

CHAMBER ACTION

Senate House Comm: RCS 4/1/2008

The Committee on Ethics and Elections (Constantine) recommended the following amendment:

Senate Amendment (with title amendment)

Delete everything after the enacting clause and insert:

Section 1. Subsection (15) of section 97.012, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

97.012 Secretary of State as chief election officer.--The Secretary of State is the chief election officer of the state, and it is his or her responsibility to:

(15) Conduct preliminary investigations into any irregularities or fraud involving voter registration, voting, or candidate petition, or issue petition activities and report his or her findings to the statewide prosecutor or the state attorney for the judicial circuit in which the alleged violation occurred for prosecution, if warranted. The Department of State may

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prescribe by rule requirements for filing an elections-fraud complaint and for investigating any such complaint.

Section 2. Paragraph (b) of subsection (1) of section 97.041, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

97.041 Qualifications to register or vote.--

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(b) A person who is otherwise qualified may preregister on or after that person's 16th 17th birthday or receipt of a valid Florida driver's license, whichever occurs earlier, and may vote in any election occurring on or after that person's 18th birthday.

Section 3. Effective upon this act becoming a law, subsection (6) of section 97.053, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

97.053 Acceptance of voter registration applications.--

(6) A voter registration application may be accepted as valid only after the department has verified the authenticity or nonexistence of the driver's license number, the Florida identification card number, or the last four digits of the social security number provided by the applicant. If a completed voter registration application has been received by the book-closing deadline but the driver's license number, the Florida identification card number, or the last four digits of the social security number provided by the applicant cannot be verified, the applicant shall be notified that the number cannot be verified application is incomplete and that the applicant voter must provide evidence to the supervisor sufficient to verify the authenticity of the applicant's driver's license number, Florida identification card number, or last four digits of the social security number provided on the application. If the applicant

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voter provides the necessary evidence, the supervisor shall place the applicant's voter's name on the registration rolls as an active voter. If the applicant voter has not provided the necessary evidence or the number has not otherwise been verified prior to the applicant presenting himself or herself to vote, the applicant shall be provided a provisional ballot. The provisional ballot shall be counted only if the number application is verified by the end of the canvassing period or if the applicant presents evidence to the supervisor of elections sufficient to verify the authenticity of the applicant's driver's license number, Florida identification card number, or last four digits of the social security number provided on the application no later than 5 p.m. of the second day following the election.

Section 4. Paragraph (a) of subsection (3) of section 97.0535, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

- 97.0535 Special requirements for certain applicants.--
- (3) (a) The following forms of identification shall be considered current and valid if they contain the name and photograph of the applicant and have not expired:
 - 1. United States passport.
 - 2. Employee badge or identification.
 - 3. Buyer's club identification.
 - 2.4. Debit or credit card.
 - 3.5. Military identification.
 - 4.6. Student identification.
 - 5.7. Retirement center identification.
 - 6.8. Neighborhood association identification.
 - 7.9. Public assistance identification.
- Section 5. Subsection (1) of section 97.055, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:



97.055 Registration books; when closed for an election .--(1)(a) The registration books must be closed on the 29th day before each election and must remain closed until after that

election. If an election is called and there are fewer than 29 days before that election, the registration books must be closed

immediately.

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- (b) Except as provided in paragraph (c), when the registration books are closed for an election, updates to a voter's name, address, and signature pursuant to ss. 98.077 and 101.045 shall be the only changes permitted for purposes of the upcoming election. New voter registration applications and party changes must be accepted but only for the purpose of subsequent elections.
- (c) When the registration books are closed for an upcoming election, an update or change to a voter's party affiliation made pursuant to s. 97.1031 shall be permitted for that upcoming election unless such election is for the purpose of nominating a political party nominee, in which case the update or change shall be permitted only for the purpose of subsequent elections.

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

98.065 Registration list maintenance programs. --

(4) (a) If the supervisor receives change-of-address information pursuant to the activities conducted in subsection (2), from jury notices signed by the voter and returned to the courts, from the Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles, or from other sources, which information indicates that the legal address of a registered voter's legal residence voter might have changed to another location within the state, the supervisor must change the registration records to reflect the new address and

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must shall send the voter by forwardable return-if-undeliverable mail an address change confirmation notice as provided in s. 98.0655(2) to the address at which the voter was last registered. A supervisor may also send an address confirmation notice to any voter who the supervisor has reason to believe has moved from his or her legal residence.

(b) If the supervisor of elections receives change-ofaddress information pursuant to the activities conducted in subsection (2), from jury notices signed by the voter and returned to the courts, or from other sources which indicates that a registered voter's legal residence might have changed to a location outside the state, the supervisor of elections shall send an address confirmation final notice to the voter as provided in s. 98.0655(3). The address confirmation notice shall contain a postage prepaid, preaddressed return form on which:

1. If the voter has changed his or her address of legal residence to a location outside the state, the voter shall mark that the voter's legal residence has changed to a location outside the state. The form shall also include information on how to register in the new state in order to be eligible to vote. The form must be returned within 30 days after the date of the notice. The completed form shall constitute a request to be removed from the statewide voter registration system.

2. If the voter has changed his or her address of legal residence to a location inside the state, the voter shall set forth the updated or corrected address and submit the return form within 30 days after the date of the notice. The completed form shall constitute a request to update the statewide voter registration system with the updated or corrected address information.

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3. If the voter has not changed his or her address of legal residence as printed on the address confirmation notice, the voter shall confirm that his or her address of legal residence has not changed and submit the form within 30 days after the date of the notice.

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

Section 7. Section 98.0655, Florida Statutes, is created to read:

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

- (1) An address confirmation request that must contain:
- (a) The voter's name and address of legal residence as shown on the voter registration record; and

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- (b) A request that the voter notify the supervisor if either the voter's name or address of legal residence is incorrect.
- (2) An address change notice that must be sent to the newly recorded address of legal residence by forwardable mail, including a postage prepaid, preaddressed return form with which the voter may verify or correct the voter's new address information.
- (3) An address confirmation final notice that must be sent to the newly recorded address of legal residence by forwardable mail and must contain a postage prepaid, preaddressed return form and a statement that:
- (a) If the voter has not changed his or her legal residence or has changed his or her legal residence within the state, the voter should return the form within 30 days after the date on which the notice was sent to the voter.
- (b) If the voter has changed his or her legal residence to a location outside the state:
- 1. The voter shall return the form, which serves as a request to be removed from the registration books; and
- 2. The voter shall be provided with information on how to register in the new jurisdiction in order to be eligible to vote.
- (c) If the return form is not returned, the voter's name shall be designated as inactive in the statewide voter registration system.
- Section 8. Effective July 1, 2008, subsection (3) of section 98.075, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
- 194 98.075 Registration records maintenance activities; 195 ineligibility determinations. --

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(3) DECEASED PERSONS. -- The department shall identify those registered voters who are deceased by comparing information on the lists of deceased persons received from the Department of Health as provided in s. 98.093. Upon receipt of such information through the statewide voter registration system, the supervisor shall remove the name of the registered voter. Additionally, the supervisor shall remove the name of a deceased registered voter from the statewide voter registration system upon receipt of a copy of a death certificate issued by a governmental agency authorized to issue death certificates.

