

LEGISLATIVE ACTION

Senate	•	House
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Floor: 1/WD/3R		
04/29/2010 12:02 PM	•	

Senator Thrasher moved the following:

Senate Amendment (with title amendment)

Delete lines 93 - 210

and insert:

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Section 3. Subsection (3) of section 101.56075, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

101.56075 Voting methods.-

8 (3) By <u>2016</u> 2012, persons with disabilities shall vote on a
9 voter interface device that meets the voter accessibility
10 requirements for individuals with disabilities under s. 301 of
11 the federal Help America Vote Act of 2002 and s. 101.56062 which
12 are consistent with subsection (1) of this section.
13 Section 4. Paragraph (c) is added to subsection (1) of



14 section 101.62, Florida Statutes, and subsections (4) and (5) of that section are amended, to read: 15 101.62 Request for absentee ballots.-16 17 (1)18 (c) Upon receiving a request for an absentee ballot from an 19 absent uniformed services voter or overseas voter, the supervisor of elections shall notify the voter of the free 20 21 access system that has been designated by the department for 22 determining the status of his or her absentee ballot. 23 (4) (a) No later than 45 days before each election, the 24 supervisor of elections shall send an absentee ballot as 25 provided in subparagraph (b)2. to each absent uniformed services 26 voter and to each overseas voter who has requested an absentee 27 ballot. To each absent qualified elector overseas who has requested an absentee ballot, the supervisor of elections shall 28 29 mail an absentee ballot not less than 35 days before the primary 30 election and not less than 45 days before the general election. (b) The supervisor shall provide an absentee ballot to each 31 32 elector by whom a request for that ballot has been made by one 33 of the following means: 1. By nonforwardable, return-if-undeliverable mail to the 34 35 elector's current mailing address on file with the supervisor, unless the elector specifies in the request that: 36 37 a. The elector is absent from the county and does not plan 38 to return before the day of the election; 39 b. The elector is temporarily unable to occupy the 40 residence because of hurricane, tornado, flood, fire, or other 41 emergency or natural disaster; or c. The elector is in a hospital, assisted living facility, 42



43 nursing home, short-term medical or rehabilitation facility, or 44 correctional facility, 45 46 in which case the supervisor shall mail the ballot by 47 nonforwardable, return-if-undeliverable mail to any other 48 address the elector specifies in the request. 2. By forwardable mail, e-mail, or facsimile machine 49 50 transmission to absent uniformed services voters and overseas 51 voters who are entitled to vote by absentee ballot under the 52 Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act. The absent 53 uniformed services voter or overseas voter may designate in the 54 absentee ballot request the preferred method of transmission. If 55 the voter does not designate the method of transmission, the 56 absentee ballot shall be mailed. 57 3. By personal delivery before 7 p.m. on election day to 58 the elector, upon presentation of the identification required in s. 101.043. 59 4. By delivery to a designee on election day or up to 5 60 days prior to the day of an election. Any elector may designate 61 in writing a person to pick up the ballot for the elector; 62

63 however, the person designated may not pick up more than two absentee ballots per election, other than the designee's own 64 ballot, except that additional ballots may be picked up for 65 66 members of the designee's immediate family. For purposes of this 67 section, "immediate family" means the designee's spouse or the 68 parent, child, grandparent, or sibling of the designee or of the 69 designee's spouse. The designee shall provide to the supervisor the written authorization by the elector and a picture 70 71 identification of the designee and must complete an affidavit.

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72 The designee shall state in the affidavit that the designee is 73 authorized by the elector to pick up that ballot and shall 74 indicate if the elector is a member of the designee's immediate 75 family and, if so, the relationship. The department shall prescribe the form of the affidavit. If the supervisor is 76 77 satisfied that the designee is authorized to pick up the ballot 78 and that the signature of the elector on the written 79 authorization matches the signature of the elector on file, the 80 supervisor shall give the ballot to that designee for delivery 81 to the elector.

82 (5) <u>If</u> In the event that the <u>department</u> <u>Elections</u>
83 Canvassing Commission is unable to certify <u>candidates for</u> the
84 results of an election for a state office in time to comply with
85 <u>paragraph (4) (a)</u> subsection (4), the Department of State is
86 authorized to prescribe rules for a ballot to be sent to absent
87 uniformed services voters and <u>electors</u> overseas <u>voters</u>.

88 Section 5. Subsection (1) of section 101.694, Florida89 Statutes, is amended to read:

90 101.694 Mailing of ballots upon receipt of federal postcard 91 application.-

92 (1) Upon receipt of a federal postcard application for an absentee ballot executed by a person whose registration is in 93 order or whose application is sufficient to register or update 94 95 the registration of that person, the supervisor shall send the 96 ballot in accordance with s. 101.62(4) mail to the applicant a 97 ballot, if the ballots are available for mailing. The federal 98 postcard application request for an absentee ballot shall be effective for all elections through the next two regularly 99 100 scheduled general elections.



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101	Section 6. Effective July 1, 2010, section 101.6952,
102	Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
103	101.6952 Absentee ballots for absent uniformed services and
104	overseas voters
105	(1) If an absent uniformed services voter's or an overseas
106	voter's request for an absentee ballot includes an e-mail
107	address, the supervisor of elections shall:
108	(a) Record the voter's e-mail address in the absentee
109	ballot record;
110	(b) Confirm by e-mail that the absentee ballot request was
111	received and include in that e-mail the estimated date the
112	absentee ballot will be sent to the voter; and
113	(c) Notify the voter by e-mail when the voted absentee
114	ballot is received by the supervisor of elections inform the
115	voter of the names of candidates who will be on the ballots via
116	electronic transmission. The supervisor of elections shall e-
117	mail to the voter the list of candidates for the primary and
118	general election not later than 30 days before each election.
119	(2) For absentee ballots received from absent uniformed
120	services voters or overseas voters, there is a presumption that
121	the envelope was mailed on the date stated on the outside of the
122	return envelope, regardless of the absence of a postmark on the
123	mailed envelope or the existence of a postmark date that is
124	later than the date of the election.
125	Section 7. <u>Section 8 of this act may be cited as the</u>
126	"Technology in Elections Act."
127	Section 8. Subsection (1) of section 106.143, Florida
128	Statutes, is amended, present subsection (8) of that section is
129	renumbered as subsection (9), and a new subsection (8) is added

