1

2

3

4

5

6

7

8

9

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

A bill to be entitled An act relating to elections; amending s. 97.012, F.S.; requiring the Secretary of State to provide mandatory formal signature matching training to specified persons; requiring the Department of State to adopt specified rules; amending s. 97.052, F.S.; conforming a provision to changes made by the act; amending s. 97.057, F.S.; conforming a crossreference; amending s. 97.0575, F.S.; requiring thirdparty voter registration organizations provide to the Division of Elections the general election cycle for which they are registering persons to vote, beginning on a certain date; requiring third-party voter registration organizations to provide to the division certain affirmations; providing that a third-party voter registration organization is liable for certain fines in certain circumstances; providing that the registration of such organizations expires at the conclusion of the organizations' lawful responsibilities following such election cycle, beginning on a certain date; requiring such organizations to provide applicants with a specified receipt; requiring the division to adopt by rule a uniform format for such receipt by a specified date; revising the timeframe within which such organizations

Page 1 of 108

26

27

28

29

30

31

32

33

34

35

36

37

38

39

40

41

42

43

44

45

46

47

48

49

50

must deliver applications to the division or a supervisor of elections; revising the fines for failure to submit applications to the division or the supervisor within the specified timeframe; prohibiting a person collecting applications on behalf of a thirdparty voter registration organization from copying specified information from the application for reasons other than complying with specified requirements; providing criminal penalties; providing retroactive applicability; prohibiting organizations from providing prefilled voter registration applications to applicants; providing civil penalties; amending s. 97.071, F.S.; revising the contents of voter information cards; providing construction; providing applicability; amending s. 98.065, F.S.; removing a provision relating to the address to which certain voter registration mail must be addressed; revising requirements applicable to registration list maintenance programs; requiring a supervisor to conduct a certain review of voter registration records at least annually and take certain actions; requiring the department to coordinate with a supervisor of elections for a specified purpose; amending s. 98.0655, F.S.; removing a provision that requires an address confirmation request to include a certain

Page 2 of 108

51

52

53

54

55

56

57

58

59

60

61

62

63

64

65

66

67

68

69

70

71

72

73

74

75

statement; amending s. 98.075, F.S.; removing the scheduled repeal of a public records exemption for certain voter registration information from another state or the District of Columbia; requiring the supervisor to remove the name of a registered voter from the statewide voter registration system within a specified timeframe if certain conditions exist; requiring the supervisor to coordinate with his or her respective clerk of the court to obtain information of those registered voters convicted of a felony who have not had their voting rights restored; requiring a supervisor to adhere to specified procedures before the removal of a registered voter from the statewide voter registration system; providing construction; requiring the notice that the supervisor must provide to a potentially ineligible voter to include a specified statement; authorizing a supervisor to post a specified notice on the county's website or the supervisor's website; requiring the notice to contain specified statements; requiring the supervisor to make a final determination of the voter's eligibility within a specified timeframe and remove the name of a registered voter within a specified timeframe if the registered voter fails to respond or responds in a certain manner to certain notices; requiring the

Page 3 of 108

76

77

78

79

80

81

82

83

84

85

86

87

88

89

90

91

92

93

94

95

96

97

98

99

100

supervisor to review evidence and make a determination of eligibility within a specified timeframe in certain circumstances; requiring the supervisor to remove an ineligible voter within a specified timeframe and notify the voter that he or she has the right to appeal the determination of ineligibility; requiring the supervisor to schedule and issue notice of a hearing within a specified timeframe after receiving the voter's hearing request; requiring that the hearing be held within a specified timeframe; requiring the department to coordinate with the supervisor to ensure that such actions and activities are conducted; conforming provisions to changes made by the act; amending s. 98.077, F.S.; removing a reference to the department from a provision requiring correspondence to include certain information; requiring a supervisor to publish a specified notice in a newspaper, on the county's website, or on the supervisor's website; requiring that signature updates used to verify signatures on ballot certificates or petitions be received by the supervisor before the voter's ballot is received, his or her provisional ballot is cast, or the petition is submitted for signature verification; requiring the supervisor to use the signature on file at the time the vote-by-mail

Page 4 of 108

101

102

103

104

105

106

107

108

109

110

111

112

113

114

115

116

117

118

119

120

121

122

123

124

125

ballot is received, the provisional ballot is cast, or the petition is reviewed; providing an exception; amending s. 98.093, F.S.; requiring the Department of Health to weekly furnish a specified list to the Department of State; requiring clerks of the circuit court to weekly furnish specified information to the supervisors; requiring the clerks to provide certain information to the department; requiring the Department of Law Enforcement to identify and report specified persons to the Department of State at least weekly; requiring the Florida Commission on Offender Review to furnish data on clemency to the Department of State at least weekly; requiring the Department of Corrections to identify persons convicted of a felony and committed to its custody, and to provide such information to the Department of State, at least weekly; requiring the Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles to weekly furnish specified information to the Department of State; revising construction; making technical changes; amending s. 98.0981, F.S.; requiring supervisors to submit specified reports to the department within a specified timeframe; requiring supervisors to prepare a reconciliation report and submit such report to the department; providing requirements for, and the required format of, the

Page 5 of 108

126

127

128

129

130

131

132

133

134

135

136

137

138

139

140

141

142

143

144

145

146

147

148

149

150

report; revising the requirement that supervisors transmit to the department, in a specified format, the completely updated voting history information for each qualified voter who voted; defining the term "unique precinct identifier"; requiring supervisors to submit a specified geographical information system map to the department; requiring the department to submit an election summary report containing certain information to the Legislature following the certification by the Elections Canvassing Commission of specified elections; removing certain file specifications; revising the timeframe for a supervisor to collect and submit to the department precinct-level election results after certification by the commission of specified elections; revising the procedures to compile such results; requiring the supervisor to research and address questions or issues identified by the department in such results; requiring the supervisor to provide amended precinct-level election results to the department within a specified timeframe, if certain conditions exist; requiring the department to publish such results online within a specified timeframe; specifying requirements for the website; requiring certain files to be created in accordance with, and providing requirements for, a

Page 6 of 108

151

152

153

154

155

156

157

158

159

160

161

162

163

164

165

166

167

168

169

170

171

172

173

174

175

certain rule; providing a definition; providing the timeframe within which the department must compile and make available certain precinct-level statistical data; requiring the department to adopt specified rules; amending s. 99.021, F.S.; revising the form of the candidate oath to require that candidates acknowledge certain outstanding fines, fees, or penalties relating to ethics or campaign finance violations; creating s. 99.0215, F.S.; requiring a candidate to designate in the candidate's oath the name he or she wishes to have printed on the ballot, subject to specified conditions; requiring a candidate to file a specified affidavit simultaneously with the oath if the candidate wishes to use a nickname, which is subject to certain conditions; defining the term "political slogan"; prohibiting the use of a professional title or degree except in specified circumstances; amending s. 99.097, F.S.; requiring the person or organization that submits signatures for a local or statewide issue to pay the supervisor in advance for checking the signatures; making technical changes; amending s. 100.021, F.S.; providing alternative methods for providing notice of a general election; amending s. 100.141, F.S.; revising the methods by which a supervisor may publish notice of a

Page 7 of 108

176

177

178

179180

181

182

183

184

185

186

187

188

189

190

191

192

193

194

195

196

197

198

199

200

special election; amending s. 100.342, F.S.; specifying that the notice for a special election or referendum may be published on the county's website, the municipality's website, or the supervisor's website, as applicable; amending s. 101.001, F.S.; revising requirements for specified maps maintained by supervisors of elections; authorizing supervisors of elections to coordinate with other governmental entities for a certain purpose; removing a provision requiring supervisors to provide the department certain data on precincts in the county; removing a provision requiring the department to maintain a certain database; requiring supervisors of elections to include changes in the name of a precinct in a certain document; amending s. 101.048, F.S.; providing that specified persons are entitled to vote a provisional ballot; amending s. 101.151, F.S.; requiring the word "incumbent" to appear next to a candidate's name on an election ballot under specified conditions; amending s. 101.5612, F.S.; revising the methods by which certain notice may be provided; amending s. 101.6103, F.S.; conforming a crossreference; making technical changes; amending s. 101.62, F.S.; specifying that a supervisor must accept requests for vote-by-mail ballots only from specified

Page 8 of 108

2.01

202

203

204

205

206

207

208

209

210

211

212

213

214

215

216

217

218

219

220

221

222

223

224

225

persons; providing that a request may be made through a supervisor's website; requiring the department to adopt by rule a uniform statewide application for a written request for a vote-by-mail ballot by a specified date; requiring a supervisor to cancel a request for a vote-by-mail ballot if certain mail sent by the supervisor to the voter is returned to the supervisor as undeliverable; requiring a voter who subsequently requests a vote-by-mail ballot to provide or confirm his or her current residential address; requiring the supervisor to add certain information to the voter's registration record if such information is provided in the vote-by-mail request; revising the definition of the term "immediate family"; removing a provision requiring vote-by-mail ballot requests to be received by a specified time before the supervisor mails a vote-by-mail ballot; revising the day after which a supervisor may not mail a vote-by-mail ballot; providing the deadline for submitting a vote-by-mail ballot request; revising the means by which and the period during which a supervisor shall provide a voteby-mail ballot to a voter; prohibiting a supervisor from personally delivering a vote-by-mail ballot to certain voters or delivering a vote-by-mail ballot to certain voters' designees during a certain period