Section 9. Subsection (2), paragraph (a) of subsection (3), and subsections (6) and (7) of section 99.012, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

- 99.012 Restrictions on individuals qualifying for public office.--
- (2) No person may qualify as a candidate for more than one public office, whether federal, state, district, county, or municipal, if the terms or any part thereof run concurrently with each other.
- (3) (a) No officer may qualify as a candidate for another public office, whether state, district, county, or municipal public office, if the terms or any part thereof run concurrently with each other, without resigning from the office he or she presently holds.
 - (6) This section does not apply to:
 - (a) Political party offices.
- (b) Persons serving without salary as members of an appointive board or authority.
 - (c) Persons seeking any federal public office.



(7) Nothing contained in subsection subsections (3) and (4) relates to persons holding any federal office.

Section 10. Paragraph (a) of subsection (1) of section 99.021, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

99.021 Form of candidate oath.--

(1)(a)1. Each candidate, whether a party candidate, a candidate with no party affiliation, or a write-in candidate, in order to qualify for nomination or election to any office other than a judicial office as defined in chapter 105 or a federal office, shall take and subscribe to an oath or affirmation in writing. A printed copy of the oath or affirmation shall be furnished to the candidate by the officer before whom such candidate seeks to qualify and shall be substantially in the following form:

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> Before me, an officer authorized to administer oaths, personally appeared (please print name as you wish it to appear on the ballot) , to me well known, who, being sworn, says that he or she is a candidate for the office of ; that he or she is a qualified elector of County, Florida; that he or she is qualified under the Constitution and the laws of Florida to hold the office to which he or she desires to be nominated or elected; that he or she has taken the oath required by ss. 876.05-876.10, Florida Statutes; that he or she has qualified for no other public office in the state, the term of which office or any part thereof runs concurrent with that of the office he or she seeks; and that he or she has resigned from any office from



254 which he or she is required to resign pursuant to s. 99.012, 255 Florida Statutes. 256 (Signature of candidate) 257 (Address) 258 259 Sworn to and subscribed before me this _____ day of _____, 260 (year) , at County, Florida. 261 (Signature and title of officer administering oath) 262 263 2. Each candidate for federal office, whether a party 264 candidate, a candidate with no party affiliation, or a write-in 265 candidate, in order to qualify for nomination or election to 266 office shall take and subscribe to an oath or affirmation in writing. A printed copy of the oath or affirmation shall be 267 furnished to the candidate by the officer before whom such 268 269 candidate seeks to qualify and shall be substantially in the 270 following form: 271 272 State of Florida 273 County of Before me, an officer authorized to administer oaths, 274 275 personally appeared (please print name as you wish it to appear 276 on the ballot) , to me well known, who, being sworn, says that 277 he or she is a candidate for the office of ; that he or she 278 is qualified under the Constitution and laws of the United States to hold the office to which he or she desires to be nominated or 279 280 elected; and that he or she has qualified for no other public 281 office in the state, the term of which office or any part thereof runs concurrent with that of the office he or she seeks; and that 282



283 he or she has resigned from any office from which he or she is required to resign pursuant to s. 99.012, Florida Statutes. 284 285 (Signature of candidate) (Address) 286 287 288 Sworn to and subscribed before me this _____ day of _____, (year) , at County, Florida. 289 290 (Signature and title of officer administering oath) 291 292 293 Section 11. Paragraph (b) of subsection (3) of section 99.097, Florida Statutes, is amended to read: 294 295 99.097 Verification of signatures on petitions.--296 (3) 297 (b) If a voter signs a petition and lists an address other than the legal residence where the voter is registered, the 298 299 petition shall not be counted. The supervisor shall mail to the 300 voter a new voter registration application on which the voter may 301 submit an address update, along with the reason the new application is being sent treat the signature as if the voter had 302 303 listed the address where the voter is registered. 304 Section 12. Section 100.221, Florida Statutes, is amended 305 to read: 100.221 General election laws to govern bond 306 307 referenda. -- The laws governing the holding of general elections 308 are applicable to bond referenda, except as provided in ss. 100.201-100.351. A county, district, or municipality is not 309 310 required to offer early voting for a bond referendum that is not 311 held in conjunction with a county or state election. The places for voting in a bond referendum shall be the same as the places 312

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for voting in general elections, when a bond referendum is held in the county or district; however, but when a bond referendum is held in a municipality, the polling places shall be the same as in other municipal elections.

Section 13. Section 100.361, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

100.361 Municipal recall.--

- APPLICATION; DEFINITION RECALL PETITION. -- Any member of the governing body of a municipality or charter county, hereinafter referred to in this section as "municipality," may be removed from office by the electors of the municipality. When the official represents a district and is elected only by electors residing in that district, only electors from that district are eligible to sign the petition to recall that official and are entitled to vote in the recall election. When the official represents a district and is elected at-large by the electors of the municipality, all electors of the municipality are eligible to sign the petition to recall that official and are entitled to vote in the recall election. Where used in this section, the term "district" shall be construed to mean the area or region of a municipality from which a member of the governing body is elected by the electors from such area or region. Members may be removed from office pursuant to by the procedures provided in this section. This method of removing members of the governing body of a municipality is in addition to any other method provided by state law. following procedure:
 - (2) RECALL PETITION. --
- Petition content. -- A petition shall contain the name of be prepared naming the person sought to be recalled and containing a statement of grounds for recall. The statement of

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grounds may not exceed in not more than 200 words and the stated grounds are limited solely to those the grounds specified in paragraph (d) (b). If more than one member of the governing body is sought to be recalled, whether such member is elected by the electors of a district or by the electors of the municipality atlarge, a separate recall petition shall be prepared for each member sought to be recalled. Upon request, the content of a petition should be, but is not required to be, provided by the proponent in alternative formats.

(b) Requisite signatures. --

- In a municipality or district of fewer than 500 electors, the petition shall be signed by at least 50 electors or by 10 percent of the total number of registered electors of the municipality or district as of the preceding municipal election, whichever is greater.
- In a municipality or district of 500 or more but fewer than 2,000 registered electors, the petition shall be signed by at least 100 electors or by 10 percent of the total number of registered electors of the municipality or district as of the preceding municipal election, whichever is greater.
- 3. In a municipality or district of 2,000 or more but fewer than 5,000 registered electors, the petition shall be signed by at least 250 electors or by 10 percent of the total number of registered electors of the municipality or district as of the preceding municipal election, whichever is greater.
- 4. In a municipality or district of 5,000 or more but fewer than 10,000 registered electors, the petition shall be signed by at least 500 electors or by 10 percent of the total number of registered electors of the municipality or district as of the preceding municipal election, whichever is greater.

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- 5. In a municipality or district of 10,000 or more but fewer than 25,000 registered electors, the petition shall be signed by at least 1,000 electors or by 10 percent of the total number of registered electors of the municipality or district as of the preceding municipal election, whichever is greater.
- In a municipality or district of 25,000 or more registered electors, the petition shall be signed by at least 1,000 electors or by 5 percent of the total number of registered electors of the municipality or district as of the preceding municipal election, whichever is greater.