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130	to that section, to read:
131	106.143 Political advertisements circulated prior to
132	election; requirements
133	(1)(a) Any political advertisement that is paid for by a
134	candidate and that is published, displayed, or circulated before
135	prior to, or on the day of, any election must prominently state:
136	1. "Political advertisement paid for and approved by
137	(name of candidate), (party affiliation), for
138	(office sought)"; or
139	2. "Paid by (name of candidate), (party
140	affiliation), for(office sought)"
141	(b) Any other political advertisement published, displayed,
142	or circulated <u>before</u> prior to , or on the day of, any election
143	must prominently:
144	1. Be marked "paid political advertisement" or with the
145	abbreviation "pd. pol. adv."
146	2. State the name and address of the persons sponsoring the
147	advertisement.
148	3.a.(I) State whether the advertisement and the cost of
149	production is paid for or provided in kind by or at the expense
150	of the entity publishing, displaying, broadcasting, or
151	circulating the political advertisement; or
152	(II) State who provided or paid for the advertisement and
153	cost of production, if different from the source of sponsorship.
154	b. This subparagraph does not apply if the source of the
155	sponsorship is patently clear from the content or format of the
156	political advertisement.
157	(c) Any political advertisement made pursuant to s.
158	106.021(3)(d) must be marked "paid political advertisement" or
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159	with the abbreviation "pd. pol. adv." and must prominently
160	state, "Paid for and sponsored by(name of person paying for
161	political advertisement) Approved by(names of persons,
162	party affiliation, and offices sought in the political
163	advertisement)"
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165	This subsection does not apply to campaign messages used by a
166	candidate and the candidate's supporters if those messages are
167	designed to be worn by a person.
168	(8) This section does not apply to any campaign message or
169	political advertisement used by a candidate and the candidate's
170	supporters or by a political committee if the message or
171	advertisement is:
172	(a) Designed to be worn by a person.
173	(b) Placed as a paid link on an Internet website, provided
174	the message or advertisement is no more than 200 characters in
175	length and the link directs the user to another Internet website
176	that complies with subsection (1).
177	(c) Placed as a graphic or picture link where compliance
178	with the requirements of this section is not reasonably
179	practical due to the size of the graphic or picture link and the
180	link directs the user to another Internet website that complies
181	with subsection (1).
182	(d) Placed at no cost on an Internet website for which
183	there is no cost to post content for public users.
184	(e) Placed or distributed on an unpaid profile or account
185	which is available to the public without charge or on a social
186	networking Internet website, as long as the source of the
187	message or advertisement is patently clear from the content or

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188	format of the message or advertisement. A candidate or political
189	committee may prominently display a statement indicating that
190	the website or account is an official website or account of the
191	candidate or political committee and is approved by the
192	candidate or political committee. A website or account may not
193	be marked as official without prior approval by the candidate or
194	political committee.
195	(f) Distributed as a text message or other message via
196	Short Message Service, provided the message is no more than 200
197	characters in length or requires the recipient to sign up or opt
198	in to receive it.
199	(g) Connected with or included in any software application
200	or accompanying function, provided that the user signs up, opts
201	in, downloads, or otherwise accesses the application from or
202	through a website that complies with subsection (1).
203	(h) Sent by a third-party user from or through a campaign
204	or committee's website, provided the website complies with
205	subsection (1).
206	(i) Contained in or distributed through any other
207	technology-related item, service, or device for which compliance
208	with subsection (1) is not reasonably practical due to the size
209	or nature of such item, service, or device as available, or the
210	means of displaying the message or advertisement makes
211	compliance with subsection (1) impracticable.
212	<u>(9)</u> Any person who willfully violates any provision of
213	this section is subject to the civil penalties prescribed in s.
214	106.265.
215	Section 9. Paragraph (b) of subsection (1) of section
216	106.011, Florida Statutes, is reenacted and amended, subsections

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(3) and (4) of that section are reenacted, subsection (14) of that section is amended, and subsections (18) and (19) of that section are reenacted and amended, to read:

106.011 Definitions.—As used in this chapter, the following terms have the following meanings unless the context clearly indicates otherwise:

223 (1)

(b) Notwithstanding paragraph (a), the following entities are not considered political committees for purposes of this chapter:

1. Organizations which are certified by the Department of State as committees of continuous existence pursuant to s. 106.04, national political parties, and the state and county executive committees of political parties regulated by chapter 103.

232 2. Corporations regulated by chapter 607 or chapter 617 or 233 other business entities formed for purposes other than to 234 support or oppose issues or candidates, if their political 235 activities are limited to contributions to candidates, political 236 parties, or political committees or expenditures in support of 237 or opposition to an issue from corporate or business funds and 238 if no contributions are received by such corporations or 239 business entities.

3. Electioneering communications organizations as defined
in subsection (19); however, such organizations shall be
required to register with and report expenditures and
contributions, including contributions received from committees
of continuous existence, to the Division of Elections in the
same manner, at the same time, and subject to the same penalties

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246 as a political committee supporting or opposing an issue or a 247 legislative candidate, except as otherwise specifically provided 248 in this chapter.

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(3) "Contribution" means:

(a) A gift, subscription, conveyance, deposit, loan,
payment, or distribution of money or anything of value,
including contributions in kind having an attributable monetary
value in any form, made for the purpose of influencing the
results of an election or making an electioneering
communication.

(b) A transfer of funds between political committees,
between committees of continuous existence, between
electioneering communications organizations, or between any
combination of these groups.

(c) The payment, by any person other than a candidate or political committee, of compensation for the personal services of another person which are rendered to a candidate or political committee without charge to the candidate or committee for such services.

(d) The transfer of funds by a campaign treasurer or deputy campaign treasurer between a primary depository and a separate interest-bearing account or certificate of deposit, and the term includes any interest earned on such account or certificate.

270 Notwithstanding the foregoing meanings of "contribution," the 271 word shall not be construed to include services, including, but 272 not limited to, legal and accounting services, provided without 273 compensation by individuals volunteering a portion or all of 274 their time on behalf of a candidate or political committee. This

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275 definition shall not be construed to include editorial 276 endorsements.

