number of candidates or issue choices for
1330 a race as indicated on the ballot. If you are allowed to "Vote
1331 for One" candidate and you vote for more than one, your vote in
1332 that race will not be counted.

1333 4. Place your marked ballot in the enclosed secrecy
1334 envelope and seal the envelope.

1335 5. Insert the secrecy envelope into the enclosed envelope
1336 bearing the Voter's Certificate. Seal the envelope and
1337 completely fill out the Voter's Certificate on the back of the
1338 envelope.

1339 a. You must sign your name on the line above (Voter's
1340 Signature).

1341 b. If you are an overseas voter, you must include the date
1342 you signed the Voter's Certificate on the line above (Date) or
1343 your ballot may not be counted.

1344 c. A vote-by-mail ballot will be considered illegal and
1345 will not be counted if the signature on the Voter's Certificate
1346 does not match the signature on record. The signature on file at
1347 the start of the canvass of the vote-by-mail ballots is the
1348 signature that will be used to verify your signature on the

1349 Voter's Certificate. If you need to update your signature for
1350 this election, send your signature update on a voter
1351 registration application to your supervisor of elections so that
1352 it is received before your vote-by-mail ballot is received.

1353 6. Unless you meet one of the exemptions in Item 7., you
1354 must make a copy of one of the following forms of
1355 identification:

1356 a. Identification which must include your name and
1357 photograph: United States passport or passport card; United
1358 States uniformed services or Merchant Marine; ~~debit or credit~~
~~card; military identification; student identification;~~
~~retirement center identification; neighborhood association~~
~~identification; public assistance identification; veteran health~~
1360 identification card issued by the United States Department of
1361 Veterans Affairs; a Florida license to carry a concealed weapon
1362 or firearm; or ~~any an employee~~ identification card issued by any
1363 branch, department, agency, or entity of the Federal Government,
1364 the state, a county, or a municipality; or

1365 b. Identification which shows your name and current
1366 residence address: current utility bill, bank statement,
1367 government check, paycheck, or government document (excluding
1368 voter information card).

1369 7. The identification requirements of Item 6. do not apply
1370 if you meet one of the following requirements:

1371 a. You are 65 years of age or older.

1374 b. You have a temporary or permanent physical disability.
1375 c. You are a member of a uniformed service on active duty
1376 who, by reason of such active duty, will be absent from the
1377 county on election day.

1378 d. You are a member of the Merchant Marine who, by reason
1379 of service in the Merchant Marine, will be absent from the
1380 county on election day.

1381 e. You are the spouse or dependent of a member referred to
1382 in paragraph c. or paragraph d. who, by reason of the active
1383 duty or service of the member, will be absent from the county on
1384 election day.

1385 f. You are currently residing outside the United States.

1386 8. Place the envelope bearing the Voter's Certificate into
1387 the mailing envelope addressed to the supervisor. Insert a copy
1388 of your identification in the mailing envelope. DO NOT PUT YOUR
1389 IDENTIFICATION INSIDE THE SECRECY ENVELOPE WITH THE BALLOT OR
1390 INSIDE THE ENVELOPE WHICH BEARS THE VOTER'S CERTIFICATE OR YOUR
1391 BALLOT WILL NOT COUNT.

1392 9. Mail, deliver, or have delivered the completed mailing
1393 envelope. Be sure there is sufficient postage if mailed.

1394 10. FELONY NOTICE. It is a felony under Florida law to
1395 accept any gift, payment, or gratuity in exchange for your vote
1396 for a candidate. It is also a felony under Florida law to vote
1397 in an election using a false identity or false address, or under
1398 any other circumstances making your ballot false or fraudulent.

1399 **Section 26. Subsection (2) of section 102.111, Florida**
1400 **Statutes, is amended to read:**

1401 102.111 Elections Canvassing Commission.—

1402 (2) The Elections Canvassing Commission shall meet at 9 &
1403 a.m. on the 9th day after a primary election and at 9 & a.m. on
1404 the 14th day after a general election to certify the returns of
1405 the election for each federal, state, and multicounty office and
1406 for each constitutional amendment. On days the Legislature
1407 convenes for organizational session pursuant to s. 3(a), Art.
1408 III of the State Constitution, such meeting will begin at 8 a.m.