Electors of the municipality or district making charges contained in the statement of grounds for recall and those signing the recall petition shall be designated as the "committee." A specific person shall be designated in the petition as chair of the committee to act for the committee. Electors of the municipality or district are eligible to sign the petition. Signatures and oaths of witnesses shall be executed as provided in paragraph (c). All signatures shall be obtained, as provided in paragraph (e), within a period of 30 days, and all signed and dated petition forms the petition shall be filed at the same time, no later than within 30 days after the date on which the first signature is obtained on the petition.

(c) Recall committee. -- Electors of the municipality or district making charges contained in the statement of grounds for recall, as well as those signing the recall petition, shall be designated as the recall committee. A specific person shall be designated in the petition as chair of the committee and this person shall act for the committee. The recall committee and the

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officer being recalled are subject to the provisions of chapter 106.

- (d) (b) Grounds for recall. -- The grounds for removal of elected municipal officials shall, for the purposes of this act, be limited to the following and must be contained in the petition:
 - 1. Malfeasance;
 - 2. Misfeasance;
 - 3. Neglect of duty;
 - 4. Drunkenness;
 - 5. Incompetence;
 - 6. Permanent inability to perform official duties; and
 - 7. Conviction of a felony involving moral turpitude.

(e) (c) Signature process. -- Only electors of the municipality or district are eligible to sign the petition. Each elector of the municipality signing a petition shall sign and date his or her name in ink or indelible pencil as registered in the office of the supervisor of elections and shall state on the petition his or her place of residence and voting precinct. Each petition shall contain appropriate lines for each elector's original the signature, printed name, and street address, city, county, voter registration number or date of birth, and date signed. The form shall also contain lines for of the elector and an oath, to be executed by a witness who is to verify thereof, verifying the fact that the witness saw each person sign the counterpart of the petition, that each signature appearing thereon is the genuine signature of the person it purports to be, and that the petition was signed in the presence of the witness on the date indicated.

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(f) (d) Filing of signed petitions. -- All signed petition forms The petition shall be filed at the same time, no later than 30 days after the date on which the first signature is obtained on the petition. with the auditor or clerk of the municipality or charter county, or his or her equivalent, hereinafter referred to as clerk, by The person designated as chair of the committee shall file the signed petition forms with the auditor or clerk of the municipality or charter county, or his or her equivalent, hereinafter referred to as "clerk." The petition may not be amended after it is filed with the clerk.

(g) Verification of signatures. --

1. Immediately after the filing of the petition forms, and, when the petition is filed, the clerk shall submit such forms petition to the county supervisor of elections. No more than 30 days after the date on which all petition forms are submitted to the supervisor by the clerk, the supervisor who shall promptly verify the signatures in accordance with s. 99.097, and within a period of not more than 30 days after the petition is filed with the supervisor, determine whether the requisite number of valid signatures has been obtained for the petition contains the required valid signatures. The committee seeking verification of the signatures shall pay in advance to the supervisor the sum of 10 cents for each signature checked or the actual cost of checking such signatures, whichever is less. The petition cannot be amended after it is filed with the clerk. The supervisor shall be paid by the persons or committee seeking verification the sum of 10 cents for each name checked.

2. Upon filing with the clerk, the petition and all subsequent papers or forms required or permitted to be filed with

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the clerk in connection with this section must, upon request, be made available in alternative formats by the clerk.

- 3.(e) If the supervisor determines it is determined that the petition does not contain the requisite number of verified and valid required signatures, the clerk shall, upon receipt of such written determination, so certify to the governing body of the municipality or charter county and file the petition without taking further action, and the matter shall be at an end. No additional names may be added to the petition, and the petition shall not be used in any other proceeding.
- 4.(f) If the supervisor determines it is determined that the petition has the requisite number of verified and valid required signatures, then the procedures outlined in subsection (3) must be followed.
 - (3) RECALL PETITION AND DEFENSE. --
- (a) Notice. -- Upon receipt of a written determination that the requisite number of signatures has been obtained, the clerk shall at once serve upon the person sought to be recalled a certified copy of the petition. Within 5 days after service, the person sought to be recalled may file with the clerk a defensive statement of not more than 200 words.
- (b) Content and preparation. -- Within 5 days after the date of receipt of the defensive statement or after the last date a defensive statement could have been filed, the clerk shall, τ within 5 days, prepare a document entitled "Recall Petition and Defense." The "Recall Petition and Defense" shall consist sufficient number of typewritten, printed, or mimeographed copies of the recall petition, including copies of the originally signed petitions and counterparts. The "Recall Petition and Defense" must contain lines which conform to the provisions of paragraph

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(2) (e)., and the and defensive statement or, if no defensive statement has been filed, a statement to that effect. The clerk shall make copies of the "Recall Petition and Defense" which are sufficient to carry the signatures of 30 percent of the registered electors. Immediately after preparing and making sufficient copies of the "Recall Petition and Defense," the clerk shall as well as the names, addresses, and oaths on the original petition, and deliver the copies them to the person who has been designated as chair of the committee and take his or her receipt therefor. Such prepared copies shall be entitled "Recall Petition and Defense" and shall contain lines and spaces for signatures and printed names of registered electors, place of residence, election precinct number, and date of signing, together with oaths to be executed by the witnesses which conform to the provisions of paragraph (c). The clerk shall deliver forms sufficient to carry the signatures of 30 percent of the registered electors.

(c) (g) Requisite signatures. -- Upon receipt of the "recall petition and defense," the committee may circulate them to obtain the signatures of 15 percent of the electors. All signatures shall be obtained and all signed petition forms filed with the clerk no later than 60 days after delivery of the "Recall Petition and Defense" to the chair of the committee. Any elector who signs a recall petition shall have the right to demand in writing that his or her name be stricken from the petition. A written demand signed by the elector shall be filed with the clerk and upon receipt of the demand the clerk shall strike the name of the elector from the petition and place his or her initials to the side of the signature stricken. However, no signature may be stricken after the clerk has delivered the

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"Recall Petition and Defense" to the supervisor of elections for verification.

- (d) (h) Signed petitions; request for striking name. -- Within 60 days after delivery of the "Recall Petition and Defense" to the chair, the chair shall file with the clerk the "Recall Petition and Defense" which bears the signatures of electors. The clerk shall assemble all signed petitions, check to see that each petition is properly verified by the oath of a witness, and submit such petitions to the county supervisor of elections. Any elector who signs a recall petition has the right to demand in writing that his or her name be stricken from the petition. A written demand signed by the elector shall be filed with the clerk and upon receipt of the demand, the clerk shall strike the name of the elector from the petition and place his or her initials to the side of the signature stricken. However, a signature may not be stricken after the clerk has delivered the "Recall Petition and Defense" to the supervisor for verification of the signatures.
- (e) Verification of signatures. -- Within 30 days after receipt of the signed "Recall Petition and Defense," the supervisor, who shall determine the number of valid signatures, purge the names withdrawn, and certify within 30 days whether 15 percent of the qualified electors of the municipality have signed the petitions, and report his or her findings to the governing body. The supervisor shall be paid by the persons or committee seeking verification the sum of 10 cents for each name checked.
- (f) (i) Reporting. -- If the supervisor determines that the requisite number of signatures has not been obtained petitions do not contain the required signatures, the clerk shall, upon receipt of such written determination, certify report such

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determination fact to the governing body and retain file the petitions. The proceedings shall be terminated, and the petitions shall not again be used. If the supervisor determines that signatures do amount to at least 15 percent of the qualified electors signed the petition, the clerk shall, immediately upon receipt of such written determination, serve notice of that determination fact upon the person sought to be recalled and deliver to the governing body a certificate as to the percentage of qualified electors voters who signed.