(4) (a) "Expenditure" means a purchase, payment, 277 278 distribution, loan, advance, transfer of funds by a campaign 279 treasurer or deputy campaign treasurer between a primary 280 depository and a separate interest-bearing account or certificate of deposit, or gift of money or anything of value 281 282 made for the purpose of influencing the results of an election 283 or making an electioneering communication. However, 284 "expenditure" does not include a purchase, payment, 285 distribution, loan, advance, or gift of money or anything of 286 value made for the purpose of influencing the results of an 287 election when made by an organization, in existence prior to the 288 time during which a candidate qualifies or an issue is placed on 289 the ballot for that election, for the purpose of printing or 290 distributing such organization's newsletter, containing a 291 statement by such organization in support of or opposition to a 292 candidate or issue, which newsletter is distributed only to 293 members of such organization.

(b) As used in this chapter, an "expenditure" for an electioneering communication is made when the earliest of the following occurs:

297 1. A person enters into a contract for applicable goods or 298 services;

299 2. A person makes payment, in whole or in part, for the 300 production or public dissemination of applicable goods or 301 services; or

302 3. The electioneering communication is publicly303 disseminated.

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304 (14) "Filing officer" means the person before whom a 305 candidate qualifies, the agency or officer with whom a political 306 committee or an electioneering communications organization 307 registers, or the agency by whom a committee of continuous 308 existence is certified. 309 (18) (a) "Electioneering communication" means any 310 communication publicly distributed by a television station, 311 radio station, cable television system, satellite system, newspaper, magazine, direct mail, or telephone a paid expression 312 313 in any communications media prescribed in subsection (13) by 314 means other than the spoken word in direct conversation that: 315 1. Refers to or depicts a clearly identified candidate for 316 office or contains a clear reference indicating that an issue is 317 to be voted on at an election, without expressly advocating the 318 election or defeat of a candidate but that is susceptible of no 319 reasonable interpretation other than an appeal to vote for or 320 against a specific candidate; or the passage or defeat of an 321 issue. 322 2. Is made within 30 days before a primary or special

322 <u>Is made within 30 days before a primary or special</u> 323 primary election or 60 days before any other election for the 324 office sought by the candidate; and

325 <u>3. Is</u> For communications referring to or depicting a 326 clearly identified candidate for office, is targeted to the 327 relevant electorate. A communication is considered targeted if 328 1,000 or more persons in the geographic area the candidate would 329 represent if elected will receive the communication.

330 3. For communications containing a clear reference
 331 indicating that an issue is to be voted on at an election, is
 332 published after the issue is designated a ballot position or 120

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333	days before the date of the election on the issue, whichever
334	occurs first.
335	(b) The term "electioneering communication" does not
336	include:
337	1. A communication disseminated through a means of
338	communication other than a television station, radio station,
339	cable television system, satellite system, newspaper, magazine,
340	direct mail, telephone, or statement or depiction by an
341	organization, in existence prior to the time during which a
342	candidate named or depicted qualifies or an issue identified is
343	placed on the ballot for that election, made in that
344	organization's newsletter, which newsletter is distributed only
345	to members of that organization.
346	2. A communication in a news story, commentary, or
347	editorial distributed through the facilities of any radio
348	station, television station, cable television system, or
349	satellite system, unless the facilities are owned or controlled
350	by any political party, political committee, or candidate. A
351	news story distributed through the facilities owned or
352	controlled by any political party, political committee, or
353	candidate may nevertheless be exempt if it represents a bona
354	fide news account communicated through a licensed broadcasting
355	facility and the communication is part of a general pattern of
356	campaign-related news accounts that give reasonably equal
357	coverage to all opposing candidates in the area An editorial
358	endorsement, news story, commentary, or editorial by any
359	newspaper, radio, television station, or other recognized news
360	medium.
361	3. A communication that constitutes a public debate or

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362 forum that includes at least two opposing candidates for an 363 office or one advocate and one opponent of an issue, or that 364 solely promotes such a debate or forum and is made by or on 365 behalf of the person sponsoring the debate or forum, provided 366 that:

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a. The staging organization is either:

368 (I) A charitable organization that does not make other 369 electioneering communications and does not otherwise support or 370 oppose any political candidate or political party; or

(II) A newspaper, radio station, television station, orother recognized news medium; and

b. The staging organization does not structure the debate to promote or advance one candidate or issue position over another.

376 (c) For purposes of this chapter, an expenditure made for,
377 or in furtherance of, an electioneering communication shall not
378 be considered a contribution to or on behalf of any candidate.

(d) For purposes of this chapter, an electioneering communication shall not constitute an independent expenditure nor be subject to the limitations applicable to independent expenditures.

383 (19) "Electioneering communications organization" means any 384 group, other than a political party, political committee, or 385 committee of continuous existence, whose election-related 386 activities are limited to making expenditures for electioneering 387 communications or accepting contributions for the purpose of 388 making electioneering communications and whose activities would 389 not otherwise require the group to register as a political party, political committee, or committee of continuous existence 390

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391	under this chapter.
392	Section 10. Subsection (1) of section 106.022, Florida
393	Statutes, is reenacted to read:
394	106.022 Appointment of a registered agent; duties
395	(1) Each political committee, committee of continuous
396	existence, or electioneering communications organization shall
397	have and continuously maintain in this state a registered office
398	and a registered agent and must file with the division a
399	statement of appointment for the registered office and
400	registered agent. The statement of appointment must:
401	(a) Provide the name of the registered agent and the street
402	address and phone number for the registered office;
403	(b) Identify the entity for whom the registered agent
404	serves;
405	(c) Designate the address the registered agent wishes to
406	use to receive mail;
407	(d) Include the entity's undertaking to inform the division
408	of any change in such designated address;
409	(e) Provide for the registered agent's acceptance of the
410	appointment, which must confirm that the registered agent is
411	familiar with and accepts the obligations of the position as set
412	forth in this section; and
413	(f) Contain the signature of the registered agent and the
414	entity engaging the registered agent.
415	Section 11. Paragraph (b) of subsection (1) of section
416	106.03, Florida Statutes, is reenacted and amended, and
417	subsections (2), (4), and (7) of that section are amended, to
418	read:
419	106.03 Registration of political committees <u>and</u>

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420 electioneering communications organizations.-

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(1)

(b)1. Each electioneering communications organization that 422 423 receives anticipates receiving contributions or makes making 424 expenditures during a calendar year in an aggregate amount 425 exceeding \$5,000 shall file a statement of organization as 426 provided in subparagraph 2. subsection (3) by expedited delivery 427 within 24 hours after its organization or, if later, within 24 428 hours after the date on which it receives has information that 429 causes the organization to anticipate that it will receive 430 contributions or makes make expenditures for an electioneering 431 communication in excess of \$5,000.