Page 9 of 108

226 unless certain conditions exist; making technical changes; amending s. 101.67, F.S.; requiring the 227 228 supervisor to segregate and treat certain ballots as 229 provisional; amending s. 101.68, F.S.; prohibiting 230 vote-by-mail ballots from being counted if two or more 231 ballots arrive in one mailing envelope; making 232 technical changes; amending s. 101.6923, F.S.; 233 requiring that a specified statement be included in a 234 vote-by-mail ballot provided to certain voters; making 235 technical changes; amending s. 101.6925, F.S.; 236 revising the deadline for a voter to make specified 237 information available to the supervisor before a vote-238 by-mail ballot may be canvassed; amending s. 101.694, 239 F.S.; conforming a cross-reference; amending ss. 240 101.71 and 101.733, F.S.; revising the methods by 241 which certain notice may be provided; amending s. 242 102.111, F.S.; revising the time at which the 243 Elections Canvassing Commission shall meet to certify 244 returns; amending s. 102.112, F.S.; revising the 245 timeframe in which county returns must be filed with 246 the department; amending s. 102.141, F.S.; requiring 247 at least a certain number of alternate canvassing 248 board members; revising the methods by which certain 249 notice may be provided; requiring the supervisor to file a report with the Division of Elections within a 250

Page 10 of 108

2.51

252

253

254

255

256

257

258

259

260

261

262

263

264

265

266

267

268

269

270

271

272

273

274

275

specified timeframe; revising the requirements for the report; requiring the division to review the report and offer specified training to supervisors based on the report; requiring the department to submit an analysis of specified reports to the Governor and the Legislature by a specified date; amending s. 103.021, F.S.; revising the timeframe within which a political party executive committee must submit its presidential electors to the Governor for nomination; requiring the state executive committee of each party to submit specified information; requiring that electors be qualified registered voters and members of the political party for which they are named as electors; specifying that a required oath be made in writing; revising the timeframe within which the Governor must certify the electors to the department; revising the timeframe within which a minor political party must submit its list of presidential electors to the department; providing that certain acts constitute a resignation of the position of presidential elector; amending s. 103.022, F.S.; requiring certain write-in candidates to submit specified information; amending s. 103.091, F.S.; authorizing a qualifying office to accept and hold qualifying papers for candidates for political party offices within a specified timeframe

Page 11 of 108

276

277

278

279

280

281

282

283

284

285

286

287

288

289

290

291

292

293

294

295

296297

298

299

300

before the qualifying period; amending s. 104.16, F.S.; providing applicability; amending s. 104.18, F.S.; providing that a prosecution for voting more than one ballot may proceed in any jurisdiction in which a ballot was willfully cast; providing that it is not necessary to prove which ballot was cast first; defining the term "votes more than one ballot at any election"; amending s. 104.42, F.S.; authorizing a supervisor to report certain findings to the Office of Election Crimes and Security rather than the Florida Elections Commission; amending s. 105.031, F.S.; revising the form of the candidate's oath to require that candidates for judicial office acknowledge certain outstanding fines, fees, or penalties relating to ethics or campaign finance violations; amending s. 106.07, F.S.; revising reporting intervals for candidates and political committees from monthly to quarterly; preempting local governments from establishing reporting schedules that differ from certain requirements; conforming a cross-reference; amending s. 106.0702, F.S.; conforming a crossreference; amending s. 106.0703, F.S.; revising reporting intervals for electioneering communications organizations from monthly to quarterly; conforming a cross-reference; amending s. 106.08, F.S.; adding text

Page 12 of 108

301 messages to the items that do not constitute 302 contributions to be counted toward certain 303 contribution limits; creating s. 106.1436, F.S.; 304 defining the term "voter guide"; prohibiting a person 305 from representing that a voter guide is an official 306 publication of a political party; providing an 307 exception; providing disclosure requirements for such 308 voter guides; providing criminal penalties and fines; 309 amending s. 106.265, F.S.; increasing the maximum civil fines that may be imposed for specified 310 311 violations; providing that fines assessed against a 312 political committee also attach jointly and severally 313 to persons with control over the political committee; 314 amending s. 322.142, F.S.; authorizing the Department 315 of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles to provide 316 certain reproductions to a supervisor of elections; 317 providing an effective date. 318 319 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida: 320 321 Section 1. Subsection (17) of section 97.012, Florida 322 Statutes, is amended to read: 323 97.012 Secretary of State as chief election officer. - The 324 Secretary of State is the chief election officer of the state, 325 and it is his or her responsibility to:

Page 13 of 108

326	(17) Provide mandatory formal signature matching training
327	to supervisors of elections and county canvassing board members.
328	Any person whose duties require verification of signatures must
329	undergo signature matching training. The department shall adopt
330	rules governing signature matching procedures and training.
331	Section 2. Paragraph (g) of subsection (3) of section
332	97.052, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
333	97.052 Uniform statewide voter registration application.—
334	(3) The uniform statewide voter registration application
335	must also contain:
336	(g) A statement informing the applicant that if the
337	application is being collected by a third-party voter
338	registration organization, the organization might not deliver
339	the application to the division or the supervisor in the county
340	in which the applicant resides in less than $\underline{10}$ $\underline{14}$ days or before
341	registration closes for the next ensuing election, and that the
342	applicant may instead elect to deliver the application in person
343	or by mail or choose to register online. The statement must
344	further inform the applicant how to determine whether the
345	application has been delivered.
346	Section 3. Subsection (13) of section 97.057, Florida
347	Statutes, is amended to read:
348	97.057 Voter registration by the Department of Highway
349	Safety and Motor Vehicles
350	(13) The Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles

Page 14 of 108

must assist the Department of State in regularly identifying changes in residence address on the driver license or identification card of a voter. The Department of State must report each such change to the appropriate supervisor of elections who must change the voter's registration records in accordance with s. 98.065(4) s. 98.065(5).

Section 4. Section 97.0575, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

97.0575 Third-party voter <u>registration organizations</u> registrations.

- (1) Before engaging in any voter registration activities, a third-party voter registration organization must register and provide to the division, in an electronic format, the following information:
- (a) The names of the officers of the organization and the name and permanent address of the organization.
- (b) The name and address of the organization's registered agent in the state.
- (c) The names, permanent addresses, and temporary addresses, if any, of each registration agent registering persons to vote in this state on behalf of the organization. This paragraph does not apply to persons who only solicit applications and do not collect or handle voter registration applications.
  - (d) Beginning January 1, 2025, the specific general

Page 15 of 108

election cycle for which the third-party voter registration organization is registering persons to vote.

- (e) An affirmation that each person collecting or handling voter registration applications on behalf of the third-party voter registration organization has not been convicted of a felony violation of the Election Code, of a felony violation of an offense specified in s. 817.5685, or of an offense specified in s. 817.568. A third-party voter registration organization is liable for a fine in the amount of \$50,000 for each person convicted of a felony violation of the Election Code, of a felony violation of an offense specified in s. 817.5685, or of an offense specified in s. 817.5685, or of an offense specified in s. 817.568 who is collecting or handling voter registration applications on behalf of the third-party voter registration organization.
- (f) An affirmation that each person collecting or handling voter registration applications on behalf of the third-party voter registration organization is a citizen of the United States of America. A third-party voter registration organization is liable for a fine in the amount of \$50,000 for each person who is not a citizen and is collecting or handling voter registration applications on behalf of the third-party voter registration organization.
- (2) Beginning January 1, 2025, the registration of a third-party voter registration organization automatically expires at the conclusion of the specific general election cycle

Page 16 of 108

for which the third-party voter registration organization is registered.

(3)(2) The division or the supervisor of elections shall make voter registration forms available to third-party voter registration organizations. All such forms must contain information identifying the organization to which the forms are provided. The division shall maintain a database of all third-party voter registration organizations and the voter registration forms assigned to the third-party voter registration organization. Each supervisor of elections shall provide to the division information on voter registration forms assigned to and received from third-party voter registration organizations. The information must be provided in a format and at times as required by the division by rule. The division shall must update information on third-party voter registrations daily and make the information publicly available.

(4) A third-party voter registration organization that collects voter registration applications must provide a receipt to an applicant upon accepting possession of his or her application. The division shall adopt by rule a uniform format for the receipt by October 1, 2023. The format must include, but need not be limited to, the name of the applicant, the date the application is received, the name of the third-party voter registration organization, the name of the registration agent, the applicant's political party affiliation, and the county in

## which the applicant resides.

(5)(a)(3)(a) A third-party voter registration organization that collects voter registration applications serves as a fiduciary to the applicant and must ensure, ensuring that any voter registration application entrusted to the organization, irrespective of party affiliation, race, ethnicity, or gender, is must be promptly delivered to the division or the supervisor of elections in the county in which the applicant resides within 10 14 days after the application is was completed by the applicant, but not after registration closes for the next ensuing election. If a voter registration application collected by any third-party voter registration organization is not promptly delivered to the division or supervisor of elections in the county in which the applicant resides, the third-party voter registration organization organization is liable for the following fines:

1. A fine in the amount of \$50 per each day late, up to \$2,500, for each application received by the division or the supervisor of elections in the county in which the applicant resides more than 10 14 days after the applicant delivered the completed voter registration application to the third-party voter registration organization or any person, entity, or agent acting on its behalf. A fine in the amount of \$2,500 \$250 for each application received if the third-party voter registration organization or person, entity, or agency acting on its behalf acted willfully.