(4) (2) RECALL ELECTION. -- If the person designated in the petition files with the clerk, within 5 days after the lastmentioned notice, his or her written resignation, the clerk shall at once notify the governing body of that fact, and the resignation shall be irrevocable. The governing body shall then proceed to fill the vacancy according to the provisions of the appropriate law. In the absence of a resignation, the chief judge of the judicial circuit in which the municipality is located shall fix a day for holding a recall election for the removal of those not resigning. Any such election shall be held not less than 30 days or more than 60 days after the expiration of the 5day period last-mentioned and at the same time as any other general or special election held within the period; but if no such election is to be held within that period, the judge shall call a special recall election to be held within the period aforesaid.

(5) (3) BALLOTS. -- The ballots at the recall election shall conform to the following: With respect to each person whose removal is sought, the question shall be submitted: "Shall be removed from the office of _____ by recall?" Immediately

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following each question there shall be printed on the ballots the two propositions in the order here set forth:

- (name of person) should be removed from office."
- (name of person) should not be removed from office."
- (6) (4) FILLING OF VACANCIES; SPECIAL ELECTIONS.--
- If an election is held for the recall of members elected only at-large, candidates to succeed them for the unexpired terms shall be voted upon at the same election and shall be elected in the same manner as provided by the appropriate law for the election of candidates at general elections. Candidates shall not be elected to succeed any particular member. If only one member is removed, the candidate receiving the highest number of votes shall be declared elected to fill the vacancy. If more than one member is removed, candidates equal in number to the number of members removed shall be declared elected to fill the vacancies; and, among the successful candidates, those receiving the greatest number of votes shall be declared elected for the longest terms. Cases of ties, and all other matters not herein specially provided for, shall be determined by the rules governing elections generally.
- If an election is held for the recall of members elected only from districts, candidates to succeed them for the unexpired terms shall be voted upon at a special election called by the chief judge of the judicial circuit in which the districts are located not less than 30 days or more than 60 days after the expiration of the recall election. The qualifying period, for purposes of this section, shall be established by the chief judge of the judicial circuit after consultation with the clerk. Any candidate seeking election to fill the unexpired term of a recalled district municipal official shall reside in the district

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represented by the recalled official and qualify for office in the manner required by law. Each candidate receiving the highest number of votes for each office in the special district recall election shall be declared elected to fill the unexpired term of the recalled official. Candidates seeking election to fill a vacancy created by the removal of a municipal official shall be subject to the provisions of chapter 106.

- (c) When an election is held for the recall of members of the governing body composed of both members elected at-large and from districts, candidates to succeed them for the unexpired terms shall be voted upon at a special election as provided in paragraph (b).
- (d) However, in any recall election held pursuant to paragraph (b) or paragraph (c), if only one member is voted to be removed from office, the vacancy created by the recall shall be filled by the governing body according to the provisions of the appropriate law for filling vacancies.
- (7) EFFECT OF RESIGNATIONS.--If the member of the governing body being recalled resigns from office prior to the recall election, the remaining members shall fill the vacancy created according to the appropriate law for filling vacancies. If all of the members of the governing body are sought to be recalled and all of the members resign prior to the recall election, the recall election shall be canceled, and a special election shall be called to fill the unexpired terms of the resigning members. If all of the members of the governing body are sought to be recalled and any of the members resign prior to the recall election, the proceedings for the recall of members not resigning and the election of successors to fill the

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unexpired terms shall continue and have the same effect as though there had been no resignation.

- (8) (6) WHEN PETITION MAY BE FILED. -- No petition to recall any member of the governing body of a municipality shall be filed until the member has served one-fourth of his or her term of office. No person removed by a recall, or resigning after a petition has been filed against him or her, shall be eligible to be appointed to the governing body within a period of 2 years after the date of such recall or resignation.
- (9) RETENTION OF PETITION. -- The clerk shall preserve in his or her office all papers comprising or connected with a petition for recall for a period of 2 years after they were filed. This method of removing members of the governing body of a municipality is in addition to such other methods now or hereafter provided by the general laws of this state.
- (10) (7) OFFENSES RELATING TO PETITIONS. -- No person shall impersonate another, purposely write his or her name or residence falsely in the signing of any petition for recall or forge any name thereto, or sign any paper with knowledge that he or she is not a qualified elector of the municipality. No expenditures for campaigning for or against an officer being recalled shall be made until the date on which the recall election is to be held is publicly announced. The committee and the officer being recalled shall be subject to chapter 106. No person shall employ or pay another to accept employment or payment for circulating or witnessing a recall petition. Any person violating any of the provisions of this section commits shall be deemed quilty of a misdemeanor of the second degree and shall, upon conviction, be punished as provided by law.

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(11) (8) INTENT. -- It is the intent of the Legislature that the recall procedures provided in this act shall be uniform statewide. Therefore, all municipal charter and special law provisions which are contrary to the provisions of this act are hereby repealed to the extent of this conflict.

(12) (9) PROVISIONS APPLICABLE. -- The provisions of this act shall apply to cities and charter counties whether or not they have adopted recall provisions.

Section 14. Effective July 1, 2008, subsections (3), (4), and (6) of section 100.371, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

100.371 Initiatives; procedure for placement on ballot.--

- (3) An initiative petition form circulated for signature may not be bundled with or attached to any other petition. Each signature shall be dated when made and shall be valid for a period of 4 years following such date, provided all other requirements of law are met. The sponsor shall submit signed and dated forms to the appropriate supervisor of elections for verification as to the number of registered electors whose valid signatures appear thereon. The supervisor shall promptly verify the signatures within 30 days of receipt of the petition forms and payment of the fee required by s. 99.097. The supervisor shall promptly record in the statewide voter registration system, in the manner prescribed by the Secretary of State, the date each form is received by the supervisor, and the date the signature on the form is verified as valid. The supervisor may verify that the signature on a form is valid only if:
- The form contains the original signature of the purported elector.

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- The purported elector has accurately recorded on the (b) form the date on which he or she signed the form.
- The form accurately sets forth the purported elector's name, street address, county, and voter registration number or date of birth.
- The purported elector is, at the time he or she signs the form, a duly qualified and registered elector authorized to vote in the county in which his or her signature is submitted.