1409 If a member of a county canvassing board that was constituted
1410 pursuant to s. 102.141 determines, within 5 days after the
1411 certification by the Elections Canvassing Commission, that a
1412 typographical error occurred in the official returns of the
1413 county, the correction of which could result in a change in the
1414 outcome of an election, the county canvassing board must certify
1415 corrected returns to the Department of State within 24 hours,
1416 and the Elections Canvassing Commission must correct and
1417 recertify the election returns as soon as practicable.

1418 **Section 27. Subsections (3) through (11) of section**
1419 **102.141, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:**

1420 102.141 County canvassing board; duties.—

1421 (3) The canvass, except the canvass of absent electors'
1422 returns and the canvass of provisional ballots, must ~~shall~~ be
1423 made from the returns and certificates of the inspectors as

1424 signed and filed by them with the supervisor, and the county
1425 canvassing board may shall not change the number of votes cast
1426 for a candidate, nominee, constitutional amendment, or other
1427 measure submitted to the electorate of the county, respectively,
1428 in any polling place, as shown by the returns. All returns must
1429 shall be made to the board on or before 2 a.m. of the day
1430 following any primary, general, or other election. If the
1431 returns from any precinct are missing, if there are any
1432 omissions on the returns from any precinct, or if there is an
1433 obvious error on any such returns, the canvassing board must
1434 shall order a retabulation of the returns from such precinct.
1435 Before canvassing such returns, the canvassing board shall
1436 examine the tabulation of the ballots cast in such precinct and
1437 determine whether the returns correctly reflect the votes cast.
1438 If there is a discrepancy between the returns and the tabulation
1439 of the ballots cast, the tabulation of the ballots cast must
1440 shall be presumed correct and such votes shall be canvassed
1441 accordingly.

1442 (4) (a) The supervisor of elections shall upload into the
1443 county's election management system by 7 p.m. local time on the
1444 day before the election the results of all early voting and
1445 vote-by-mail ballots that have been canvassed and tabulated by
1446 the end of the early voting period. Pursuant to ss. 101.5614(8),
1447 101.657, and 101.68(2), the tabulation of votes cast or the
1448 results of such uploads may not be made public before the close

1449 of the polls on election day.

1450 (b) The supervisor of elections, on behalf of the
1451 canvassing board, shall report all early voting and all
1452 tabulated vote-by-mail results to the Department of State within
1453 30 minutes after the polls close. Thereafter, the canvassing
1454 board shall report, with the exception of provisional ballot
1455 results, updated precinct election results, which must be
1456 uploaded to the department at least every 45 minutes until all
1457 results are completely reported. The supervisor of elections
1458 shall notify the department immediately of any circumstances
1459 that do not permit periodic updates as required. Results must
1460 shall be submitted in a format prescribed by the department.

1461 (5)(a) The canvassing board shall submit on forms or in
1462 formats provided by the division unofficial returns to the
1463 Department of State for each federal, statewide, state, or
1464 multicounty office or ballot measure no later than noon on the
1465 third day after any primary election and no later than noon on
1466 the fourth day after any general or other election. Such returns
1467 must shall include the canvass of all ballots, including write-
1468 in votes, as required by subsection (2).

1469 (b) After unofficial results are reported, each county
1470 must conduct an automated independent vote validation process,
1471 in accordance with s. 101.591, to validate that the votes
1472 processed through the vote tabulation system for a candidate for
1473 any office, candidate for retention to a judicial office, or a

1474 measure appearing on the ballot do not:

1475 1. Have a discrepancy of more than one-half of a percent
1476 when compared to the results of the automated independent vote
1477 validation process; or

1478 2. Result in a change in the outcome of the election.

1479

1480 The automated independent vote validation process must be
1481 completed no later than noon on the 6th day after any primary
1482 election and no later than noon on the 7th day after any general
1483 or other election.

1484 (c) (6) If the county canvassing board determines, after
1485 the county conducts the automated independent vote validation
1486 process in accordance with s. 101.591, and the comparison of the
1487 results of the vote tabulation and the automated independent
1488 vote validation process indicates that the unofficial returns
1489 may contain a counting error in which the vote tabulation system
1490 or the automated independent vote validation process failed to
1491 count votes that were properly marked in accordance with the
1492 instructions on the ballot, the county canvassing board shall:

1493 1. (a) Correct the error and retabulate the affected
1494 ballots with the vote tabulation system or the automated
1495 independent vote validation process; or

1496 2. (b) Request that the Department of State verify the
1497 tabulation software of the affected system or process. When the
1498 Department of State verifies such software, the department shall

1499 compare the software used to tabulate the votes with the
1500 software filed with the department pursuant to s. 101.5607 and
1501 check the election parameters.