432 <u>2.a. In a statewide, legislative, or multicounty election,</u>
433 <u>an electioneering communications organization shall file a</u>
434 <u>statement of organization with the Division of Elections.</u>

b. In a countywide election or any election held on less
than a countywide basis, except as described in sub-subparagraph
c., an electioneering communications organization shall file a
statement of organization with the supervisor of elections of
the county in which the election is being held.

440 <u>c. In a municipal election, an electioneering</u> 441 <u>communications organization shall file a statement of</u> 442 <u>organization with the officer before whom municipal candidates</u> 443 <u>qualify.</u>

444 <u>d. Any electioneering communications organization that</u>
445 <u>would be required to file a statement of organization in two or</u>
446 <u>more locations by reason of the organization's intention to</u>
447 <u>support or oppose candidates at state or multicounty and local</u>
448 <u>levels of government need only file a statement of organization</u>

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449	with the Division of Elections.
450	(2) The statement of organization shall include:
451	(a) The name, mailing address, and street address of the
452	committee or electioneering communications organization;
453	(b) The names, street addresses, and relationships of
454	affiliated or connected organizations;
455	(c) The area, scope, or jurisdiction of the committee <u>or</u>
456	electioneering communications organization;
457	(d) The name, <u>mailing address,</u> street address, and position
458	of the custodian of books and accounts;
459	(e) The name, <u>mailing address,</u> street address, and position
460	of other principal officers, including the treasurer and deputy
461	treasurer including officers and members of the finance
462	committee, if any;
463	(f) The name, address, office sought, and party affiliation
464	of:
465	1. Each candidate whom the committee is supporting;
466	2. Any other individual, if any, whom the committee is
467	supporting for nomination for election, or election, to any
468	public office whatever;
469	(g) Any issue or issues <u>the committee</u> such organization is
470	supporting or opposing;
471	(h) If the committee is supporting the entire ticket of any
472	party, a statement to that effect and the name of the party;
473	(i) A statement of whether the committee is a continuing
474	one;
475	(j) Plans for the disposition of residual funds which will
476	be made in the event of dissolution;
477	(k) A listing of all banks, safe-deposit boxes, or other
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478	depositories used for committee or electioneering communications
479	organization funds; and
480	(1) A statement of the reports required to be filed by the
481	committee or the electioneering communications organization with
482	federal officials, if any, and the names, addresses, and
483	positions of such officials; and
484	(m) A statement of whether the electioneering
485	communications organization was formed as a newly created
486	organization during the current calendar quarter or was formed
487	from an organization existing prior to the current calendar
488	quarter. For purposes of this subsection, calendar quarters end
489	the last day of March, June, September, and December.
490	(4) Any change in information previously submitted in a
491	statement of organization shall be reported to the agency or
492	officer with whom such committee or electioneering
493	<u>communications organization</u> is required to register pursuant to
494	subsection (3), within 10 days following the change.
495	(7) The Division of Elections shall <u>adopt</u> promulgate rules
496	to prescribe the manner in which inactive committees <u>and</u>
497	electioneering communications organizations may be dissolved and
498	have their registration canceled. Such rules shall, at a
499	minimum, provide for:
500	(a) Notice which shall contain the facts and conduct which
501	warrant the intended action, including but not limited to
502	failure to file reports and limited activity.
503	(b) Adequate opportunity to respond.
504	(c) Appeal of the decision to the Florida Elections
505	Commission. Such appeals shall be exempt from the
506	confidentiality provisions of s. 106.25.

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507 Section 12. Subsection (5) of section 106.04, Florida 508 Statutes, is reenacted to read:

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106.04 Committees of continuous existence.-

(5) No committee of continuous existence shall make an 510 511 electioneering communication, contribute to any candidate or 512 political committee an amount in excess of the limits contained 513 in s. 106.08(1), or participate in any activity which is 514 prohibited by this chapter. If any violation occurs, it shall be 515 punishable as provided in this chapter for the given offense. No funds of a committee of continuous existence shall be expended 516 on behalf of a candidate, except by means of a contribution made 517 518 through the duly appointed campaign treasurer of a candidate. No 519 such committee shall make expenditures in support of, or in 520 opposition to, an issue unless such committee first registers as 521 a political committee pursuant to this chapter and undertakes 522 all the practices and procedures required thereof; provided such 523 committee may make contributions in a total amount not to exceed 524 25 percent of its aggregate income, as reflected in the annual 525 report filed for the previous year, to one or more political 526 committees registered pursuant to s. 106.03 and formed to 527 support or oppose issues.

528 Section 13. Section 106.0703, Florida Statutes, is 529 reenacted and amended to read:

530 106.0703 Electioneering communications organizations;
531 additional reporting requirements; certification and filing;
532 penalties.-

533 (1) (a) Each electioneering communications organization 534 shall file regular reports of all contributions received and all 535 expenditures made by or on behalf of the organization. Reports