The supervisor shall retain the signature forms for at least 1 year following the election in which the issue appeared on the ballot or until the Division of Elections notifies the supervisors of elections that the committee which circulated the petition is no longer seeking to obtain ballot position.

- The Secretary of State shall determine from the signatures verified by the supervisors of elections and recorded in the statewide voter registration system the total number of verified valid signatures and the distribution of such signatures by congressional districts. Upon a determination that the requisite number and distribution of valid signatures have been obtained, the secretary shall issue a certificate of ballot position for that proposed amendment and shall assign a designating number pursuant to s. 101.161.
- (6)(a) An elector's signature on a petition form may be revoked within 150 days of the date on which he or she signed the petition form by submitting to the appropriate supervisor of elections a signed petition-revocation form adopted by rule for this purpose by the division.
- The petition-revocation form and the manner in which signatures are obtained, submitted, and verified shall be subject

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to the same relevant requirements and timeframes as the corresponding petition form and processes under this code and shall be approved by the Secretary of State before any signature on a petition-revocation form is obtained.

- In those circumstances in which a petition-revocation form for a corresponding initiative petition has not been submitted and approved, an elector may complete and submit a standard petition-revocation form directly to the supervisor of elections. All other requirements and processes apply for the submission and verification of the signatures as for initiative petitions.
- (d) Supervisors of elections shall provide petitionrevocation forms to the public at all main and branch offices.
- (e) (d) The petition-revocation form shall be filed with the supervisor of elections by February 1 preceding the next general election or, if the initiative amendment is not certified for ballot position in that election, by February 1 preceding the next successive general election. The supervisor of elections shall promptly verify the signature on the petition-revocation form and process such revocation upon payment, in advance, of a fee of 10 cents or the actual cost of verifying such signature, whichever is less. The supervisor shall promptly record each valid and verified signature on a petition-revocation form in the statewide voter registration system in the manner prescribed by the Secretary of State.
- (f) The division shall adopt by rule the petitionrevocation forms to be used under this subsection.

Section 15. Section 101.041, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

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101.041 Secret voting. -- In all elections held on any subject which may be submitted to a vote, and for all or any state, county, district, or municipal officers, the voting shall be by secret, official ballot printed and distributed as provided by this code, and no vote shall be received or counted in any election, except as prescribed by this code.

Section 16. Section 101.045, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

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

- (1) No person shall be permitted to vote in any election precinct or district other than the one in which the person has his or her legal residence and in which the person is registered. However, a person temporarily residing outside the county shall be registered in the precinct in which the main office of the supervisor, as designated by the supervisor, is located when the person has no permanent address in the county and it is the person's intention to remain a resident of Florida and of the county in which he or she is registered to vote. Such persons who are registered in the precinct in which the main office of the supervisor, as designated by the supervisor, is located and who are residing outside the county with no permanent address in the county shall not be registered electors of a municipality and therefore shall not be permitted to vote in any municipal election.
- (2) (a) An elector who moves from the precinct in which the elector is registered may be permitted to vote in the precinct to which he or she has moved his or her legal residence, provided such elector completes an affirmation in substantially the following form:



785 786 Change of Legal Residence of Registered 787 Voter 788 789 Under penalties for false swearing, I, (Name of voter) , swear 790 (or affirm) that the former address of my legal residence was 791 (Address of legal residence) in the municipality of , in 792 County, Florida, and I was registered to vote in the 793 precinct of County, Florida; that I have not voted in the 794 precinct of my former registration in this election; that I now 795 reside at (Address of legal residence) in the Municipality of , in County, Florida, and am therefore eligible to 796 vote in the ____ precinct of ____ County, Florida; and I 797 798 further swear (or affirm) that I am otherwise legally registered 799 and entitled to vote. 800 801 (Signature of voter whose address of legal residence has 802 changed) 803 (b) An elector whose name changes because of marriage or 804 other legal process may be permitted to vote, provided such elector completes an affirmation in substantially the following 805 806 form: 807 808 Change of Name of Registered 809 Voter 810 Under penalties for false swearing, I, (New name of voter) , 811 812 swear (or affirm) that my name has been changed because of marriage or other legal process. My former name and address of 813

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legal residence appear on the registration records of precinct

815 as follows: 816 Name 817 Address 818 Municipality 819 County Florida, Zip 820 821 My present name and address of legal residence are as follows: 822 Name 823 Address 824 Municipality 825 County 826 Florida, Zip 827 and I further swear (or affirm) that I am otherwise legally 828 registered and entitled to vote. 829 830 (Signature of voter whose name has changed) 831 Instead of the affirmation contained in paragraph (a) 832 or paragraph (b), an elector may complete a voter registration 833 application that indicates the change of name or change of 834 address of legal residence. 835 (d) Such affirmation or application, when completed and 836 presented at the precinct in which such elector is entitled to 837 vote, and upon verification of the elector's registration, shall 838 entitle such elector to vote as provided in this subsection. If 839 the elector's eligibility to vote cannot be determined, he or she

shall be entitled to vote a provisional ballot, subject to the

requirements and procedures in s. 101.048. Upon receipt of an

affirmation or application certifying a change in address of

legal residence or name, the supervisor shall as soon as

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practicable make the necessary changes in the statewide voter registration system to indicate the change in address of legal residence or name of such elector.

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

Section 17. Section 101.111, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

- 101.111 Person desiring to vote may be challenged; challenger to execute oath; oath of person challenged; determination of challenge. --
- (1) (a) Any registered elector or poll watcher of a county may challenge the right of a person to vote in that county. When the right to vote of any person who desires to vote is challenged by any elector or poll watcher, The challenge must be in shall be reduced to writing and contain the following oath with an oath as provided in this section, giving reasons for the challenge, which shall be delivered to the clerk or inspector. Any elector or poll watcher challenging the right of a person to vote shall execute the oath set forth below:

OATH OF PERSON ENTERING CHALLENGE 866

State of Florida

County of

I do solemnly swear or affirm that my name is ____; that I am a member of the Party; that I am a registered voter or pollwatcher; that my residence address is , in the

Page 30 of 49



874 municipality of ; and that I have reason to believe that is attempting to vote illegally and the reasons for my 875 876 belief are set forth herein to wit: 877 (Signature of person challenging voter) 878 879 Sworn and subscribed to before me this _____ day of _____, 880 (year) . (Clerk of election) 881 882 (b) $\frac{(2)}{(2)}$ The clerk or inspector shall immediately deliver to 883 the challenged person a copy of the oath of the person entering 884 the challenge, and the challenged voter shall be allowed to cast 885 a provisional ballot in accordance with s. 101.048. 886 (c) (3) Alternatively, a challenge in accordance with this 887 section may be filed in advance with the supervisor of elections 888 no Any elector or poll watcher may challenge the right of any 889 voter to vote not sooner than 30 days before an election by 890 filing a completed copy of the oath contained in subsection (1) 891 to the supervisor of election's office. The supervisor shall 892 promptly provide the election board in the challenged voter's 893 precinct with a copy of the oath of the person entering the 894 challenge. The challenged voter shall be allowed permitted to 895 cast a provisional ballot in accordance with s. 101.048. 896 (2) (4) Any elector or poll watcher filing a frivolous 897 challenge of any person's right to vote commits a misdemeanor of 898 the first degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082 or s. 899 775.083; however, electors or poll watchers shall not be subject 900 to liability for any action taken in good faith and in 901 furtherance of any activity or duty permitted of such electors or poll watchers by law. Each instance where any elector or poll 902

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watcher files a frivolous challenge of any person's right to vote constitutes a separate offense.