1502 (6) (a)++ If the comparison of the results of the vote
1503 tabulation system and the automated independent vote validation
1504 process reflects a difference as described in paragraph (5) (b),
1505 the proper county election official under the oversight of the
1506 county canvassing board must conduct a system validation review
1507 using the images in the automated independent vote validation
1508 process of the ballots in disagreement, which must include, but
1509 is not limited to, a review of any clear overvotes or undervotes
1510 that appear in the automated independent vote validation process
1511 to adjudicate the voter's intent of such ballots before
1512 certification of the county's official results. If the
1513 unofficial returns reflect that a candidate for any office was
1514 defeated or eliminated by one-half of a percent or less of the
1515 votes cast for such office, that a candidate for retention to a
1516 judicial office was retained or not retained by one-half of a
1517 percent or less of the votes cast on the question of retention,
1518 or that a measure appearing on the ballot was approved or
1519 rejected by one-half of a percent or less of the votes cast on
1520 such measure, a system validation review must ~~recount shall~~ be
1521 ordered of the votes cast with respect to such office or
1522 measure. The Secretary of State is responsible for ordering such
1523 system validation reviews ~~recounts~~ in all federal, state, and

1524 multicounty races. The county canvassing board or the local
1525 board responsible for certifying the election is responsible for
1526 ordering a system validation review under this subsection
1527 ~~recounts~~ in all other races. A system validation review ~~recount~~
1528 need not be ordered with respect to the returns for any office,
1529 however, if the candidate or candidates defeated or eliminated
1530 from contention for such office by one-half of a percent or less
1531 of the votes cast for such office request in writing that a
1532 system validation review ~~recount~~ not be made.

1533 (a) Each canvassing board ~~responsible for conducting a~~
1534 ~~recount shall put each marksense ballot through automatic~~
1535 ~~tabulating equipment and determine whether the returns correctly~~
1536 ~~reflect the votes cast. If any marksense ballot is physically~~
1537 ~~damaged so that it cannot be properly counted by the automatic~~
1538 ~~tabulating equipment during the recount, a true duplicate shall~~
1539 ~~be made of the damaged ballot pursuant to the procedures in s.~~
1540 ~~101.5614(4). Immediately before the start of the recount, a test~~
1541 ~~of the tabulating equipment shall be conducted as provided in s.~~
1542 ~~101.5612. If the test indicates no error, the recount tabulation~~
1543 ~~of the ballots cast shall be presumed correct and such votes~~
1544 ~~shall be canvassed accordingly. If an error is detected, the~~
1545 ~~cause therefor shall be ascertained and corrected and the~~
1546 ~~recount repeated, as necessary. The canvassing board shall~~
1547 ~~immediately report the error, along with the cause of the error~~
1548 ~~and the corrective measures being taken, to the Department of~~

1549 state. No later than 11 days after the election, the canvassing
1550 board shall file a separate incident report with the Department
1551 of State, detailing the resolution of the matter and identifying
1552 any measures that will avoid a future recurrence of the error.
1553 If the automatic tabulating equipment used in a recount is not
1554 part of the voting system and the ballots have already been
1555 processed through such equipment, the canvassing board is not
1556 required to put each ballot through any automatic tabulating
1557 equipment again.

1558 (b) Each canvassing board responsible for conducting a
1559 recount where touchscreen ballots were used shall examine the
1560 counters on the precinct tabulators to ensure that the total of
1561 the returns on the precinct tabulators equals the overall
1562 election return. If there is a discrepancy between the overall
1563 election return and the counters of the precinct tabulators, the
1564 counters of the precinct tabulators shall be presumed correct
1565 and such votes shall be canvassed accordingly.