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536	shall be filed on the 10th day following the end of each
537	calendar quarter from the time the organization is registered.
538	However, if the 10th day following the end of a calendar quarter
539	occurs on a Saturday, Sunday, or legal holiday, the report shall
540	be filed on the next following day that is not a Saturday,
541	Sunday, or legal holiday. Quarterly reports shall include all
542	contributions received and expenditures made during the calendar
543	quarter that have not otherwise been reported pursuant to this
544	section.
545	(b) Following the last day of candidates qualifying for
546	office, the reports shall be filed on the 32nd, 18th, and 4th
547	days immediately preceding the primary election and on the 46th,
548	32nd, 18th, and 4th days immediately preceding the general
549	election.
550	(c) When a special election is called to fill a vacancy in
551	office, all electioneering communications organizations making
552	contributions or expenditures to influence the results of the
553	special election shall file reports with the filing officer on
554	the dates set by the Department of State pursuant to s. 100.111.
555	(d) In addition to the reports required by paragraph (a),
556	an electioneering communications organization that is registered
557	with the Department of State and that makes a contribution or
558	expenditure to influence the results of a county or municipal
559	election that is not being held at the same time as a state or
560	federal election must file reports with the county or municipal
561	filing officer on the same dates as county or municipal
562	candidates or committees for that election. The electioneering
563	communications organization must also include the expenditure in
564	the next report filed with the Division of Elections pursuant to
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565 this section following the county or municipal election. 566 (e) The filing officer shall make available to each electioneering communications organization a schedule 567 568 designating the beginning and end of reporting periods as well 569 as the corresponding designated due dates. 570 (2) (a) Except as provided in s. 106.0705, the reports required of an electioneering communications organization shall 571 572 be filed with the filing officer not later than 5 p.m. of the 573 day designated. However, any report postmarked by the United 574 States Postal Service no later than midnight of the day 575 designated shall be deemed to have been filed in a timely 576 manner. Any report received by the filing officer within 5 days 577 after the designated due date that was delivered by the United 578 States Postal Service shall be deemed timely filed unless it has 579 a postmark that indicates that the report was mailed after the 580 designated due date. A certificate of mailing obtained from and 581 dated by the United States Postal Service at the time of 582 mailing, or a receipt from an established courier company, which 583 bears a date on or before the date on which the report is due, 584 shall be proof of mailing in a timely manner. Reports shall contain information of all previously unreported contributions 585 586 received and expenditures made as of the preceding Friday, 587 except that the report filed on the Friday immediately preceding 588 the election shall contain information of all previously 589 unreported contributions received and expenditures made as of 590 the day preceding the designated due date. All such reports 591 shall be open to public inspection. 592 (b)1. Any report that is deemed to be incomplete by the officer with whom the electioneering communications organization 593

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594	files shall be accepted on a conditional basis. The treasurer of
595	the electioneering communications organization shall be
596	notified, by certified mail or other common carrier that can
597	establish proof of delivery for the notice, as to why the report
598	is incomplete. Within 7 days after receipt of such notice, the
599	treasurer must file an addendum to the report providing all
600	information necessary to complete the report in compliance with
601	this section. Failure to file a complete report after such
602	notice constitutes a violation of this chapter.
603	2. Notice is deemed sufficient upon proof of delivery of
604	written notice to the mailing or street address of the treasurer
605	or registered agent of the electioneering communication
606	organization on record with the filing officer.
607	(3)(a) Each report required by this section must contain:
608	1. The full name, address, and occupation, if any, of each
609	person who has made one or more contributions to or for such
610	electioneering communications organization within the reporting
611	period, together with the amount and date of such contributions.
612	For corporations, the report must provide as clear a description
613	as practicable of the principal type of business conducted by
614	the corporation. However, if the contribution is \$100 or less,
615	the occupation of the contributor or the principal type of
616	business need not be listed.
617	2. The name and address of each political committee from
618	which or to which the reporting electioneering communications
619	organization made any transfer of funds, together with the
620	amounts and dates of all transfers.
621	3. Each loan for electioneering communication purposes to
622	or from any person or political committee within the reporting

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623 period, together with the full names, addresses, and occupations 624 and principal places of business, if any, of the lender and 625 endorsers, if any, and the date and amount of such loans. 626 4. A statement of each contribution, rebate, refund, or 627 other receipt not otherwise listed under subparagraphs 1.-3. 628 5. The total sums of all loans, in-kind contributions, and 629 other receipts by or for such electioneering communications 630 organization during the reporting period. The reporting forms 631 shall be designed to elicit separate totals for in-kind 632 contributions, loans, and other receipts. 633 6. The full name and address of each person to whom 634 expenditures have been made by or on behalf of the 635 electioneering communications organization within the reporting 636 period and the amount, date, and purpose of each expenditure. 637 7. The full name and address of each person to whom an 638 expenditure for personal services, salary, or reimbursement for 639 expenses has been made and that is not otherwise reported, 640 including the amount, date, and purpose of the expenditure. 641 8. The total sum of expenditures made by the electioneering 642 communications organization during the reporting period. 9. The amount and nature of debts and obligations owed by 643 644 or to the electioneering communications organization that relate 645 to the conduct of any electioneering communication. 646 10. The amount and nature of any separate interest-bearing 647 accounts or certificates of deposit and identification of the 648 financial institution in which such accounts or certificates of 649 deposit are located. 650 11. The primary purposes of an expenditure made indirectly through an electioneering communications organization for 651

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652	goods and services, such as communications media placement or
653	procurement services and other expenditures that include
654	multiple components as part of the expenditure. The primary
655	purpose of an expenditure shall be that purpose, including
656	integral and directly related components, that comprises 80
657	percent of such expenditure.
658	(b) The filing officer shall make available to any
659	electioneering communications organization a reporting form
660	which the electioneering communications organization may use to
661	indicate contributions received by the electioneering
662	communications organization but returned to the contributor
663	before deposit.
664	(4) The treasurer of the electioneering communications
665	organization shall certify as to the correctness of each report,
666	and each person so certifying shall bear the responsibility for
667	the accuracy and veracity of each report. Any treasurer who
668	willfully certifies the correctness of any report while knowing
669	that such report is incorrect, false, or incomplete commits a
670	misdemeanor of the first degree, punishable as provided in s.
671	<u>775.082 or s. 775.083.</u>
672	(5) The electioneering communications organization
673	depository shall provide statements reflecting deposits and
674	expenditures from the account to the treasurer, who shall retain
675	the records pursuant to s. 106.06. The records maintained by the
676	depository with respect to the account shall be subject to
677	inspection by an agent of the Division of Elections or the
678	Florida Elections Commission at any time during normal banking
679	hours, and such depository shall furnish certified copies of any
680	such records to the Division of Elections or the Florida