Section 18. Section 101.23, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

101.23 Election inspector to keep list of those voting.--

- (1) When any person has been admitted to vote, the person's name shall be checked by the clerk or one of the inspectors at the place indicated upon the registration books or voter history form provided by the supervisor. One of the inspectors shall, at the same time, keep a poll list containing names of electors who have voted or a list of registered electors, on which those electors who have voted are indicated. Such lists shall be available for inspection during regular voting hours by poll watchers designated and appointed pursuant to s. 101.131, except that the election inspector may regulate access to the lists so as to ensure that such inspection does not unreasonably interfere with the orderly operation of the polling place.
- (2) The inspectors shall prevent any person from voting a second time when they have reason to believe that the person has voted. They shall refuse to allow any person to vote who is not a qualified elector or who has become disqualified to vote in the precinct, and may prevent any elector from consuming more than 5 minutes in voting.

Section 19. Effective July 1, 2008, subsection (1) of section 101.51, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

- 101.51 Electors to occupy booth alone. --
- (1) When the elector presents himself or herself to vote, an the election official shall ascertain whether the elector's name is upon the register of electors, and, if the elector's name appears and no challenge interposes, or, if interposed, be not

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sustained, one of the election official officials stationed at the entrance shall announce the name of the elector and permit the elector him or her to enter the booth or compartment to cast his or her vote, allowing only one elector at a time to pass through to vote. An elector, while casting his or her ballot, may not occupy a booth or compartment already occupied or speak with anyone, except as provided by s. 101.051.

Section 20. Effective July 1, 2008, paragraph (a) of subsection (2) of section 101.5608, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

101.5608 Voting by electronic or electromechanical method; procedures.--

- (2) When an electronic or electromechanical voting system utilizes a ballot card or marksense ballot, the following procedures shall be followed:
- (a) After receiving a ballot from an inspector, the elector shall, without leaving the polling place, retire to a booth or compartment and mark the ballot. After marking preparing his or her ballot, the elector shall place the ballot in a secrecy envelope with the stub exposed or shall fold over that portion on which write-in votes may be cast, as instructed, so that the ballot will be deposited in the tabulator ballot box without exposing the voter's choices. Before the ballot is deposited in the ballot box, the inspector shall detach the exposed stub and place it in a separate envelope for audit purposes; when a foldover ballot is used, the entire ballot shall be placed in the ballot box.

Section 21. Effective July 1, 2008, subsection (2) of section 101.6102, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

101.6102 Mail ballot elections; limitations.--



- Except as provided in s. 101.733(1), the following (2) elections may not be conducted by mail ballot:
- An election at which any candidate is nominated, elected, retained, or recalled; or
- (b) An election held on the same date as another election, other than a mail ballot election, in which the qualified electors of that political subdivision are eligible to cast ballots.

Section 22. Subsection (2) of section 101.6923, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

101.6923 Special absentee ballot instructions for certain first-time voters.--

(2) A voter covered by this section shall be provided with printed instructions with his or her absentee ballot in substantially the following form:

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

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- 1. In order to ensure that your absentee ballot will be counted, it should be completed and returned as soon as possible so that it can reach the supervisor of elections of the county in which your precinct is located no later than 7 p.m. on the date of the election.
- 2. Mark your ballot in secret as instructed on the ballot. You must mark your own ballot unless you are unable to do so because of blindness, disability, or inability to read or write.

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- 3. Mark only the number of candidates or issue choices for a race as indicated on the ballot. If you are allowed to "Vote for One" candidate and you vote for more than one, your vote in that race will not be counted.
- 4. Place your marked ballot in the enclosed secrecy envelope and seal the envelope.
- Insert the secrecy envelope into the enclosed envelope bearing the Voter's Certificate. Seal the envelope and completely fill out the Voter's Certificate on the back of the envelope.
- a. You must sign your name on the line above (Voter's Signature).
- b. If you are an overseas voter, you must include the date you signed the Voter's Certificate on the line above (Date) or your ballot may not be counted.
- Unless you meet one of the exemptions in Item 7., you must make a copy of one of the following forms of identification:
- Identification which must include your name and photograph: United States passport; employee badge or identification; buyer's club identification card; debit or credit card; military identification; student identification; retirement center identification; neighborhood association identification; or public assistance identification; or
- Identification which shows your name and current residence address: current utility bill, bank statement, government check, paycheck, or government document (excluding voter identification card).
- The identification requirements of Item 6. do not apply if you meet one of the following requirements:
 - a. You are 65 years of age or older.
 - b. You have a temporary or permanent physical disability.

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- c. You are a member of a uniformed service on active duty 1022 who, by reason of such active duty, will be absent from the 1023 1024 county on election day.
 - d. You are a member of the Merchant Marine who, by reason of service in the Merchant Marine, will be absent from the county on election day.
 - e. You are the spouse or dependent of a member referred to in paragraph c. or paragraph d. who, by reason of the active duty or service of the member, will be absent from the county on election day.
 - You are currently residing outside the United States. f.
 - Place the envelope bearing the Voter's Certificate into the mailing envelope addressed to the supervisor. Insert a copy of your identification in the mailing envelope. DO NOT PUT YOUR IDENTIFICATION INSIDE THE SECRECY ENVELOPE WITH THE BALLOT OR INSIDE THE ENVELOPE WHICH BEARS THE VOTER'S CERTIFICATE OR YOUR BALLOT WILL NOT COUNT.
 - 9. Mail, deliver, or have delivered the completed mailing envelope. Be sure there is sufficient postage if mailed.
 - 10. FELONY NOTICE. It is a felony under Florida law to accept any gift, payment, or gratuity in exchange for your vote for a candidate. It is also a felony under Florida law to vote in an election using a false identity or false address, or under any other circumstances making your ballot false or fraudulent.

Section 23. Effective July 1, 2008, section 101.733, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

101.733 Election emergency; purpose; elections emergency contingency plan. -- Because of the existing and continuing possibility of an emergency or common disaster occurring before or during a regularly scheduled or special election, and in order

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to ensure maximum citizen participation in the electoral process and provide a safe and orderly procedure for persons seeking to exercise their right to vote, generally to minimize to whatever degree possible a person's exposure to danger during declared states of emergency, and to protect the integrity of the electoral process, it is hereby found and declared to be necessary to designate a procedure for the emergency suspension or delay and rescheduling of elections.