1566 (c) The canvassing board shall submit on forms or in
1567 formats provided by the division a second set of unofficial
1568 returns to the Department of State for each federal, statewide,
1569 state, or multicounty office or ballot measure. The returns
1570 shall be filed no later than 3 p.m. on the 5th day after any
1571 primary election and no later than 3 p.m. on the 9th day after
1572 any general election in which a recount was ordered by the
1573 Secretary of State. If the canvassing board is unable to

1574 complete the recount prescribed in this subsection by the
1575 deadline, the second set of unofficial returns submitted by the
1576 canvassing board shall be identical to the initial unofficial
1577 returns and the submission shall also include a detailed
1578 explanation of why it was unable to timely complete the recount.
1579 However, the canvassing board shall complete the recount
1580 prescribed in this subsection, along with any manual recount
1581 prescribed in s. 102.166, and certify election returns in
1582 accordance with the requirements of this chapter.

1583 (d) The Department of State shall adopt detailed rules
1584 prescribing additional recount procedures for each certified
1585 voting system, which shall be uniform to the extent practicable.

1586 (b) (8) The canvassing board may employ such clerical help
1587 to assist with the work of the board as it deems necessary, with
1588 at least one member of the board present at all times, until the
1589 canvass of the returns is completed. The clerical help must
1590 shall be paid from the same fund as inspectors and other
1591 necessary election officials.

1592 (c) The canvassing board shall publish notice of the
1593 system validation review, including the date, time, and place
1594 such review will occur, on the county website as provided in s.
1595 50.0311, on the supervisor of elections' website, or once in one
1596 or more newspapers of general circulation in the county in which
1597 the review will occur. Such review is open to the public.

1598 (d) The canvassing board shall submit on forms or in

1599 formats provided by the division a vote validation report to the
1600 department for each federal, state, or multicounty office or
1601 ballot measure in accordance with paragraph (5) (b). If the
1602 canvassing board is unable to complete the system validation
1603 review by the deadline, the vote validation report submitted by
1604 the canvassing board must be identical to the initial unofficial
1605 returns and the submission must also include a detailed
1606 explanation of the reason the board was unable to timely
1607 complete the system validation review. However, the canvassing
1608 board shall complete the system validation review prescribed in
1609 this subsection, and certify official election returns, in
1610 accordance with the requirements of this chapter.

1611 (e) The department shall adopt detailed rules prescribing
1612 additional system validation review procedures for each
1613 certified voting system, which must be uniform to the extent
1614 practicable.

1615 (7)-(9) Each member, substitute member, and alternate
1616 member of the county canvassing board and all clerical help must
1617 wear identification badges during any period in which the county
1618 canvassing board is canvassing votes or engaging in other
1619 official duties. The identification badges must ~~should~~ be worn
1620 in a conspicuous and unobstructed area, and include the name of
1621 the individual and his or her official position.

1622 (8)-(10)(a) The supervisor shall file a report with the
1623 Division of Elections on the conduct of the election no later

1624 than 20 business days after the Elections Canvassing Commission
1625 certifies the election. The report must, at a minimum, describe
1626 all of the following:

1627 1. All equipment or software malfunctions at the precinct
1628 level, at a counting location, or within computer and
1629 telecommunications networks supporting a county location, or
1630 issues encountered with any state approved election system,
1631 including, but not limited to, vote tabulation systems and
1632 automated independent vote validation processes, and the steps
1633 that were taken to address the malfunctions.

1634 2. All election definition errors that were discovered
1635 after the logic and accuracy test, and the steps that were taken
1636 to address the errors.

1637 3. All ballot printing errors, vote-by-mail ballot mailing
1638 errors, or ballot supply problems, and the steps that were taken
1639 to address the errors or problems.

1640 4. All staffing shortages or procedural violations by
1641 employees or precinct workers which were addressed by the
1642 supervisor of elections or the county canvassing board during
1643 the conduct of the election, and the steps that were taken to
1644 correct such issues.

1645 5. All instances where needs for staffing or equipment
1646 were insufficient to meet the needs of the voters.

1647 6. Any additional information regarding material issues or
1648 problems associated with the conduct of the election.

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1649 (b) If a supervisor discovers new or additional
1650 information on any of the items required to be included in the
1651 report pursuant to paragraph (a) after the report is filed, the
1652 supervisor must notify the division that new information has
1653 been discovered no later than the next business day after the
1654 discovery, and the supervisor must file an amended report signed
1655 by the supervisor of elections on the conduct of the election
1656 within 10 days after the discovery.

1657 (c) Such reports must be maintained on file in the
1658 Division of Elections and must be available for public
1659 inspection.