Page 18 of 108

- 2. A fine in the amount of \$100 per each day late, up to \$5,000, for each application collected by a third-party voter registration organization or any person, entity, or agent acting on its behalf, before book closing for any given election for federal or state office and received by the division or the supervisor of elections in the county in which the applicant resides after the book-closing deadline for such election. A fine in the amount of \$5,000 \$500 for each application received if the third-party voter registration organization or any person, entity, or agency acting on its behalf acted willfully.
- 3. A fine in the amount of \$500 for each application collected by a third-party voter registration organization or any person, entity, or agent acting on its behalf, which is not submitted to the division or supervisor of elections in the county in which the applicant resides. A fine in the amount of  $\frac{$5,000}{$1,000}$  for any application not submitted if the third-party voter registration organization or person, entity, or agency acting on its behalf acted willfully.

The aggregate fine which may be assessed pursuant to this paragraph which may be assessed against a third-party voter registration organization, including affiliate organizations, for violations committed in a calendar year is \$250,000 \$50,000.

(b) A showing by the third-party voter registration organization that the failure to deliver the voter registration

Page 19 of 108

application within the required timeframe is based upon force majeure or impossibility of performance shall be an affirmative defense to a violation of this subsection. The secretary may waive the fines described in this subsection upon a showing that the failure to deliver the voter registration application promptly is based upon force majeure or impossibility of performance.

- <u>(6) (4)</u> If a person collecting voter registration applications on behalf of a third-party voter registration organization alters the voter registration application of any other person, without the other person's knowledge and consent, in violation of s. 104.012(4) and is subsequently convicted of such offense, the applicable third-party voter registration organization is liable for a fine in the amount of \$5,000 \$1,000 for each application altered.
- (7) If a person collecting voter registration applications on behalf of a third-party voter registration organization copies a voter's application or retains a voter's personal information such as the voter's Florida driver license number, Florida identification card number, social security number, or signature for any reason other than to provide such application or information to the third-party voter registration organization in compliance with this section, the person commits a felony of the third degree, punishable as provided in s.

  775.082, s. 775.083, or s. 775.084.

(8)(5) If the Secretary of State reasonably believes that a person has committed a violation of this section, the secretary may refer the matter to the Attorney General for enforcement. The Attorney General may institute a civil action for a violation of this section or to prevent a violation of this section. An action for relief may include a permanent or temporary injunction, a restraining order, or any other appropriate order.

(9)(6) The division shall adopt by rule a form to elicit specific information concerning the facts and circumstances from a person who claims to have been registered to vote by a third-party voter registration organization but who does not appear as an active voter on the voter registration rolls. The division shall also adopt rules to ensure the integrity of the registration process, including controls to ensure that all completed forms are promptly delivered to the division or a supervisor in the county in which the applicant resides.

- (10) (7) The date on which an applicant signs a voter registration application is presumed to be the date on which the third-party voter registration organization received or collected the voter registration application.
- (11) A third-party voter registration organization may not mail or otherwise provide a voter registration application upon which any information about an applicant has been filled in before it is provided to the applicant. A third-party voter

Page 21 of 108

526	registration organization that violates this section is liable
527	for a fine in the amount of \$50 for each such application
528	(12) (8) The requirements of this section are retroactive
529	for any third-party voter registration organization registered
530	with the department on <u>July 1, 2023</u> the effective date of this
531	act, and must be complied with within 90 days after the
532	department provides notice to the third-party voter registration
533	organization of the requirements contained in this section.
534	Failure of the third-party voter registration organization to
535	comply with the requirements within 90 days after receipt of the
536	notice shall automatically result in the cancellation of the
537	third-party voter registration organization's registration.
538	Section 5. Subsections (1) and (3) of section 97.071,
539	Florida Statutes, are amended to read:
540	97.071 Voter information card.—
541	(1) A voter information card $\underline{\text{must}}$ $\underline{\text{shall}}$ be furnished by
542	the supervisor to all registered voters residing in the
543	supervisor's county. The card must contain:
544	(a) Voter's registration number.
545	(b) Date of registration.
546	(c) Full name.
547	(d) Party affiliation.
548	(e) Date of birth.
549	(f) Address of legal residence.
550	(g) Precinct number.

Page 22 of 108

(h) Polling place address <u>and a link to the supervisor's</u> website to provide the most current polling place locations.

(i) Name of supervisor and contact information of supervisor.

- (j) The following statement: "This card is for information purposes only. This card is proof of registration but is not legal verification of eligibility to vote. It is the responsibility of a voter to keep his or her eligibility status current."
- $\underline{\text{(k)}}$  Other information deemed necessary by the supervisor.
- (3) In the case of a change of name, address of legal residence, polling place address, or party affiliation, the supervisor shall issue the voter a new voter information card. A temporary change made to a polling location pursuant to ss.

  101.71 and 101.74 does not require the issuance of a new voter information card.
- Section 6. The amendments made to s. 97.071, Florida

  Statutes, by this act only apply to new and replacement voter

  information cards issued on or after July 1, 2023.
- Section 7. Subsections (4), (5), and (6) of section 98.065, Florida Statutes, are renumbered as subsections (3), (4), and (5), respectively, present subsections (3) and (4), paragraph (c) of present subsection (5), and subsection (7) are amended, and a new subsection (6) is added to that section, to

Page 23 of 108

read:

98.065 Registration list maintenance programs. -

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

(3)(4) A registration list maintenance program must be conducted by each supervisor, at a minimum, once each year, beginning no later than April 1, and must be completed at least not later than 90 days before the date of any federal election. All list maintenance actions associated with each voter must be entered, tracked, recorded, and maintained in the statewide voter registration system.

## $(4) \frac{(5)}{}$

(c) If an address confirmation request required by paragraph (2)(a) is returned as undeliverable without indication of an address change, or there is no response from the voter within 30 days, or if any other nonforwardable return-if-undeliverable mail is returned as undeliverable with no indication of an address change, the supervisor <u>must shall</u> send

Page 24 of 108

an address confirmation final notice to all addresses on file for the voter.

- (6) The supervisor shall conduct at least an annual review of voter registration records to identify registration records in which a voter is registered at an address that may not be an address of legal residence for the voter. For those registration records with such addresses that the supervisor has reasonable belief are not legal residential addresses, the supervisor shall initiate list maintenance activities pursuant to s. 98.075(6) and (7).
- (7)(a) No later than July 31 and January 31 of each year, the supervisor must certify to the department the <u>address</u> list maintenance activities conducted during the first 6 months and the second 6 months of the year, respectively, including the number of address confirmation requests sent, the number of voters designated as inactive, and the number of voters removed from the statewide voter registration system.
- (b) If, based on the certification provided pursuant to paragraph (a), the department determines that a supervisor has not conducted the list maintenance activities required by this section, the department <u>must coordinate with the supervisor to ensure that shall conduct</u> the appropriate list maintenance activities for that county <u>are conducted</u>. Failure to conduct list maintenance activities as required in this section constitutes a violation of s. 104.051.

Page 25 of 108

626 Section 8. Paragraph (c) of subsection (1) of section 627 98.0655, Florida Statutes, is amended to read: 628 98.0655 Registration list maintenance forms.—The 629 department shall prescribe registration list maintenance forms 630 to be used by the supervisors which must include: 631 An address confirmation request that must contain: 632 (c) If the address confirmation request is required by s. 633 98.065(2)(a), a statement that if the voter has not changed his 634 or her legal residence or has changed his or her legal residence 635 within the state, the voter should return the form within 30 636 days after the date on which the notice was sent to the voter; 637 and 638 Section 9. Paragraph (c) of subsection (2) and subsections 639 (3) through (8) of section 98.075, Florida Statutes, are amended 640 to read: 641 98.075 Registration records maintenance activities; 642 ineligibility determinations.-643 (2) DUPLICATE REGISTRATION. -644 Information received by the department from another 645 state or the District of Columbia upon the department becoming a 646 member of a nongovernmental entity as provided in subparagraph 647 (b)1., which is confidential or exempt pursuant to the laws of 648 that state or the District of Columbia, is exempt from s.

Page 26 of 108

department shall provide such information to the supervisors to

119.07(1) and s. 24(a), Art. I of the State Constitution. The

CODING: Words stricken are deletions; words underlined are additions.

649

650

conduct registration list maintenance activities. This paragraph is subject to the Open Government Sunset Review Act in accordance with s. 119.15 and shall stand repealed on October 2, 2023, unless reviewed and saved from repeal through reenactment by the Legislature.

(3) DECEASED PERSONS.-

- (a)1. The department shall identify those registered voters who are deceased by comparing information received from:
  - a. The Department of Health as provided in s. 98.093;
- b. The United States Social Security Administration, including, but not limited to, any master death file or index compiled by the United States Social Security Administration; or and
  - c. The Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles.
- 2. Within 7 days after receipt of such information through the statewide voter registration system, the supervisor shall remove the name of the registered voter.
- (b) The supervisor shall remove the name of a deceased registered voter from the statewide voter registration system within 7 days after receipt of:
- 1. upon receipt of A copy of a death certificate issued by
  a governmental agency authorized to issue death certificates;
  or-
- 2. Information on the death of the registered voter received from the Department of Highway Safety and Motor

Page 27 of 108

## Vehicles.

676

677

678

679

680

681

682

683

684

685

686 687

688

689

690

691

692

693

694

695

696

697

698

699

700

- ADJUDICATION OF MENTAL INCAPACITY.-The department shall identify those registered voters who have been adjudicated mentally incapacitated with respect to voting and who have not had their voting rights restored by comparing information received from the clerk of the circuit court as provided in s. 98.093. The department shall review such information and make an initial determination as to whether the information is credible and reliable. If the department determines that the information is credible and reliable, the department must shall notify the supervisor and provide a copy of the supporting documentation indicating the potential ineligibility of the voter to be registered. Upon receipt of the notice that the department has made a determination of initial credibility and reliability, the supervisor shall adhere to the procedures set forth in subsection (7) before prior to the removal of a registered voter from the statewide voter registration system.
  - (5) FELONY CONVICTION. -
- (a) The department shall identify those registered voters who have been convicted of a felony and whose voting rights have not been restored by comparing information received from, but not limited to, a clerk of the circuit court, the Board of Executive Clemency, the Department of Corrections, the Department of Law Enforcement, or a United States Attorney's Office, as provided in s. 98.093. The department shall review

Page 28 of 108

such information and make an initial determination as to whether the information is credible and reliable. If the department determines that the information is credible and reliable, the department <u>must shall</u> notify the supervisor and provide a copy of the supporting documentation indicating the potential ineligibility of the voter to be registered. Upon receipt of the notice that the department has made a determination of initial credibility and reliability, the supervisor shall adhere to the procedures set forth in subsection (7) <u>before prior to</u> the removal of a registered voter's name from the statewide voter registration system.