- The Governor may, upon issuance of an executive order declaring a state of emergency or impending emergency, suspend any election, or delay any election, or call for a mail ballot election. The Governor may take such action independently or at the request of the Secretary of State, a supervisor of elections from a county affected by the emergency circumstances, or a municipal clerk from a municipality affected by the emergency circumstances.
- The Governor, upon consultation with the Secretary of State, shall reschedule any election suspended or delayed due to an emergency. The election shall be held within 10 days after the date of the suspended or delayed election or as soon thereafter as is practicable. Notice of the election shall be provided in any reasonable manner to include, where practicable, publication published at least once in a newspaper of general circulation in the affected area and, where practicable, broadcast as a public service announcement on radio and television stations at least 1 week prior to the date the election is to be held.
- The Division of Elections of the Department of State shall adopt, by rule, an elections emergency contingency plan, which shall contain goals and policies that give specific direction to state and local elections officials when an election

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has been suspended, an election has been or delayed, or a mail ballot election has been called due to an emergency. The contingency plan shall be statewide in scope and shall address, but not be limited to, the following concerns:

- Providing a procedure and timelines for state and local elections officials to follow when an election has been suspended or delayed or a mail ballot election has been called to ensure notice of the suspended, delayed, or mail ballot election suspension or delay to the proper authorities, the electorate, the communications media, poll workers, and the custodians of polling places.
- (b) Providing a procedure for the orderly conduct of a rescheduled election or a mail ballot election, whether municipal, county, district, or statewide in scope; coordinating those efforts with the appropriate elections official, and the members of the governing body holding such election, if appropriate; and working with the appropriate emergency management officials in determining the safety of existing polling places or designating additional polling places.
- (c) Providing a procedure for the release and certification of election returns to the department for elections suspended or delayed and subsequently rescheduled or for mail ballot elections under the provisions of ss. 101.731-101.74.

Section 24. Effective July 1, 2008, subsection (3) of section 101.75, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

- 101.75 Municipal elections; change of dates for cause. --
- (3) Notwithstanding any provision of local law or municipal charter, for any municipality whose election is scheduled to be held in March 2008, the governing body of a the municipality, notwithstanding any municipal charter provision, may, by

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ordinance, move the date of any the general municipal election in 2008 and in each subsequent year that is a multiple of 4 to a the date concurrent with any statewide or countywide election the presidential preference primary. The dates for qualifying for the general municipal election moved by the passage of such an ordinance shall be specifically provided for in the ordinance and shall run for no less than 14 days. The term of office for any elected municipal official shall commence as provided by the relevant municipal charter or ordinance, and the term of office for any elected municipal official whose term was due to expire in March 2008 shall expire as provided by the relevant municipal charter or ordinance.

Section 25. Effective July 1, 2008, subsection (7) of section 102.014, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

102.014 Poll worker recruitment and training.--

The Department of State shall develop a mandatory, statewide, and uniform program for training poll workers on issues of etiquette and sensitivity with respect to voters having a disability. The program must consist of approximately 1 hour of the required number of hours set forth in paragraph (4) (a). The program must be conducted locally by each supervisor of elections, and who shall periodically certify to the Department of State whether each poll worker must complete has completed the program before working during the current election cycle. The supervisor of elections shall contract with a recognized disability-related organization, such as a center for independent living, family network on disabilities, deaf service bureau, or other such organization, to develop and assist with training the trainers in the disability sensitivity programs. The program must include actual demonstrations of obstacles confronted by disabled



persons during the voting process, including obtaining access to the polling place, traveling through the polling area, and using the voting system.

Section 26. Effective July 1, 2008, paragraph (b) of subsection (4) of section 102.031, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

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

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

Section 27. Effective July 1, 2008, subsection (1) of section 102.112, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

102.112 Deadline for submission of county returns to the Department of State. --

The county canvassing board or a majority thereof shall file the county returns for the election of a federal or state officer with the Department of State immediately after certification of the election results. The returns must contain a certification by the canvassing board that the board has compared reconciled the number of persons who voted with the number of

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ballots counted and that the certification includes all valid votes cast in the election.

Section 28. Subsection (2) of section 103.101, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

103.101 Presidential preference primary. --

- (2)(a) There shall be a Presidential Candidate Selection Committee composed of the Secretary of State, who shall be a nonvoting chair; the Speaker of the House of Representatives; the President of the Senate; the minority leader of each house of the Legislature; and the chair of each political party required to have a presidential preference primary under this section.
- (b) (a) By October 31 of the year preceding the presidential preference primary, each political party shall submit to the Secretary of State a list of its presidential candidates to be placed on the presidential preference primary ballot or candidates entitled to have delegates appear on the presidential preference primary ballot. The Secretary of State shall prepare and publish a list of the names of the presidential candidates submitted. The Secretary of State shall submit such list of names of presidential candidates to the selection committee on the first Tuesday after the first Monday in November of the year preceding the presidential preference primary. Each person designated as a presidential candidate shall have his or her name appear, or have his or her delegates' names appear, on the presidential preference primary ballot unless all committee members of the same political party as the candidate agree to delete such candidate's name from the ballot.
- The selection committee shall meet in Tallahassee on the first Tuesday after the first Monday in November of the year preceding the presidential preference primary. The selection

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committee shall publicly announce and submit to the Department of State no later than 5 p.m. on the following day the names of presidential candidates who shall have their names appear, or who are entitled to have their delegates' names appear, on the presidential preference primary ballot. The Department of State shall immediately notify each presidential candidate designated by the committee. Such notification shall be in writing, by registered mail, with return receipt requested.

(b) Any presidential candidate whose name does not appear on the list submitted to the Secretary of State may request that the selection committee place his or her name on the ballot. Such request shall be made in writing to the Secretary of State no later than the second Tuesday after the first Monday in November of the year preceding the presidential preference primary.

(c) If a presidential candidate makes a request that the selection committee reconsider placing the candidate's name on the ballot, the selection committee will reconvene no later than the second Thursday after the first Monday in November of the year preceding the presidential preference primary to reconsider placing the candidate's name on the ballot. The Department of State shall immediately notify such candidate of the selection committee's decision.

Section 29. Paragraph (c) of subsection (3) of section 190.006, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

190.006 Board of supervisors; members and meetings .--

(3)

Candidates seeking election to office by qualified electors under this subsection shall conduct their campaigns in accordance with the provisions of chapter 106 and shall file qualifying papers and qualify for individual seats in accordance

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with s. 99.061. Candidates shall pay a qualifying fee, which shall consist of a filing fee and an election assessment or, as an alternative, shall file a petition signed by not less than 1 percent of the registered voters of the district, and take the oath required in s. 99.021, with the supervisor of elections in the county affected by such candidacy. The amount of the filing fee is 3 percent of \$4,800; however, if the electors have provided for compensation pursuant to subsection (8), the amount of the filing fee is 3 percent of the maximum annual compensation so provided. The amount of the election assessment is 1 percent of \$4,800; however, if the electors have provided for compensation pursuant to subsection (8), the amount of the election assessment is 1 percent of the maximum annual compensation so provided. The filing fee and election assessment shall be distributed as provided in s. 105.031(3).