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681	Elections Commission upon request.
682	(6) Notwithstanding any other provisions of this chapter,
683	in any reporting period during which an electioneering
684	communications organization has not received funds, made any
685	contributions, or expended any reportable funds, the treasurer
686	shall file a written report with the filing officer by the
687	prescribed reporting date that no reportable contributions or
688	expenditures were made during the reporting period.
689	(7) (a) Any electioneering communications organization
690	failing to file a report on the designated due date shall be
691	subject to a fine as provided in paragraph (b) for each late
692	day. The fine shall be assessed by the filing officer and the
693	moneys collected shall be deposited:
694	1. In the General Revenue Fund, in the case of an
695	electioneering communications organization that registers with
696	the Division of Elections; or
697	2. In the general revenue fund of the political
698	subdivision, in the case of an electioneering communications
699	organization that registers with an officer of a political
700	subdivision.
701	
702	No separate fine shall be assessed for failure to file a copy of
703	any report required by this section.
704	(b) Upon determining that a report is late, the filing
705	officer shall immediately notify the electioneering
706	communications organization as to the failure to file a report
707	by the designated due date and that a fine is being assessed for
708	each late day. The fine shall be \$50 per day for the first 3
709	days late and, thereafter, \$500 per day for each late day, not

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710	to exceed 25 percent of the total receipts or expenditures,
711	whichever is greater, for the period covered by the late report.
712	However, for the reports immediately preceding each primary and
713	general election, the fine shall be \$500 per day for each late
714	day, not to exceed 25 percent of the total receipts or
715	expenditures, whichever is greater, for the period covered by
716	the late report. Upon receipt of the report, the filing officer
717	shall determine the amount of the fine which is due and shall
718	notify the electioneering communications organization. The
719	filing officer shall determine the amount of the fine due based
720	upon the earliest of the following:
721	1. When the report is actually received by such officer.
722	2. When the report is postmarked.
723	3. When the certificate of mailing is dated.
724	4. When the receipt from an established courier company is
725	dated.
726	5. When the electronic receipt issued pursuant to s.
727	106.0705 or other electronic filing system authorized in this
728	section is dated.
729	
730	Such fine shall be paid to the filing officer within 20 days
731	after receipt of the notice of payment due, unless appeal is
732	made to the Florida Elections Commission pursuant to paragraph
733	(c). Notice is deemed sufficient upon proof of delivery of
734	written notice to the mailing or street address on record with
735	the filing officer. An officer or member of an electioneering
736	communications organization shall not be personally liable for
737	such fine.
738	(c) The treasurer of an electioneering communications

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739	organization may appeal or dispute the fine, based upon, but not
740	limited to, unusual circumstances surrounding the failure to
741	file on the designated due date, and may request and shall be
742	entitled to a hearing before the Florida Elections Commission,
743	which shall have the authority to waive the fine in whole or in
744	part. The Florida Elections Commission must consider the
745	mitigating and aggravating circumstances contained in s.
746	106.265(1) when determining the amount of a fine, if any, to be
747	waived. Any such request shall be made within 20 days after
748	receipt of the notice of payment due. In such case, the
749	treasurer of the electioneering communications organization
750	shall, within the 20-day period, notify the filing officer in
751	writing of his or her intention to bring the matter before the
752	commission.
753	(d) The appropriate filing officer shall notify the Florida
754	Elections Commission of the repeated late filing by an
755	electioneering communications organization, the failure of an
756	electioneering communications organization to file a report
757	after notice, or the failure to pay the fine imposed. The
758	commission shall investigate only those alleged late filing
759	violations specifically identified by the filing officer and as
760	set forth in the notification. Any other alleged violations must
761	be stated separately and reported by the division to the
762	commission under s. 106.25(2).
763	(8) In addition to the reporting requirements in s. 106.07,

763 (8) In addition to the reporting requirements in s. 106.07, 764 An electioneering communications organization shall, within 2 765 days after receiving its initial password or secure sign-on from 766 the Department of State allowing confidential access to the 767 department's electronic campaign finance filing system,

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768 electronically file the periodic campaign finance reports that 769 would have been required pursuant to this section s. 106.07 for 770 reportable activities that occurred since the date of the last 771 general election.

772 (9) Electioneering communications organizations shall not
 773 use credit cards.

Section 14. Paragraph (b) of subsection (2) of section 106.0705, Florida Statutes, is reenacted, and subsections (3) and (4) of that section are amended, to read:

777 106.0705 Electronic filing of campaign treasurer's778 reports.-

(2)

779

(b) Each political committee, committee of continuous existence, electioneering communications organization, or state executive committee that is required to file reports with the division under s. 106.04, s. 106.07, s. 106.0703, or s. 106.29, as applicable, must file such reports with the division by means of the division's electronic filing system.

(3) Reports filed pursuant to this section shall be completed and filed through the electronic filing system not later than midnight of the day designated. Reports not filed by midnight of the day designated are late filed and are subject to the penalties under s. 106.04(8), s. 106.07(8), <u>s. 106.0703(7)</u>, or s. 106.29(3), as applicable.

(4) Each report filed pursuant to this section is considered to be under oath by the candidate and treasurer, or the chair and treasurer, or the treasurer under s. 106.0703, whichever is applicable, and such persons are subject to the provisions of s. 106.04(4)(d), s. 106.07(5), <u>s. 106.0703(4)</u>, or

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797 s. 106.29(2), as applicable. Persons given a secure sign-on to 798 the electronic filing system are responsible for protecting such 799 from disclosure and are responsible for all filings using such 800 credentials, unless they have notified the division that their 801 credentials have been compromised.

802 Section 15. Subsection (1) of section 106.071, Florida 803 Statutes, is reenacted and amended to read:

804 106.071 Independent expenditures; electioneering 805 communications; reports; disclaimers.-

806 (1) Each person who makes an independent expenditure with 807 respect to any candidate or issue, and each individual who makes 808 an expenditure for an electioneering communication which is not 809 otherwise reported pursuant to this chapter, which expenditure, 810 in the aggregate, is in the amount of \$5,000 \$100 or more, shall file periodic reports of such expenditures in the same manner, 811 812 at the same time, subject to the same penalties, and with the 813 same officer as a political committee supporting or opposing such candidate or issue. The report shall contain the full name 814 815 and address of the person making the expenditure; the full name 816 and address of each person to whom and for whom each such 817 expenditure has been made; the amount, date, and purpose of each 818 such expenditure; a description of the services or goods 819 obtained by each such expenditure; the issue to which the 820 expenditure relates; and the name and address of, and office 821 sought by, each candidate on whose behalf such expenditure was 822 made.