- (b) The supervisors shall coordinate with their respective clerks of the court to obtain information pursuant to s. 98.093 to identify registered voters within their respective jurisdictions who have been convicted of a felony during the preceding week and whose voting rights have not been restored. The supervisor shall adhere to the procedures set forth in subsection (7) before the removal of a registered voter's name from the statewide voter registration system. For purposes of this paragraph, a supervisor's duties under subsection (7) begin upon his or her determination that the information received from the clerk is credible and reliable.
- (6) OTHER BASES FOR INELIGIBILITY.—Subsections (2)-(5) do not limit or restrict the department or the supervisor in his or her duty to act upon direct receipt of, access to, or knowledge

Page 29 of 108

of information from any governmental entity that identifies a registered voter as potentially ineligible. If the department or supervisor receives information from any governmental entity sources other than those identified in subsections (2)-(5) that a registered voter is ineligible because the voter he or she is deceased, adjudicated a convicted felon without having had his or her voting rights restored, adjudicated mentally incapacitated without having had his or her voting rights restored, does not meet the age requirement pursuant to s. 97.041, is not a United States citizen, is a fictitious person, or has listed an address a residence that is not his or her address of legal residence, the supervisor must adhere to the procedures set forth in subsection (7) before prior to the removal of the name of a registered voter who is determined to be ineligible a registered voter's name from the statewide voter registration system.

(7) PROCEDURES FOR REMOVAL. -

726

727

728

729

730

731

732

733

734

735

736

737

738

739

740

741

742

743

744

745

746

747

748

749

750

- (a) If the supervisor receives notice or information pursuant to subsections (4)-(6), the supervisor of the county in which the voter is registered <u>must shall</u>:
- 1. Notify the registered voter of his or her potential ineligibility by mail within 7 days after receipt of notice or information. The notice must shall include:
- a. A statement of the basis for the registered voter's potential ineligibility and a copy of any documentation upon

Page 30 of 108

which the potential ineligibility is based. Such documentation must include any conviction from another jurisdiction determined to be a similar offense to murder or a felony sexual offense, as those terms are defined in s. 98.0751.

- b. A statement that failure to respond within 30 days after receipt of the notice may result in a determination of ineligibility and in removal of the registered voter's name from the statewide voter registration system.
- c. A return form that requires the registered voter to admit or deny the accuracy of the information underlying the potential ineligibility for purposes of a final determination by the supervisor.
- d. A statement that, if the voter is denying the accuracy of the information underlying the potential ineligibility, the voter has a right to request a hearing for the purpose of determining eligibility.
- e. Instructions for the registered voter to contact the supervisor of elections of the county in which the voter is registered if assistance is needed in resolving the matter.
- f. Instructions for seeking restoration of civil rights pursuant to s. 8, Art. IV of the State Constitution and information explaining voting rights restoration pursuant to s. 4, Art. VI of the State Constitution following a felony conviction, if applicable.
  - g. The following statement: "If you attempt to vote at an

Page 31 of 108

HB 7067 2023

776 early voting site or your normal election day polling place, you will be required to vote a provisional ballot. If you vote by mail, your ballot may not be accepted until a final determination of eligibility is made."

- If the mailed notice is returned as undeliverable, the supervisor must, within 14 days after receiving the returned notice, either publish shall publish notice once in a newspaper of general circulation in the county in which the voter was last registered or publish notice on the county's website as provided in s. 50.0311 or on the supervisor's website, as deemed appropriate by the supervisor. The notice must shall contain the following:
  - The voter's name and address. a.

777

778

779

780

781

782

783

784

785

786

787

788

789

790

791

792

793

794

795

796

797

798

799

800

- A statement that the voter is potentially ineligible to be registered to vote.
- A statement that failure to respond within 30 days after the notice is published may result in a determination of ineligibility by the supervisor and removal of the registered voter's name from the statewide voter registration system.
- d. An instruction for the voter to contact the supervisor no later than 30 days after the date of the published notice to receive information regarding the basis for the potential ineligibility and the procedure to resolve the matter.
- e. An instruction to the voter that, if further assistance is needed, the voter should contact the supervisor of elections

Page 32 of 108

801 of the county in which the voter is registered.

- f. A statement that, if the voter denies the accuracy of the information underlying the potential ineligibility, the voter has a right to request a hearing for the purpose of determining eligibility.
- g. The following statement: "If you attempt to vote at an early voting site or your normal election day polling place, you will be required to vote a provisional ballot. If you vote by mail, your ballot may not be accepted until a final determination of eligibility is made."
- 3. If a registered voter fails to respond to a notice pursuant to subparagraph 1. or subparagraph 2., the supervisor must shall make a final determination of the voter's eligibility within 7 days after expiration of the voter's timeframe to respond. If the supervisor determines that the voter is ineligible, the supervisor must shall remove the name of the registered voter from the statewide voter registration system within 7 days. The supervisor shall notify the registered voter of the supervisor's determination and action.
- 4. If a registered voter responds to the notice pursuant to subparagraph 1. or subparagraph 2. and admits the accuracy of the information underlying the potential ineligibility, the supervisor <u>must as soon as practicable</u> shall make a final determination of ineligibility and shall remove the voter's name from the statewide voter registration system. The supervisor

Page 33 of 108

shall notify the registered voter of the supervisor's determination and action.

826

827

828

829

830

831

832

833

834

835

836837

838

839

840

841

842

843

844

845

846847

848

849

850

If a registered voter responds to the notice issued pursuant to subparagraph 1. or subparagraph 2. and denies the accuracy of the information underlying the potential ineligibility but does not request a hearing, the supervisor must shall review the evidence and make a final determination of eligibility no later than 30 days after receiving the response from the voter. If the supervisor determines that the registered voter is ineligible, the supervisor must remove the voter's name from the statewide voter registration system upon such determination and notify the registered voter of the supervisor's determination and action and that the removed voter has a right to appeal a determination of ineligibility pursuant to s. 98.0755. If such registered voter requests a hearing, the supervisor must shall send notice to the registered voter to attend a hearing at a time and place specified in the notice. The supervisor shall schedule and issue notice for the hearing within 7 days after receiving the voter's request for a hearing and shall hold the hearing no later than 30 days after issuing the notice of the hearing. A voter may request an extension upon showing good cause by affidavit as to why he or she is unable to attend the scheduled hearing. Upon hearing all evidence presented at the hearing, the supervisor shall make a determination of eligibility within 7 days. If the supervisor

Page 34 of 108

determines that the registered voter is ineligible, the supervisor <u>must shall</u> remove the voter's name from the statewide voter registration system and notify the registered voter of the supervisor's determination and action <u>and that the removed voter has a right to appeal a determination of ineligibility pursuant to s. 98.0755.</u>

(b) The following shall apply to this subsection:

- 1. All determinations of eligibility  $\underline{\text{must}}$   $\underline{\text{shall}}$  be based on a preponderance of the evidence.
- 2. All proceedings are exempt from the provisions of chapter 120.
- 3. Any notice <u>must shall</u> be sent to the registered voter by certified mail, return receipt requested, or other means that provides a verification of receipt or <u>must shall</u> be published in a newspaper of general circulation where the voter was last registered, on the county's website as provided in s. 50.0311, or on the supervisor's website, whichever is applicable.
- 4. The supervisor shall remove the name of any registered voter from the statewide voter registration system only after the supervisor makes a final determination that the voter is ineligible to vote.
- 5. Any voter whose name has been removed from the statewide voter registration system pursuant to a determination of ineligibility may appeal that determination under the provisions of s. 98.0755.

Page 35 of 108

6. Any voter whose name was removed from the statewide voter registration system on the basis of a determination of ineligibility who subsequently becomes eligible to vote must reregister in order to have his or her name restored to the statewide voter registration system.

## (8) CERTIFICATION.

- (a) No later than July 31 and January 31 of each year, the supervisor shall certify to the department that the supervisor has the activities conducted the activities required pursuant to this section during the first 6 months and the second 6 months of the year, respectively. The certification must shall include the number of persons to whom notices were sent pursuant to subsection (7), the number of persons who responded to the notices, the number of notices returned as undeliverable, the number of notices published in the newspaper, on the county's website, or on the supervisor's website, the number of hearings conducted, and the number of persons removed from the statewide voter registration system systems and the reasons for such removals.
- (b) If, based on the certification provided pursuant to paragraph (a), the department determines that a supervisor has not satisfied the requirements of this section, the department must coordinate with the supervisor to ensure that shall satisfy the appropriate list maintenance activities requirements for that county are conducted. Failure to satisfy the requirements

Page 36 of 108

of this section <u>constitutes</u> <del>shall constitute</del> a violation of s. 104.051.