1660 (d) The division shall review the conduct of election
1661 reports to determine what problems may be likely to occur in
1662 other elections and disseminate such information, along with
1663 possible solutions and training, to the supervisors of
1664 elections.

1665 (e) For the general election, the department shall submit
1666 the analysis of these reports for the post-general general
1667 election report as part of the consolidated reports required
1668 under ss. 101.591 and 101.595 to the Governor, the President of
1669 the Senate, and the Speaker of the House of Representatives by
1670 February 15 of each year following a general election.

1671 (11) The supervisor shall file with the department a copy
1672 of or an export file from the results database of the county's
1673 voting system and other statistical information as may be

1674 required by the department, the Legislature, or the Election
1675 Assistance Commission. The department shall adopt rules
1676 establishing the required content and acceptable formats for the
1677 filings and time for filings.

1678 **Section 28. Section 102.166, Florida Statutes, is amended**
1679 **to read:**

1680 102.166 Manual review recounts of overvotes and undervotes
1681 in contests.—

1682 (1) If the vote tabulation system indicates and automated
1683 independent vote validation process conducted under ss. 101.591
1684 and 102.141 confirms second set of unofficial returns pursuant
1685 to s. 102.141 indicates that a candidate for any office was
1686 defeated or eliminated by one-quarter of a percent or less of
1687 the votes cast for such office, that a candidate for retention
1688 to a judicial office was retained or not retained by one-quarter
1689 of a percent or less of the votes cast on the question of
1690 retention, or that a measure appearing on the ballot was
1691 approved or rejected by one-quarter of a percent or less of the
1692 votes cast on such measure, a manual review recount of the
1693 overvotes and undervotes cast in the entire geographic
1694 jurisdiction of such office or ballot measure must shall be
1695 ordered and conducted in a manner consistent with s. 102.141(6)
1696 unless:

1697 (a) The candidate or candidates defeated or eliminated
1698 from contention by one-quarter of 1 percent or fewer of the

1699 votes cast for such office request in writing that a manual
1700 review ~~recount~~ not be made; or

1701 (b) The number of overvotes and undervotes is fewer than
1702 the number of votes needed to change the outcome of the
1703 election.

1704
1705 The Secretary of State is responsible for ordering manual
1706 reviews of all ~~a~~ manual ~~recount~~ for federal, state, and
1707 multiconty races. The county canvassing board or local board
1708 responsible for certifying the election is responsible for
1709 ordering a manual review ~~recount~~ for all other races. A manual
1710 review ~~recount~~ consists of a review by a designee of the
1711 canvassing board ~~recount of paper~~ marksense ballots or of
1712 digital images from an independent vote validation system, if
1713 applicable of ~~those~~ ballots by a person.

1714 (2) Any hardware or software used to identify and sort
1715 overvotes and undervotes for a given race or ballot measure must
1716 be certified by the Department of State. Any such hardware or
1717 software must be capable of simultaneously identifying and
1718 sorting overvotes and undervotes in multiple races while
1719 simultaneously counting votes. Overvotes and undervotes must be
1720 identified and sorted while conducting the automated independent
1721 vote validation process ~~recounting~~ ballots pursuant to s.
1722 102.141. Overvotes and undervotes must ~~may~~ be identified and
1723 sorted physically or digitally.

1724 (3) Any manual review must ~~recount~~ shall be open to the
1725 public. Each political party may designate one person with
1726 expertise in the computer field who must be allowed in the
1727 central counting room when the manual review is being conducted
1728 and when the official votes are being counted. The designee may
1729 not interfere with the normal operation of the canvassing board.

1730 (4) (a) A vote for a candidate or ballot measure must ~~shall~~
1731 be counted if there is a clear indication on the ballot that the
1732 voter has made a definite choice.

1733 (b) The Department of State shall adopt specific rules for
1734 the federal write-in absentee ballot and for each certified
1735 voting system prescribing what constitutes a "clear indication
1736 on the ballot that the voter has made a definite choice." The
1737 rules must ~~shall~~ be consistent, to the extent practicable, and
1738 may not:

1739 1. Authorize the use of any electronic or
1740 electromechanical reading device to review a hybrid voting
1741 system ballot that is produced using a voter interface device
1742 and that contains both machine-readable fields and machine-
1743 printed text of the contest titles and voter selections, unless
1744 the printed text is illegible;

1745 2. Exclusively provide that the voter must properly mark
1746 or designate his or her choice on the ballot; or

1747 3. Contain a catch-all provision that fails to identify
1748 specific standards, such as "any other mark or indication

1749 clearly indicating that the voter has made a definite choice."