823 Section 16. Subsections (4) and (5) of section 106.08, 824 Florida Statutes, are amended, and subsection (7) of that 825 section is reenacted, to read:

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826 106.08 Contributions; limitations on.-

(4) (a) Any contribution received by the chair, campaign treasurer, or deputy campaign treasurer of a political committee supporting or opposing a candidate with opposition in an election or supporting or opposing an issue on the ballot in an election on the day of that election or less than 5 days prior to the day of that election may not be obligated or expended by the committee until after the date of the election.

(b) Any contribution received by an electioneering
communications organization on the day of an election or less
than 5 days prior to the day of that election may not be
obligated or expended by the organization until after the date
of the election and may not be expended to pay for any
obligation arising prior to the election.

(5) (a) A person may not make any contribution through or inthe name of another, directly or indirectly, in any election.

(b) Candidates, political committees, and political parties
may not solicit contributions from any religious, charitable,
civic, or other causes or organizations established primarily
for the public good.

(c) Candidates, political committees, and political parties may not make contributions, in exchange for political support, to any religious, charitable, civic, or other cause or organization established primarily for the public good. It is not a violation of this paragraph for:

851 1. A candidate, political committee, or political party
852 executive committee to make gifts of money in lieu of flowers in
853 memory of a deceased person;

854

2. A candidate to continue membership in, or make regular

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donations from personal or business funds to, religious, political party, civic, or charitable groups of which the candidate is a member or to which the candidate has been a regular donor for more than 6 months; or

3. A candidate to purchase, with campaign funds, tickets,
admission to events, or advertisements from religious, civic,
political party, or charitable groups.

862 (d) An electioneering communications organization may not 863 accept a contribution from an organization exempt from taxation 864 under s. 527 or s. 501(c)(4) of the Internal Revenue Code, other 865 than a political committee, committee of continuous existence, 866 or political party, unless the contributing organization has 867 registered as if the organization were an electioneering 868 communications organization pursuant to s. 106.03 and has filed 869 all campaign finance reports required of electioneering 870 communications organizations pursuant to ss. 106.07 and 871 106.0703.

872 (7) (a) Any person who knowingly and willfully makes or 873 accepts no more than one contribution in violation of subsection 874 (1) or subsection (5), or any person who knowingly and willfully 875 fails or refuses to return any contribution as required in 876 subsection (3), commits a misdemeanor of the first degree, 877 punishable as provided in s. 775.082 or s. 775.083. If any 878 corporation, partnership, or other business entity or any 879 political party, political committee, committee of continuous 880 existence, or electioneering communications organization is 881 convicted of knowingly and willfully violating any provision 882 punishable under this paragraph, it shall be fined not less than \$1,000 and not more than \$10,000. If it is a domestic entity, it 883

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884 may be ordered dissolved by a court of competent jurisdiction; 885 if it is a foreign or nonresident business entity, its right to do business in this state may be forfeited. Any officer, 886 887 partner, agent, attorney, or other representative of a 888 corporation, partnership, or other business entity, or of a 889 political party, political committee, committee of continuous 890 existence, electioneering communications organization, or 891 organization exempt from taxation under s. 527 or s. 501(c)(4) 892 of the Internal Revenue Code, who aids, abets, advises, or 893 participates in a violation of any provision punishable under 894 this paragraph commits a misdemeanor of the first degree, 895 punishable as provided in s. 775.082 or s. 775.083.

896 (b) Any person who knowingly and willfully makes or accepts 897 two or more contributions in violation of subsection (1) or 898 subsection (5) commits a felony of the third degree, punishable 899 as provided in s. 775.082, s. 775.083, or s. 775.084. If any corporation, partnership, or other business entity or any 900 901 political party, political committee, committee of continuous 902 existence, or electioneering communications organization is 903 convicted of knowingly and willfully violating any provision 904 punishable under this paragraph, it shall be fined not less than 905 \$10,000 and not more than \$50,000. If it is a domestic entity, 906 it may be ordered dissolved by a court of competent 907 jurisdiction; if it is a foreign or nonresident business entity, 908 its right to do business in this state may be forfeited. Any 909 officer, partner, agent, attorney, or other representative of a 910 corporation, partnership, or other business entity, or of a political committee, committee of continuous existence, 911 912 political party, or electioneering communications organization,

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913 or organization exempt from taxation under s. 527 or s. 914 501(c)(4) of the Internal Revenue Code, who aids, abets, 915 advises, or participates in a violation of any provision 916 punishable under this paragraph commits a felony of the third 917 degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082, s. 775.083, or s. 918 775.084.

919 Section 17. Section 106.1437, Florida Statutes, is 920 reenacted to read:

921 106.1437 Miscellaneous advertisements.-Any advertisement, 922 other than a political advertisement, independent expenditure, 923 or electioneering communication, on billboards, bumper stickers, 924 radio, or television, or in a newspaper, a magazine, or a 925 periodical, intended to influence public policy or the vote of a 926 public official, shall clearly designate the sponsor of such 927 advertisement by including a clearly readable statement of 928 sponsorship. If the advertisement is broadcast on television, 929 the advertisement shall also contain a verbal statement of 930 sponsorship. This section shall not apply to an editorial 931 endorsement.

932 Section 18. Section 106.1439, Florida Statutes, is 933 reenacted and amended to read:

934

106.1439 Electioneering communications; disclaimers.-

935 (1) Any electioneering communication, other than a 936 <u>telephone call</u>, shall prominently state: "Paid electioneering 937 communication paid for by ... (Name and address of person paying 938 for the communication)...."

939 (2) Any electioneering communication telephone call shall 940 identify the persons or organizations sponsoring the call by 941 stating either: "Paid for by ... (insert name of persons or

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942 <u>organizations sponsoring the call)...." or "Paid for on behalf</u> 943 <u>of ...(insert name of persons or organizations authorizing</u> 944 <u>call)...." This subsection does not apply to any telephone call</u> 945 <u>in which the individual making the call is not being paid and</u> 946 <u>the individuals participating in the call know each other prior</u> 947 to the call.

948 <u>(3)(2)</u> Any person who fails to include the disclaimer 949 prescribed in this section in any electioneering communication 950 that is required to contain such disclaimer commits a 951 misdemeanor of the first degree, punishable as provided in s. 952 775.082 or s. 775.083.