Section 10. Subsections (2), (3), and (4) of section 98.077, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

98.077 Update of voter signature.-

- (2) The department and supervisors of elections shall include in any correspondence, other than postcard notifications and notices relating to eligibility, sent to a registered voter information regarding when, where, and how to update the voter's signature and shall provide the voter information on how to obtain a voter registration application from a voter registration official which can be returned to update the signature.
- the presidential preference primary or the primary election, whichever occurs first, the supervisor shall publish in a newspaper of general circulation or other newspaper in the county, on the county's website as provided in s. 50.0311, or on the supervisor's website, as deemed appropriate by the supervisor, a notice specifying when, where, or how a voter can update his or her signature that is on file and how a voter can obtain a voter registration application from a voter registration official.
  - (4) Except as authorized in ss. 101.048 and 101.68:
  - (a) All signature updates for use in verifying vote-by-

Page 37 of 108

mail <u>voter certificates</u>, <u>and</u> provisional <u>ballot voter</u>

<u>certificates</u>, <u>or petitions</u> <u>ballots</u> must be received by the appropriate supervisor before the <u>voter's</u> <u>elector's</u> ballot is received by the supervisor or, in the case of provisional ballots, before the <u>voter's</u> <u>elector's</u> ballot is cast <u>or</u>, in the <u>case of a petition</u>, before the petition is submitted for <u>signature verification</u>.

(b) The signature on file at the time the vote-by-mail ballot is received, or at the time the provisional ballot is cast, or at the time a petition is reviewed is the signature that must shall be used in verifying the signature on the vote-by-mail voter certificates, and provisional ballot voter certificates, or petitions, respectively. For signatures requiring secondary or tertiary review, older signatures from previous registration updates may be used.

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

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

(1) <u>DUTIES.—</u>In order to identify ineligible registered voters and maintain accurate and current voter registration records in the statewide voter registration system pursuant to procedures in s. 98.065 or s. 98.075, it is necessary for the

Page 38 of 108

department and supervisors of elections to receive or access certain information from state and federal officials and entities in the format prescribed.

- (2) To the maximum extent feasible, state and local government agencies shall facilitate provision of information and access to data to the department, including, but not limited to, databases that contain reliable criminal records and records of deceased persons. State and local government agencies that provide such data <u>must shall</u> do so without charge if the direct cost incurred by those agencies is not significant.
- (2) (a) DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH.—The Department of Health shall furnish weekly monthly to the department a list containing the name, address, date of birth, date of death, social security number, race, and sex of each deceased person 17 years of age or older whose death was reported during the preceding week.
- (3) (b) CLERK OF THE CIRCUIT COURT.—Each clerk of the circuit court shall furnish weekly to the supervisors in their respective jurisdiction the following information monthly to the department:
- (a) 1. Information identifying A list of those persons who have been adjudicated mentally incapacitated with respect to voting during the preceding week and calendar month, a list of those persons whose mental capacity with respect to voting has been restored during the preceding week. The information must include each person's name; address; date of birth; race; sex;

Page 39 of 108

and, if available, his or her Florida driver license number or Florida identification card number or the last four digits of his or her social security number. The clerk shall provide the information to the department to assist a supervisor in identifying registered voters in his or her county who are adjudicated mentally incapacitated outside of his or her county pursuant to s. 98.075(4).

(b) Information identifying calendar month, and a list of those persons who have responded to returned signed jury notices during the preceding week from months to the clerk of the circuit court and whose response indicated indicating a change of address. The information must Each list shall include each person's the name; address; date of birth; race; race; and, if whichever is available, the Florida driver license number or Florida identification card number or the last four digits of his or her social security number of each such person.

(c)2. Information on the terms of sentence for felony convictions, including any financial obligations for court costs, fees, and fines, of all persons listed in the clerk's records whose last known address in the clerk's records is within this state and who have been convicted of a felony during the preceding week month. The information may be provided to the supervisor directly by the clerk individual clerks of the circuit court or may be provided on their behalf through the Comprehensive Case Information System. For each felony

conviction reported, the information must include:

1.a. The full name; last known address; date of birth; race; sex; and, if available, the Florida driver license number or Florida identification card number, as applicable; and the last four digits of the social security number of the person convicted.

- 2.b. The amounts of all financial obligations, including restitution and court costs, fees, and fines, and, if known, the amount of financial obligations not yet satisfied.
  - 3.c. The county in which the conviction occurred.
- 4.d. The statute number violated, statute table text, date of conviction, and case number.
- <u>(4)(e)</u> <u>UNITED STATES ATTORNEYS.</u>—Upon receipt of information from the United States Attorney, listing persons convicted of a felony in federal court, the department shall use such information to identify registered voters or applicants for voter registration who may be potentially ineligible based on information provided in accordance with s. 98.075.
- (5) (d) DEPARTMENT OF LAW ENFORCEMENT.—The Department of Law Enforcement shall identify and report to the department at least weekly those persons who have been convicted of a felony during the preceding week who appear in the voter registration records supplied by the statewide voter registration system, in a time and manner that enables the department to meet its obligations under state and federal law.

Page 41 of 108

(6) (e) FLORIDA COMMISSION ON OFFENDER REVIEW.—The Florida Commission on Offender Review shall furnish at least weekly bimonthly to the department data, including the identity of those persons granted clemency in the preceding month or any updates to prior records which have occurred in the preceding month. The data must shall contain the commission's case number and the person's name, address, date of birth, race, gender, Florida driver license number, Florida identification card number, or the last four digits of the social security number, if available, and references to record identifiers assigned by the Department of Corrections and the Department of Law Enforcement, a unique identifier of each clemency case, and the effective date of clemency of each person.

(7)(f) DEPARTMENT OF CORRECTIONS.—The Department of Corrections shall identify and report to the department at least weekly those persons who have been convicted of a felony and committed to its custody or placed on community supervision during the preceding week. The information must be provided to the department at a time and in a manner that enables the department to identify registered voters who are convicted felons and to meet its obligations under state and federal law.

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

Page 42 of 108

- (a) 1. Information identifying A list of those persons whose names have been removed from the Florida driver license or Florida identification card database during the preceding week because they have been licensed or been issued an identification card in another state. The information list must contain the person's name, last known Florida address, out-of-state address, date of birth, sex, last four digits of his or her social security number, and Florida driver license number or Florida identification card number and, if available, the address and the state in which the person is now licensed of each such person.
- (b) 2. Information identifying A list of those persons who during the preceding week presented evidence of non-United States citizenship upon being issued a new or renewed Florida driver license or Florida identification card. The information list must contain the person's name; address; date of birth; last four digits of the; social security number, if applicable; and Florida driver license number or Florida identification card number, as available applicable; and alien registration number or other legal status identifier, of each such person.
- (c) Information identifying those persons for which it has received official information during the preceding week that the person is deceased. The information must contain the name, address, date of birth, last four digits of the social security number, Florida driver license number or Florida identification

card number, source containing information on the deceased, and
date of death of each such person.

(9)(3) CONSTRUCTION.—This section does not limit or restrict the supervisor in his or her duty to act upon direct receipt of, access to, or knowledge of official information from these and other governmental entities that identify a registered voter as potentially ineligible and to initiate removal of remove the name of the registered voter who is determined to be ineligible names of persons from the statewide voter registration system pursuant to s. 98.075(7) based upon information received from other sources.

Section 12. Section 98.0981, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

- 98.0981 Reports; voting history; statewide voter registration system information; precinct-level election results; book closing statistics; live turnout data.—
- (1) VOTING HISTORY AND STATEWIDE VOTER REGISTRATION SYSTEM INFORMATION.—Each supervisor shall submit the reports required by this subsection to the department no later than 20 days after the Elections Canvassing Commission certifies the results of an election.
- (a) <u>Reconciliation.—For each presidential preference</u>

  primary election, special primary election, special election,

  primary election, and general election, the supervisor shall

  reconcile the aggregate total of ballots cast in each precinct

Page 44 of 108

to the aggregate number of voters with voter history pursuant to paragraph (b) and the precinct-level election results pursuant to subsection (3) and submit a reconciliation report. The report must be submitted to the department in an electronic format pursuant to file format and specifications set forth in rule.

The report must include a written explanation if the reconciliation results in a discrepancy between the voter history and the election results.

- (b) Voting history.—For each Within 30 days after certification by the Elections Canvassing Commission of a presidential preference primary, special election, special primary election, primary election, or general election, as applicable, supervisors of elections shall transmit completely updated voting history information for each qualified voter to the department. Such information must be provided, in a uniform electronic format pursuant to file specifications adopted by the department by rule. The voting history information must include: specified in paragraph (d), completely updated voting history information for each qualified voter who voted
- 1. The unique identifier assigned to each qualified voter within the statewide voter registration system.
- 2. Each qualified voter's unique precinct identifier at
  the time of voting. For purposes of this subparagraph, the term
  "unique precinct identifier" means an alphanumeric code
  containing no more than six characters representing the precinct

Page 45 of 108

1126 name or number.