1750 (c) The rule for the federal write-in absentee ballot must
1751 address, at a minimum, the following issues:

1752 1. The appropriate lines or spaces for designating a
1753 candidate choice and, for state and local races, the office or
1754 ballot measure to be voted, including the proximity of each to
1755 the other and the effect of intervening blank lines.

1756 2. The sufficiency of designating a candidate's first or
1757 last name when no other candidate in the race has the same or a
1758 similar name.

1759 3. The sufficiency of designating a candidate's first or
1760 last name when an opposing candidate has the same or a similar
1761 name, notwithstanding generational suffixes and titles such as
1762 "Jr.," "Sr.," or "III." The rule should contemplate the
1763 sufficiency of additional first names and first initials, middle
1764 names and middle initials, generational suffixes and titles,
1765 nicknames, and, in general elections, the name or abbreviation
1766 of a political party.

1767 4. Candidate designations containing both a qualified
1768 candidate's name and a political party, including those in which
1769 the party designated is the candidate's party, is not the
1770 candidate's party, has an opposing candidate in the race, or
1771 does not have an opposing candidate in the race.

1772 5. Situations where the abbreviation or name of a
1773 candidate is the same as the abbreviation or name of a political

1774 party to which the candidate does not belong, including those in
1775 which the party designated has another candidate in the race or
1776 does not have a candidate in the race.

1777 6. The use of marks, symbols, or language, such as arrows,
1778 quotation marks, or the word "same" or "ditto," to indicate that
1779 the same political party designation applies to all listed
1780 offices or the elector's approval or disapproval of all listed
1781 ballot measures.

1782 7. Situations in which an elector designates the name of a
1783 qualified candidate for an incorrect office.

1784 8. Situations in which an elector designates an otherwise
1785 correct office name that includes an incorrect district number.

1786 (5) Procedures for a manual review ~~recount~~ are as follows:

1787 (a) The county canvassing board shall appoint as many
1788 counting teams of at least two electors as is necessary to
1789 manually review ~~recount~~ the ballots. A counting team must have,
1790 when possible, members of at least two political parties. A
1791 candidate involved in the race may ~~shall~~ not be a member of the
1792 counting team.

1793 (b) Each duplicate ballot prepared pursuant to s.

1794 101.5614(4) or s. 102.141(6) must ~~s. 102.141(7)~~ ~~shall~~ be
1795 compared with the original ballot to ensure the correctness of
1796 the duplicate.

1797 (c) If a counting team is unable to determine whether the
1798 ballot contains a clear indication that the voter has made a

1799 definite choice, the ballot must shall be presented to the
1800 county canvassing board for a determination.

1801 (d) The Department of State shall adopt detailed rules
1802 prescribing additional review ~~recount~~ procedures for each
1803 certified voting system which must shall be uniform to the
1804 extent practicable. The rules must, at a minimum, shall address,
1805 ~~at a minimum,~~ the following areas:

1806 1. Security of ballots during the manual review ~~recount~~
1807 process.~~;~~

1808 2. Time and place of manual reviews. ~~recounts~~;

1809 3. Public observance of manual reviews. ~~recounts~~;

1810 4. Objections to ballot determinations.~~;~~

1811 5. Record of manual review ~~recount~~ proceedings.~~;~~

1812 6. Procedures relating to candidate and petitioner
1813 representatives.~~;~~ and

1814 7. Procedures relating to the certification and the use of
1815 automatic tabulating equipment that is not part of a voting
1816 system.

1817 (6) Nothing in this section precludes a county canvassing
1818 board or local board involved in the manual review ~~recount~~ from
1819 comparing a digital image of a ballot to the corresponding
1820 physical paper ballot during a manual review ~~recount~~.

1821 **Section 29. Effective July 1, 2026, section 104.042,
1822 Florida Statutes, is created to read:**

1823 104.042 Limitations on actions for election fraud.—A

1824 prosecution for a felony violation under the Election Code must
1825 be commenced within 5 years after the date the violation is
1826 committed.