953 Section 19. Paragraphs (a) and (e) of subsection (1) of 954 section 106.147, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

955 106.147 Telephone solicitation; disclosure requirements; 956 prohibitions; exemptions; penalties.-

957 (1) (a) Any electioneering communication telephone call or 958 any telephone call supporting or opposing a candidate, elected 959 public official, or ballot proposal must identify the persons or 960 organizations sponsoring the call by stating either: "paid for 961 by " (insert name of persons or organizations sponsoring the 962 call) or "paid for on behalf of" (insert name of persons or organizations authorizing call). This paragraph does not apply 963 964 to any telephone call in which both the individual making the call is not being paid and the individuals participating in the 965 966 call know each other prior to the call.

967 (e) Any electioneering communication paid for with public 968 funds must include a disclaimer containing the words "paid for 969 by ... (Name of the government entity paying for the 970 communication)...."

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0 7 1	
971	Section 20. Section 106.17, Florida Statutes, is reenacted
972	to read:
973	106.17 Polls and surveys relating to candidacies.—Any
974	candidate, political committee, committee of continuous
975	existence, electioneering communication organization, or state
976	or county executive committee of a political party may authorize
977	or conduct a political poll, survey, index, or measurement of
978	any kind relating to candidacy for public office so long as the
979	candidate, political committee, committee of continuous
980	existence, electioneering communication organization, or
981	political party maintains complete jurisdiction over the poll in
982	all its aspects.
983	
984	======================================
985	And the title is amended as follows:
986	Delete lines 2 - 31
987	and insert:
988	An act relating to elections; amending s. 97.021,
989	F.S.; defining the term "absent uniformed services
990	voter"; revising the definition of the term "overseas
991	voter"; amending s. 98.0981, F.S., relating to
992	statewide voter information; conforming a cross-
993	reference; amending s. 101.56075, F.S.; extending the
994	deadline by which persons with disabilities will be
995	required to vote on voter interface devices that meet
996	certain requirements; amending s. 101.62, F.S.;
997	requiring the supervisor of elections to notify the
998	absent uniformed services voter and overseas voter of
999	the free access system for determining absentee ballot

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1000 status; providing a timeframe for an absentee ballot 1001 to be sent to each absent uniformed services voter and 1002 overseas voter; providing acceptable formats for 1003 requesting an absentee ballot; modifying circumstances 1004 under which the department is authorized to prescribe 1005 rules for a ballot to be sent to absent uniformed 1006 services voters and overseas voters; amending s. 1007 101.694, F.S.; conforming timeframes for sending an 1008 absentee ballot upon receipt of federal postcard 1009 application to those prescribed in s. 101.62, F.S.; 1010 deleting the requirement for a federal postcard 1011 application request to be effective through two 1012 regularly scheduled general elections pursuant to 1013 changes in federal law; amending s. 101.6952, F.S.; 1014 revising responsibilities of the supervisor of 1015 elections when an absent uniformed services voter's or 1016 overseas voter's request for an absentee ballot 1017 includes an e-mail address; requiring the supervisor 1018 to record the e-mail address in the absentee ballot 1019 record and, via e-mail, confirm that the request was 1020 received, inform the voter of the estimated date the 1021 absentee ballot will be sent, and notify the voter 1022 when the voted absentee ballot is received; providing 1023 a short title; amending s. 106.143, F.S.; providing an 1024 alternative statement that may be used to identify a 1025 candidate as the sponsor of a political advertisement 1026 under certain circumstances; providing circumstances 1027 under which certain campaign messages and political 1028 advertisements are not required to state or display

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1029 specific information regarding the identity of the 1030 candidate, his or her party affiliation, and the 1031 office sought in the message or advertisement; 1032 authorizing a candidate or political committee to 1033 place a statement on a social networking website or 1034 account indicating that the site or account is an 1035 official site or account approved by the candidate or 1036 political committee; prohibiting an official 1037 designation without the prior approval by the 1038 candidate or political committee; amending s. 106.011, 1039 F.S.; revising the definition of the term "political 1040 committee" to remove certain reporting requirements 1041 included in the exclusion of electioneering 1042 communications organizations from the definition; 1043 revising the definition of the term "filing officer" 1044 to expand applicability to electioneering 1045 communications organizations; revising the definition of the term "electioneering communication" to conform 1046 1047 to certain federal requirements and to delineate what 1048 constitutes such a communication; revising the 1049 definition of the term "electioneering communications 1050 organization"; amending s. 106.03, F.S.; revising the 1051 registration requirements for electioneering 1052 communications organizations; revising the statement 1053 of organization requirements; revising rule adoption 1054 requirements relating to dissolution of political 1055 committees and electioneering communications 1056 organizations; amending s. 106.0703, F.S.; 1057 consolidating reporting requirements in ch. 106, F.S.,

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1058 applicable to electioneering communications 1059 organizations; providing penalties; conforming 1060 provisions; prohibiting the use of credit cards by 1061 electioneering communications organizations; amending 1062 s. 106.0705, F.S., relating to electronic filing of 1063 campaign treasurer's reports; conforming provisions; amending s. 106.071, F.S.; increasing the aggregate 1064 1065 amount of expenditures required for filing certain 1066 reports related to independent expenditures or 1067 electioneering communications; amending s. 106.08, 1068 F.S.; removing certain limitations on contributions 1069 received by an electioneering communications 1070 organization; amending s. 106.1439, F.S.; providing 1071 identification requirements for certain electioneering 1072 communications; providing an exception for telephone 1073 calls; amending s. 106.147, F.S., relating to 1074 telephone solicitation disclosure requirements; 1075 removing requirements relating to electioneering 1076 communication, to conform; reenacting ss. 1077 106.011(1)(b), (3), (4), (18), and (19), 106.022(1), 1078 106.03(1)(b), 106.04(5), 106.0703, 106.0705(2)(b), 1079 106.071(1), 106.08(7), 106.1437, 106.1439, and 106.17, 1080 F.S., relating to definitions, registered office and 1081 agent requirements, registration requirements, 1082 prohibited activities for committees of continuous 1083 existence, additional reporting requirements, 1084 electronic filing requirements, expenditure reports, 1085 penalties for violations pertaining to limitations on 1086 contributions, miscellaneous advertisements,



1087 electioneering communications disclaimers and 1088 penalties for failure to include disclaimers, and 1089 polls and surveys pertaining to candidacies, to cure 1090 and conform; amending s.