- 3. Specifics as to each qualified voter's voting history, including whether the qualified voter voted a regular ballot during the early voting period, voted during the early voting period using a provisional ballot that was subsequently counted, voted a regular ballot at a precinct location, voted at a precinct location using a provisional ballot that was subsequently counted, voted by vote-by-mail ballot, attempted to vote by a timely received vote-by-mail ballot that was not counted, attempted to vote by a vote-by-mail ballot that was received untimely, attempted to vote by provisional ballot that was not counted, or did not vote.
- (c) Precinct boundaries.—For each presidential preference primary election, special primary election, special election, primary election, and general election, the supervisor shall submit to the department the geographical information system map of precinct boundaries created and maintained pursuant to s. 101.001 for the applicable election.
  - (2) (b) LEGISLATIVE REPORT. -
- (a) Specifications.—After receipt of the information in paragraph (a), The department shall prepare an election summary compiled for a presidential preference primary election, special primary election, special election, primary election, or general election, as applicable, a report in an electronic format which contains the following information, separately compiled for the

Page 46 of 108

primary and general election for all voters qualified to vote in either election:

- 1. The voting history information as transmitted under paragraph (1)(b) and the precinct boundaries as transmitted under paragraph (1)(c). unique identifier assigned to each qualified voter within the statewide voter registration system;
- 2. All information provided by each qualified voter on his or her voter registration application pursuant to s. 97.052(2), except that which is confidential or exempt from public records requirements. $\div$ 
  - 3. Each qualified voter's date of registration \_+
- 4. Each qualified voter's current state representative district, state senatorial district, and congressional district. county commission district, and school board district at the time of voting, assigned by the supervisor of elections;
  - 5. Each qualified voter's current precinct; and
- 6. Voting history as transmitted under paragraph (a) to include whether the qualified voter voted at a precinct location, voted during the early voting period, voted by voteby-mail ballot, attempted to vote by vote-by-mail ballot that was not counted, attempted to vote by provisional ballot that was not counted, or did not vote.
- (b) (c) <u>Submission.—Within 60 45 days after certification</u>

  by the Elections Canvassing Commission <u>certifies</u> of a

  presidential preference primary, special election, primary

Page 47 of 108

L176	election, or general election, the department shall $\underline{ ext{submit}}$ $\underline{ ext{send}}$
L177	to the President of the Senate, the Speaker of the House of
L178	Representatives, the Senate Minority Leader, and the House
L179	Minority Leader <u>an election summary</u> a report in electronic
L180	format that includes all information set forth in paragraph $\underline{(a)}$
L181	<del>(d)</del> .
L182	(d) File specifications are as follows:
L183	1. The file shall contain records designated by the
L184	categories below for all qualified voters who, regardless of the
L185	voter's county of residence or active or inactive registration
L186	status at the book closing for the corresponding election that
L187	the file is being created for:
L188	a. Voted a regular ballot at a precinct location.
L189	b. Voted at a precinct location using a provisional ballot
L190	that was subsequently counted.
L191	c. Voted a regular ballot during the early voting period.
L192	d. Voted during the early voting period using a
L193	provisional ballot that was subsequently counted.
L194	e. Voted by vote-by-mail ballot.
L195	f. Attempted to vote by vote-by-mail ballot, but the
L196	ballot was not counted.
L197	g. Attempted to vote by provisional ballot, but the ballot
L198	was not counted in that election.
L199	2. Each file shall be created or converted into a tab-
200	January January Samuer

Page 48 of 108

L201	3. File names shall adhere to the following convention:
L202	a. Three-character county identifier as established by the
L203	department followed by an underscore.
L204	b. Followed by four-character file type identifier of
L205	"VHO3" followed by an underscore.
L206	c. Followed by FVRS election ID followed by an underscore.
L207	d. Followed by Date Created followed by an underscore.
L208	e. Date format is YYYYMMDD.
L209	f. Followed by Time Created - HHMMSS.
L210	g. Followed by ".txt".
L211	4. Each record shall contain the following columns: Record
L212	Identifier, FVRS Voter ID Number, FVRS Election ID Number, Vote
L213	Date, Vote History Code, Precinct, Congressional District, House
L214	District, Senate District, County Commission District, and
L215	School Board District.
L216	(e) Each supervisor of elections shall reconcile, before
L217	submission, the aggregate total of ballots cast in each precinct
L218	as reported in the precinct-level election results to the
L219	aggregate total number of voters with voter history for the
L220	election for each district.
L221	(f) Each supervisor of elections shall submit the results
L222	of the data reconciliation as described in paragraph (e) to the
L223	department in an electronic format and give a written
L224	explanation for any precincts where the reconciliation as
L225	described in paragraph (e) results in a discrepancy between the

Page 49 of 108

CODING: Words  $\frac{\text{stricken}}{\text{stricken}}$  are deletions; words  $\frac{\text{underlined}}{\text{ore additions}}$ .

HB 7067 2023

voter history and the election results.

1226

1227

1230

1231

1238

1241

1244

1245

- (3) (2) PRECINCT-LEVEL ELECTION RESULTS. -
- 1228 (a)1. Within 10 business 30 days after certification by 1229 the Elections Canvassing Commission certifies of a presidential preference primary election, special election, special primary election, primary election, or general election, as applicable, 1232 the supervisors of elections shall collect and submit to the 1233 department precinct-level election results for the election in a 1234 uniform electronic format specified by paragraph (c). The 1235 precinct-level election results shall be compiled separately for 1236 the primary or special primary election that preceded the 1237 general or special general election, respectively. The results must shall specifically include for each precinct the total of 1239 all ballots cast for each candidate or nominee to fill a 1240 national, state, county, or district office or proposed constitutional amendment, with subtotals for each candidate and 1242 ballot type. When one or more ballot types, also known as 1243 counting groups, in a race or issue have fewer than 30 voters voting on the ballot, the ballot type must be reported as zero except for the total votes counting group for that precinct. 1246 Ballot types or counting groups include election day, early 1247 voting, vote-by-mail, provisional voting, and total votes 1248 However, ballot type or precinct subtotals in a race or question 1249 having fewer than 30 voters voting on the ballot type or in the precinct may not be reported in precinct results. For purposes 1250

Page 50 of 108

of this paragraph, the term "all ballots cast" means ballots cast by voters who cast a ballot, whether at a precinct location; by vote-by-mail ballot, including overseas vote-by-mail ballots; during the early voting period; or by provisional ballot.

- 2. Upon request from the department, a supervisor must research and address, as appropriate, any questions or issues identified by the department pertaining to the precinct-level election results. If the information as originally submitted is changed or corrected, the supervisor must provide an amended precinct-level election results file no later than 10 business days after the request from the department.
- (b) The department shall make such information available online no later than 60 days after the Elections Canvassing Commission certifies the presidential preference primary election, special primary election, special election, primary election, or general election, as applicable. The website containing the information must include on a searchable, sortable, and downloadable database via its website that also includes the file layout and codes. The information must database shall be searchable and sortable by county, precinct, and candidate; The must database shall be downloadable in a tab-delimited format; and must. The database shall be available for download county-by-county and also as a statewide file. Such report shall also be made available upon request.

Page 51 of 108

1276	(c) The files containing the precinct-level election
1277	results $\underline{\text{must}}$ $\underline{\text{shall}}$ be created in accordance with the applicable
1278	file specification as set forth in rule. The rule must provide,
1279	at a minimum, that:
1280	1. The precinct-level results file shall be created or
1281	converted into a tab-delimited text file.
1282	2. The row immediately before the first data record shall
1283	contain the column names of the data elements that make up the
1284	data records. There shall be one header record followed by
1285	multiple data records.
1286	$3.$ the data records $\frac{\text{shall}}{\text{shall}}$ include the following columns:
1287	County Name, Election Number, Election Date, Unique Precinct
1288	Identifier, Precinct Polling Location, Total Registered Voters,
1289	Total Registered Republicans, Total Registered Democrats, Total
1290	Registered All Other Parties, Contest Name,
1291	Candidate/Retention/Issue Name, Candidate Florida Voter
1292	Registration System ID Number, Division of Elections Unique
1293	Candidate Identifying Number, Candidate Party, District,
1294	Undervote Total, Overvote Total, Write-in Total, and Vote Total.

 $\underline{(4)}$  PRECINCT-LEVEL BOOK CLOSING STATISTICS.—No later than 10 days after the date of book closing for but before the date of an election as defined in s. 97.021 to fill a national,

identifier" means an alphanumeric code containing no more than

For purposes of this paragraph, the term "unique precinct

six characters representing the precinct name or number.

Page 52 of 108

CODING: Words stricken are deletions; words underlined are additions.