1827 **Section 30. Effective July 1, 2026, paragraph (a) of**
1828 **subsection (12) of section 106.08, Florida Statutes, is amended,**
1829 **paragraphs (c) through (g) are added to that subsection, and**
1830 **paragraph (b) of that subsection is reenacted, to read:**

1831 106.08 Contributions; limitations on.—

1832 (12) (a)1. For purposes of this subsection, the term
1833 "foreign national" means:

1834 a. A foreign government;

1835 b. A foreign political party;

1836 c. A foreign corporation, partnership, association,
1837 organization, or other combination of persons organized under
1838 the laws of or having its principal place of business in a
1839 foreign country;

1840 d. A person with foreign citizenship; or

1841 e. A person who is not a citizen or national of the United
1842 States and is not lawfully admitted to the United States for
1843 permanent residence.

1844 2. The term does not include:

1845 a. A person who is a dual citizen or dual national of the
1846 United States and a foreign country.

1847 b. A domestic subsidiary of a foreign corporation,
1848 partnership, association, organization, or other combination of

1849 persons organized under the laws of or having its principal
1850 place of business in a foreign country if:
1851 (I) The donations and disbursements used toward a
1852 contribution or an expenditure are derived entirely from funds
1853 generated by the subsidiary's operations in the United States;
1854 and
1855 (II) All decisions concerning donations and disbursements
1856 used toward a contribution or an expenditure are made by
1857 individuals who either hold United States citizenship or are
1858 permanent residents of the United States. For purposes of this
1859 sub-sub-subparagraph, decisions concerning donations and
1860 disbursements do not include decisions regarding the
1861 subsidiary's overall budget for contributions or expenditures in
1862 connection with an election or decisions regarding the
1863 subsidiary's support or opposition of an issue in this state.
1864 (b) A foreign national may not make or offer to make,
1865 directly or indirectly, a contribution or expenditure in
1866 connection with any election held in the state.
1867 (c) A political party, a political committee, an
1868 electioneering communications organization, or a candidate may
1869 not knowingly and willfully accept or solicit, directly or
1870 indirectly, a contribution from a foreign national in connection
1871 with any election held in this state.
1872 (d) A person, acting either alone or jointly with,
1873 through, or on behalf of another person, who has knowingly and

1874 willfully received monetary or in-kind donations or gifts from
1875 one or more foreign nationals in an aggregate amount exceeding
1876 \$100,000 over the preceding 4 years, may not make a contribution
1877 or independent expenditure:

1878 1. To a political committee supporting or opposing an
1879 issue in this state; or

1880 2. In support or opposition of an issue in this state.

1881 (e) A political committee supporting or opposing an issue
1882 in this state may not knowingly and willfully accept
1883 contributions from a person, acting either alone or jointly
1884 with, through, or on behalf of another person, who has received
1885 monetary or in-kind donations or gifts from one or more foreign
1886 nationals in an aggregate amount exceeding \$100,000 over the
1887 preceding 4 years.

1888 (f) For purposes of compliance with subsections (d) and
1889 (e), monetary or in-kind donations or gifts from one or more
1890 foreign nationals received by a domestic subsidiary who meets
1891 the requirements of subparagraph (a)2. shall not count towards
1892 the \$100,000 aggregate threshold provided in subsections (d) and
1893 (e), as long as the monetary or in-kind donations or gifts
1894 received are not used for political activity by the domestic
1895 subsidiary.

1896 (g) A person or entity who violates this subsection
1897 commits a felony of the third degree, punishable as provided in
1898 s. 775.082, s. 775.083, or s. 775.084, and shall also be subject

1899 to a civil penalty equal to three times the amount contributed.
1900 Such penalty shall be paid into the General Revenue Fund. Any
1901 penalty imposed against a person that is not an individual
1902 jointly and severally attaches to the chair of the entity if the
1903 entity does not pay the penalty within 30 days. The Florida
1904 Elections Commission shall be responsible for determining
1905 violations, imposing civil penalties, and collecting any unpaid
1906 civil penalties. The Florida Elections Commission shall report
1907 any violations of this subsection to the Office of Election
1908 Crimes and Security to include in the department's report under
1909 s. 97.022.

1910 **Section 31. Section 322.034, Florida Statutes, is created**
1911 **to read:**

1912 322.034 Legal status designation on state-issued driver
1913 licenses and identification cards.—

1914 (1) By July 1, 2027, a Florida driver license or Florida
1915 identification card issued to a qualified applicant who is a
1916 United States citizen as last recorded in the system must
1917 include the legal status of United States citizen on the license
1918 or card at the time of issuance, renewal, or replacement.