Section 30. Paragraph (a) of subsection (2) and paragraph (b) of subsection (8) of section 106.07, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

106.07 Reports; certification and filing.--

(2) (a) 1. All reports required of a candidate by this section shall be filed with the officer before whom the candidate is required by law to qualify. All candidates who file with the Department of State shall file their reports pursuant to s. 106.0705. Except as provided in s. 106.0705, reports shall be filed not later than 5 p.m. of the day designated; however, any report postmarked by the United States Postal Service no later than midnight of the day designated shall be deemed to have been filed in a timely manner. Any report received by the filing officer within 5 days after the designated due date that was delivered by the United States Postal Service shall be deemed

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timely filed unless it has a postmark that indicates that the report was mailed after the designated due date. A certificate of mailing obtained from and dated by the United States Postal Service at the time of mailing, or a receipt from an established courier company, which bears a date on or before the date on which the report is due, shall be proof of mailing in a timely manner. Reports shall contain information of all previously unreported contributions received and expenditures made as of the preceding Friday, except that the report filed on the Friday immediately preceding the election shall contain information of all previously unreported contributions received and expenditures made as of the day preceding that designated due date. All such reports shall be open to public inspection.

2. This subsection does not prohibit the governing body of a political subdivision, by ordinance or resolution, from imposing upon its own officers and candidates electronic filing requirements not in conflict with s. 106.0705. Expenditure of public funds for such purpose is deemed to be for a valid public purpose.

(8)

Upon determining that a report is late, the filing officer shall immediately notify the candidate or chair of the political committee as to the failure to file a report by the designated due date and that a fine is being assessed for each late day. The fine shall be \$50 per day for the first 3 days late and, thereafter, \$500 per day for each late day, not to exceed 25 percent of the total receipts or expenditures, whichever is greater, for the period covered by the late report. However, for the reports immediately preceding each primary and general election, the fine shall be \$500 per day for each late day, not

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to exceed 25 percent of the total receipts or expenditures, whichever is greater, for the period covered by the late report. For reports required under s. 106.141(7), the fine is \$50 per day for each late day, not to exceed 25 percent of the total receipts or expenditures, whichever is greater, for the period covered by the late report. Upon receipt of the report, the filing officer shall determine the amount of the fine which is due and shall notify the candidate or chair. The filing officer shall determine the amount of the fine due based upon the earliest of the following:

- When the report is actually received by such officer. 1.
- 2. When the report is postmarked.
- 3. When the certificate of mailing is dated.
- When the receipt from an established courier company is dated.
- 5. When the electronic receipt issued pursuant to s. 106.0705 or other electronic filing system authorized in this section is dated.

Such fine shall be paid to the filing officer within 20 days after receipt of the notice of payment due, unless appeal is made to the Florida Elections Commission pursuant to paragraph (c). In the case of a candidate, such fine shall not be an allowable campaign expenditure and shall be paid only from personal funds of the candidate. An officer or member of a political committee shall not be personally liable for such fine.

Section 31. Except as otherwise expressly provided in this act and except for this section, which shall take effect upon becoming a law, this act shall take effect January 1, 2009.

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1321 ======= T I T L E A M E N D M E N T ========= 1322 And the title is amended as follows:

Delete everything before the enacting clause and insert:

A bill to be entitled

An act relating to elections; amending s. 97.012, F.S.; revising provisions relating to the investigative duties of the Secretary of State; amending s. 97.041, F.S.; revising requirements for voter preregistration of minors; amending s. 97.053, F.S.; revising provisions relating to verification of certain information on voter registration applications; amending s. 97.0535, F.S.; revising forms of acceptable identification for certain voter registration applicants; amending s. 97.055, F.S.; providing for change of party affiliation after the closing of the registration books to apply to an upcoming election under certain circumstances; amending s. 98.065, F.S.; revising registration list maintenance provisions; creating s. 98.0655, F.S.; requiring the Department of State to prescribe registration list maintenance forms; providing criteria for such forms; amending s. 98.075, F.S.; providing for the removal of the name of a deceased person from the statewide voter registration system upon receipt by the supervisor of a copy of a death certificate; amending s. 99.012, F.S.; providing restrictions on individuals qualifying for public office; removing an exception from such restrictions for persons seeking any federal public office; amending s. 99.021, F.S.; deleting a resignation statement from

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the qualifying oath for candidates for federal office; amending s. 99.097, F.S.; prohibiting the supervisor from counting a petition if a voter signs the petition and lists an address other than the legal residence where the voter is registered; requiring the mailing of a new voter registration application for an address update in certain circumstances; amending s. 100.221, F.S.; providing circumstances under which early voting is not required; amending s. 100.361, F.S.; revising provisions relating to the recall of municipal or charter county officers, recall committees, recall petitions, recall defense, and offenses related thereto; amending s. 100.371, F.S.; providing that a petition form circulated for signatures may not be bundled with other petitions; deleting requirements relating to the recording and determination of signature forms; providing that an elector may complete and submit a standard petition-revocation form directly to the supervisor of elections under certain circumstances; requiring that the division adopt petition-revocation forms by rule; amending s. 101.041, F.S.; deleting a requirement for the printing and distribution of official ballots; amending s. 101.045, F.S.; authorizing the use of a voter registration application for a name or address change; amending s. 101.111, F.S.; revising methods by which a person's right to vote may be challenged; amending s. 101.23, F.S.; deleting provisions requiring an election inspector to prevent certain persons from voting; amending s. 101.51, F.S.; deleting provisions



1381 specifying certain responsibilities of election 1382 officials before allowing electors to enter a booth or 1383 compartment to vote; amending s. 101.5608, F.S.; 1384 revising certain procedures relating to the deposit of 1385 ballots; amending s. 101.6102, F.S.; providing 1386 exceptions to the types of elections that may not be conducted by mail ballot; amending s. 101.6923, F.S.; 1387 1388 revising forms of acceptable identification for certain 1389 absentee voters; amending s. 101.733, F.S.; authorizing 1390 the Governor to call for a mail ballot election in the 1391 event of a declared state of emergency or an impending 1392 emergency; requiring that the Department of State adopt 1393 rules regarding such election; revising notice 1394 requirements for elections rescheduled due to an 1395 emergency; amending s. 101.75, F.S.; authorizing 1396 municipalities to set by ordinance election dates to 1397 coincide with statewide or countywide elections; 1398 amending s. 102.014, F.S.; revising provisions relating 1399 to the training of poll workers; amending s. 102.031, F.S.; including the term "solicitation" as an 1400 equivalent of the term "solicit" as it relates to the 1401 1402 unlawful solicitation of voters; providing that such 1403 terms do not prohibit exit polling; amending s. 1404 102.112, F.S.; revising the county canvassing board's 1405 certification requirements for election returns; 1406 amending s. 103.101, F.S.; deleting provisions related 1407 to the placement on the ballot of presidential 1408 candidates whose names do not appear on the list 1409 submitted to the Secretary of State; amending s. 190.006, F.S.; deleting certain fee and assessment 1410



1411	provisions for candidates seeking election to the board
1412	of supervisors of community redevelopment districts;
1413	amending s. 106.07, F.S.; clarifying that political
1414	subdivisions may impose electronic filing requirements
1415	on certain candidates, and that expenditures for such
1416	filing system serve a valid public purpose; providing
1417	effective dates.