1295

1296

1297

1298

1299

1300

state, county, or district office, or to vote on a proposed constitutional amendment, the department shall compile and make available the following precinct-level statistical data for each county:

- (a) <u>Unique</u> precinct <u>identifier</u> <u>numbers</u>. <u>For purposes of</u> this subsection, the term "unique precinct identifier" means an <u>alphanumeric code containing no more than six characters</u> representing the precinct name or number.
- (b) Total number of active registered voters by party for each precinct.
- (5)(4) LIVE TURNOUT DATA.—On election day, each supervisor of elections shall make live voter turnout data, updated at least once per hour, available on his or her website. Each supervisor shall transmit the live voter turnout data to the division, which must create and maintain a real-time statewide turnout dashboard that is available for viewing by the public on the division's website as the data becomes available.
- (6) REPORTS PUBLICLY AVAILABLE.—The department shall also make publicly available the reports and results required in subsections (1) (4) (1) (3).
- $\underline{(7)}$  RULEMAKING.—The department shall adopt rules and prescribe forms to carry out the purposes of this section.
- Section 13. Paragraph (d) of subsection (1) of section 99.021, Florida Statutes, is redesignated as paragraph (e), and a new paragraph (d) is added to that subsection, to read:

Page 53 of 108

L326	99.021 Form of candidate oath
L327	(1)
L328	(d) In addition, each candidate, whether a party
L329	candidate, a candidate with no party affiliation, or a write-in
L330	candidate, shall, at the time of subscribing to the oath or
L331	affirmation, state in writing whether he or she owes any
L332	outstanding fines, fees, or penalties that cumulatively exceed
L333	\$250 for any violations of s. 8, Art. II of the State
L334	Constitution, the Code of Ethics for Public Officers and
L335	Employees under part III of chapter 112, any local ethics
L336	ordinance governing standards of conduct and disclosure
L337	requirements, or chapter 106. If the candidate owes any
L338	outstanding fines, fees, or penalties exceeding the threshold
L339	amount specified in this paragraph, he or she must also specify
L340	the amount owed and each entity that levied such fine, fee, or
L341	penalty. For purposes of this paragraph, any such fines, fees,
L342	or penalties that have been paid in full at the time of
L343	subscribing to the oath or affirmation are not deemed to be
L344	outstanding.
L345	Section 14. Section 99.0215, Florida Statutes, is created
L346	to read:
L347	99.0215 Name of candidate
L348	(1) Each candidate shall designate in the oath or
L349	affirmation specified in s. 99.021 the name that he or she
L350	wishes to have printed on the ballot, or in the case of a write-

Page 54 of 108

CODING: Words  $\frac{\text{stricken}}{\text{stricken}}$  are deletions; words  $\frac{\text{underlined}}{\text{ore additions}}$ .

1351 in candidate, the name that he or she wishes to have voters 1352 write in on the ballot when voting for him or her. Such 1353 designation must include the candidate's legal given name or 1354 names, a shortened form of the candidate's legal given name or 1355 names, an initial or initials of the candidate's legal given 1356 name or names, or a bona fide nickname customarily related to 1357 the candidate and by which the candidate is commonly known, 1358 immediately followed by the candidate's legal surname. If 1359 applicable, a candidate may place one of the following 1360 designations after the legal surname: "Sr.," "Jr.," or a 1361 numerical designation such as "II." 1362 (2) If a candidate wishes to designate a nickname, the candidate must file an affidavit that must be verified under 1363 1364 oath or affirmation pursuant to s. 92.525(1)(a), attesting that 1365 the nickname complies with the requirements of this section. The 1366 affidavit must be filed simultaneously with the oath or 1367 affirmation specified in s. 99.021. Any nickname designated by a 1368 candidate may not be used to mislead voters. A candidate may not 1369 designate a nickname that implies the candidate is some other 1370 person, that constitutes a political slogan or otherwise 1371 associates the candidate with a cause or issue, or that is 1372 obscene or profane. For purposes of this subsection, the term "political slogan" means any word or words expressing or 1373 1374 connoting a position, opinion, or belief that the candidate may 1375 espouse, including, but not limited to, any word or words

Page 55 of 108

conveying any meaning other than that of the general identity of the candidate.

(3) Unless a candidate has the same name as, or a name similar to, one or more candidates for the same office, an educational or professional title or degree may not be added to his or her name designation.

Section 15. Subsections (4) and (5) of section 99.097, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

99.097 Verification of signatures on petitions.-

- (4) (a) The supervisor <u>must shall</u> be paid in advance the sum of 10 cents for each signature checked or the actual cost of checking such signature, whichever is less, by the candidate or, in the case of a petition to have <u>a local an</u> issue placed on the ballot, by the person or organization submitting the petition.

  In the case of a petition to place a statewide issue on the ballot, the supervisor must be paid in advance by the person or organization submitting the petition the actual cost posted by the supervisor pursuant to s. 100.371(11) for the actual cost of checking signatures to place a statewide issue on the ballot.
- (b) However, if a candidate, person, or organization seeking to have an issue placed upon the ballot cannot pay such charges without imposing an undue burden on personal resources or upon the resources otherwise available to such candidate, person, or organization, such candidate, person, or organization shall, upon written certification of such inability given under

Page 56 of 108

oath to the supervisor,  $\underline{\text{is}}$  be entitled to have the signatures verified at no charge.

- (c) In the event a candidate, person, or organization submitting a petition to have an issue placed upon the ballot is entitled to have the signatures verified at no charge, the supervisor of elections of each county in which the signatures are verified at no charge shall submit the total number of such signatures checked in the county to the Chief Financial Officer no later than December 1 of the general election year, and the Chief Financial Officer shall cause such supervisor of elections to be reimbursed from the General Revenue Fund in an amount equal to 10 cents or the actual cost for each name checked or the actual cost of checking such signatures, whichever is applicable as set forth in paragraph (a) less. In no event may shall such reimbursement of costs be deemed or applied as extra compensation for the supervisor.
- (d) Petitions <u>must</u> shall be retained by the supervisors for a period of 1 year following the election for which the petitions were circulated.
- (5) The results of a verification pursuant to subparagraph (1)(a)2. may be contested in the circuit court by the candidate; an announced opponent; a representative of a designated political committee; or a person, party, or other organization submitting the petition. The contestant <u>must shall</u> file a complaint, together with the fees prescribed in chapter 28, with

Page 57 of 108

1426

1427

1428

1429

1430

1431

1432

1433

1434

1435

1436

1437

1438

1439

1440 1441

1442

1443

1444

1445

1446

1447

1448

1449

1450

the clerk of the circuit court in the county in which the petition is certified or in Leon County if the petition covers more than one county within 10 days after midnight of the date the petition is certified; and the complaint must shall set forth the grounds on which the contestant intends to establish his or her right to require a complete check of the petition pursuant to subparagraph (1)(a)1. In the event the court orders a complete check of the petition and the result is not changed as to the success or lack of success of the petitioner in obtaining the requisite number of valid signatures, then such candidate, unless the candidate has filed the oath stating that he or she is unable to pay such charges; announced opponent; representative of a designated political committee; or party, person, or organization submitting the petition, unless such person or organization has filed the oath stating inability to pay such charges, shall pay to the supervisor of elections of each affected county for the complete check an amount calculated at the rate of 10 cents for each additional signature checked or the actual cost of checking such additional signatures, as applicable whichever is less.

Section 16. Section 100.021, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

100.021 Notice of general election.—The Department of State shall, in any year in which a general election is held, make out a notice stating what offices and vacancies are to be

Page 58 of 108

filled at the general election in the state, and in each county and district thereof. During the 30 days before prior to the beginning of qualifying, the department of State shall have the notice published two times in a newspaper of general circulation in each county; and, in counties in which there is no newspaper of general circulation, it shall send to the sheriff a notice of the offices and vacancies to be filled at such general election by the qualified voters of the sheriff's county or any district thereof, and the sheriff shall have at least five copies of the notice posted in conspicuous places in the county. Notice may be provided alternatively by publishing notice on the division's website, on the county's website as provided in s. 50.0311, or on the supervisor's website, as deemed appropriate by the supervisor.

Section 17. Subsection (3) of section 100.141, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

100.141 Notice of special election to fill any vacancy in office.—

(3) The department shall deliver a copy of such notice to the supervisor of elections of each county in which the special election is to be held. The supervisor shall have the notice published two times in a newspaper of general circulation in the county at least 10 days before prior to the first day set for qualifying for office or, for at least 10 days before the first day set for qualifying for office, publish notice on the

Page 59 of 108

1476

1477

1478

1479

1480

1481

1482

1483

1484

1485

1486

1487

1488

1489

1490

1491

1492

1493

1494

1495

1496

1497

1498

1499

1500

municipality.

county's website as provided in s. 50.0311 or on the supervisor's website. If such a newspaper is not published within the period set forth, the supervisor shall post at least five copies of the notice in conspicuous places in the county not less than 10 days prior to the first date set for qualifying. Section 18. Section 100.342, Florida Statutes, is amended to read: 100.342 Notice of special election or referendum. - In any special election or referendum not otherwise provided for, there must shall be at least 30 days' notice of the election or referendum by publication in a newspaper of general circulation in the county, district, or municipality, or publication on the county's website as provided in s. 50.0311, the municipality's website, or the supervisor's website, as applicable as the case may be. The publication must shall be made at least twice, once in the fifth week and once in the third week before prior to the week in which the election or referendum is to be held. If the applicable website becomes unavailable or there is no newspaper

Section 19. Subsection (3) and paragraph (a) of subsection (4) of section 101.001, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

of general circulation in the county, district, or municipality,

the notice must shall be posted in no less than five places

within the territorial limits of the county, district, or

Page 60 of 108

(3)(a) Each supervisor of elections shall maintain a geographical information system suitable map drawn to a scale no smaller than 3 miles to the inch and clearly delineating all major observable features such as roads, streams, and railway lines and showing the current geographical boundaries of each precinct, representative district, and senatorial district, and other type of district in the county subject to the elections process in this code. A supervisor may coordinate with other governmental entities to comply with this subsection.

(b) The supervisor shall provide to the department data on all precincts in the county associated with the most recent decennial census blocks within each precinct.

(c) The department shall maintain a searchable database that contains the precincts and the corresponding most recent decennial census blocks within the precincts for each county, including a historical file that allows the census blocks to be traced through the prior decade.