1919 (2) Notwithstanding this chapter, the department shall
1920 issue, at no charge, a renewal or replacement license or card if
1921 a licensee or cardholder timely updates his or her legal status
1922 upon becoming a citizen of the United States as required in s.

1923 322.19.

1924 **Section 32. Effective July 1, 2026, paragraph (d) of**
1925 **subsection (8) of section 895.02, Florida Statutes, is amended**
1926 **to read:**

1927 895.02 Definitions.—As used in ss. 895.01-895.08, the
1928 term:

1929 (8) "Racketeering activity" means to commit, to attempt to
1930 commit, to conspire to commit, or to solicit, coerce, or
1931 intimidate another person to commit:

1932 (d) Any A violation of chapter 104 ~~the Florida Election~~
1933 ~~Code relating to irregularities or fraud involving issue~~
1934 ~~petition activities.~~

1935 **Section 33. Subsections (5) and (6) of section 98.065,**
1936 **Florida Statutes, are amended to read:**

1937 98.065 Registration list maintenance programs.—

1938 (5) A notice may not be issued pursuant to this section
1939 and a voter's name may not be removed from the statewide voter
1940 registration system later than 90 days prior to the date of a
1941 federal election. However, this section does not preclude the
1942 correction of registration records based on information
1943 submitted by the voter or removal of the name of a voter from
1944 the statewide voter registration system at any time upon the
1945 voter's written request, by reason of the voter's death, or upon
1946 a determination of the voter's ineligibility as provided in s.
1947 98.075(8) s. 98.075(7).

1948 (6) The supervisor shall, at a minimum, conduct an annual

1949 review of voter registration records to identify registration
1950 records in which a voter is registered at an address that may
1951 not be an address of legal residence for the voter. For those
1952 registration records with such addresses that the supervisor has
1953 reasonable belief are not legal residential addresses, the
1954 supervisor shall initiate list maintenance activities pursuant
1955 to s. 98.075(7) ~~s. 98.075(6)~~ and (8) ~~(7)~~.

1956 **Section 34. Section 98.0755, Florida Statutes, is amended
1957 to read:**

1958 98.0755 Appeal of determination of ineligibility.—Appeal
1959 of the supervisor's determination of ineligibility pursuant to
1960 s. 98.075(8) ~~s. 98.075(7)~~ may be taken to the circuit court in
1961 and for the county where the person was registered. Notice of
1962 appeal must be filed within the time and in the manner provided
1963 by the Florida Rules of Appellate Procedure and acts as
1964 supersedeas. Trial in the circuit court is de novo and governed
1965 by the rules of that court. Unless the person can show that his
1966 or her name was erroneously or illegally removed from the
1967 statewide voter registration system, or that he or she is
1968 indigent, the person must bear the costs of the trial in the
1969 circuit court. Otherwise, the cost of the appeal must be paid by
1970 the supervisor of elections.

1971 **Section 35. Paragraph (b) of subsection (1) of section
1972 101.67, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:**

1973 101.67 Safekeeping of mailed ballots; deadline for

1974 receiving vote-by-mail ballots.—

1975 (1)

1976 (b) To the extent practicable, the supervisor of elections
1977 shall segregate any vote-by-mail ballots received from a person
1978 to whom notice has been sent pursuant to s. 98.075(8) s.
1979 ~~98.075(7)~~, but for whom a final determination of eligibility has
1980 not been made, and shall treat them as provisional ballots for
1981 individual review by the county canvassing board. The supervisor
1982 shall attempt to contact each voter whose ballot has been set
1983 aside under this paragraph in the same manner as if the voter
1984 had voted a provisional ballot under s. 101.048.

1985 **Section 36. Subsection (2) of section 104.16, Florida**

1986 **Statutes, is amended to read:**

1987 104.16 Voting fraudulent ballot.—

1988 (2) Subsection (1) does not apply to an elector to whom
1989 notice has been sent pursuant to s. 98.075(8) s. 98.075(7) and
1990 who votes a provisional ballot or vote-by-mail ballot before a
1991 final determination of eligibility is made.

1992 **Section 37.** Except as otherwise expressly provided in this
1993 act and except for this section, which shall take effect upon
1994 becoming a law, this act shall take effect January 1, 2027.