(b) (d) The supervisor of elections shall notify the Secretary of State in writing within 10 days after any reorganization of precincts and shall furnish a copy of the geographical information system compatible map showing the current geographical boundaries and designation of each new precinct. However, if precincts are composed of whole census blocks, the supervisor may furnish, in lieu of a copy of the

Page 61 of 108

map, a list, in an electronic format prescribed by the

Department of State, associating each census block in the county
with its precinct.

- (c) (e) Any precinct established or altered under the provisions of this section must shall consist of areas bounded on all sides only by census block boundaries from the most recent United States Census. If the census block boundaries split or conflict with a municipal or other political subdivision another political boundary listed below, the boundary listed below may be used as a precinct boundary:
- 1. Governmental unit boundaries reported in the most recent Boundary and Annexation Survey published by the United States Census Bureau;  $\underline{\text{or}}$
- 2. Visible features that are readily distinguishable upon the ground, such as streets, railroads, tracks, streams, and lakes, and that are indicated upon current census maps, official Department of Transportation maps, official municipal maps, official county maps, or a combination of such maps;
- 3. Boundaries of public parks, public school grounds, or churches; or
- 2.4. Boundaries of counties, incorporated municipalities, or other political subdivisions that meet criteria established by the United States Census Bureau for block boundaries.
- (4)(a) Within 10 days after there is any change in the division, name, number, or boundaries of the precincts, or the

Page 62 of 108

location of the polling places, the supervisor of elections shall make in writing an accurate description of any new or altered precincts, setting forth the boundary lines and shall identify the location of each new or altered polling place. A copy of the document describing such changes <u>must shall</u> be posted at the supervisor's office.

Section 20. Subsection (1) of section 101.048, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

101.048 Provisional ballots.-

1551

1552

1553

1554

1555

1556

1557

1558

1559

1560

1561

1562

1563

1564

1565

1566

1567

1568

1569

1570

1571

1572

1573

1574

1575

At all elections, a voter claiming to be properly registered in the state and eligible to vote at the precinct in the election but whose eligibility cannot be determined, a person whom an election official asserts is not eligible, including, but not limited to, a person to whom notice has been sent pursuant to s. 98.075(7), but for whom a final determination of eligibility has not been made, and other persons specified in the code shall be entitled to vote a provisional ballot. Once voted, the provisional ballot must shall be placed in a secrecy envelope and thereafter sealed in a provisional ballot envelope. The provisional ballot must shall be deposited in a ballot box. All provisional ballots must shall remain sealed in their envelopes for return to the supervisor of elections. The department shall prescribe the form of the provisional ballot envelope. A person casting a provisional ballot has shall have the right to present written evidence

Page 63 of 108

supporting his or her eligibility to vote to the supervisor of elections by not later than 5 p.m. on the second day following the election.

Section 21. Paragraph (b) of subsection (4) of section 101.151, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

101.151 Specifications for ballots.-

(4)

(b) When two or more candidates running for the same office on <u>an a primary</u> election ballot have the same or a similar surname, the word "incumbent" <u>must shall</u> appear next to the incumbent's name.

Section 22. Subsection (2) of section 101.5612, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

101.5612 Testing of tabulating equipment.—

(2) On any day not more than 25 days before the commencement of early voting as provided in s. 101.657, the supervisor of elections shall have the automatic tabulating equipment publicly tested to ascertain that the equipment will correctly count the votes cast for all offices and on all measures. If the ballots to be used at the polling place on election day are not available at the time of the testing, the supervisor may conduct an additional test not more than 10 days before election day. Public notice of the time and place of the test shall be given at least 48 hours prior thereto by publication on the county website as provided in s. 50.0311, on

Page 64 of 108

1601

1602

1603

16041605

1606

1607

1608

1609

1610

16111612

1613

1614

16151616

1617

1618

1619

1620

1621

1622

1623

1624

1625

the supervisor of elections' website, or and once in one or more newspapers of general circulation in the county. If the applicable website becomes unavailable  $or_{\tau}$  if there is no newspaper of general circulation in the county, by posting the notice must be posted in at least four conspicuous places in the county. The supervisor or the municipal elections official may, at the time of qualifying, give written notice of the time and location of the public preelection test to each candidate qualifying with that office and obtain a signed receipt that the notice has been given. The Department of State shall give written notice to each statewide candidate at the time of qualifying, or immediately at the end of qualifying, that the voting equipment will be tested and advise each candidate to contact the county supervisor of elections as to the time and location of the public preelection test. The supervisor or the municipal elections official shall, at least 30 days before the commencement of early voting as provided in s. 101.657, send written notice by certified mail to the county party chair of each political party and to all candidates for other than statewide office whose names appear on the ballot in the county and who did not receive written notification from the supervisor or municipal elections official at the time of qualifying, stating the time and location of the public preelection test of the automatic tabulating equipment. The canvassing board shall convene, and each member of the canvassing board shall certify

Page 65 of 108

to the accuracy of the test. For the test, the canvassing board may designate one member to represent it. The test shall be open to representatives of the political parties, the press, and the public. Each political party may designate one person with expertise in the computer field who shall be allowed in the central counting room when all tests are being conducted and when the official votes are being counted. The designee shall not interfere with the normal operation of the canvassing board.

Section 23. Subsection (1) of section 101.6103, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

101.6103 Mail ballot election procedure.-

(1) Except as otherwise provided in subsection (7), the supervisor of elections shall mail all official ballots with a secrecy envelope, a return mailing envelope, and instructions sufficient to describe the voting process to each elector entitled to vote in the election within the timeframes specified in s. 101.62(3) s. 101.62(4). All such ballots <u>must shall</u> be mailed by first-class mail. Ballots <u>must shall</u> be addressed to each elector at the address appearing in the registration records and placed in an envelope which is prominently marked "Do Not Forward."

Section 24. Section 101.62, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

101.62 Request for vote-by-mail ballots.-

(1) REQUEST.—

Page 66 of 108

(a) The supervisor shall accept a request for a vote-by-
mail ballot only from a voter or, if directly instructed by the
voter, a member of the voter's immediate family or the voter's
<u>legal guardian</u> from an elector in person or in writing. $\underline{A}$
request may be made in person, in writing, by telephone, or
through the supervisor's website. The department shall prescribe
by rule by October 1, 2023, a uniform statewide application to
make a written request for a vote-by-mail ballot which includes
fields for all information required in this subsection. One
request is deemed sufficient to receive a vote-by-mail ballot
for all elections through the end of the calendar year of the
next regularly scheduled general election, unless the $\underline{\text{voter}}$
$\frac{\text{elector}}{\text{or}}$ or the $\frac{\text{voter's}}{\text{elector's}}$ designee indicates at the time
the request is made the elections within such period for which
the $\underline{\text{voter}}$ elector desires to receive a vote-by-mail ballot. $\underline{\text{The}}$
supervisor must cancel a request for a vote-by-mail ballot Such
$\frac{1}{1}$
$\underline{\text{nonforwardable mail}}$ sent by the supervisor to the $\underline{\text{voter}}$ elector
is returned as undeliverable. <u>If the voter requests a vote-by-</u>
mail ballot thereafter, the voter must provide or confirm his or
her current residential address.

(b) The supervisor may accept a written, an in-person, or a telephonic request for a vote-by-mail ballot to be mailed to a voter's an elector's address on file in the Florida Voter Registration System from the voter elector, or, if directly

Page 67 of 108

1676

1677

1678

16791680

1681

1682

1683

1684

1685

1686

1687

1688

1689

1690

1691

1692

1693

1694

1695

16961697

1698

1699

1700

instructed by the voter elector, a member of the voter's elector's immediate family, or the voter's elector's legal guardian. If an in-person or a telephonic request is made, the voter elector must provide the voter's elector's Florida driver license number, the voter's <del>elector's</del> Florida identification card number, or the last four digits of the voter's elector's social security number, whichever may be verified in the supervisor's records. If the ballot is requested to be mailed to an address other than the voter's elector's address on file in the Florida Voter Registration System, the request must be made in writing. A written request must be signed by the voter elector and include the voter's elector's Florida driver license number, the voter's elector's Florida identification card number, or the last four digits of the voter's elector's social security number. However, an absent uniformed services service voter or an overseas voter seeking a vote-by-mail ballot is not required to submit a signed, written request for a vote-by-mail ballot that is being mailed to an address other than the voter's elector's address on file in the Florida Voter Registration System. For purposes of this section, the term "immediate family" has the same meaning as specified in paragraph (4)(c). The person making the request must disclose:

- 1. The name of the  $\underline{\text{voter}}$  elector for whom the ballot is requested.
  - 2. The voter's elector's address.

Page 68 of 108

3. The voter's elector's date of birth.

1702

1703

1704

1705

1706

1707

1708

1709

1710

1711

1712

1713

1714

17151716

1717

1718

1719

1720

1721

1722

1723

1724

1725

- 4. The <u>voter's</u> elector's Florida driver license number, the <u>voter's</u> elector's Florida identification card number, or the last four digits of the <u>voter's</u> elector's social security number, whichever may be verified in the supervisor's records.

  If the voter's registration record does not already include the voter's Florida driver license number or Florida identification card number or the last four digits of the voter's social security number, the number provided must be recorded in the voter's registration record.
  - 5. The requester's name.
  - 6. The requester's address.
- 7. The requester's driver license number, the requester's identification card number, or the last four digits of the requester's social security number, if available.
  - 8. The requester's relationship to the voter elector.
  - 9. The requester's signature (written requests only).
- (c) Upon receiving a request for a vote-by-mail ballot from an absent voter, the supervisor of elections shall notify the voter of the free access system that has been designated by the department for determining the status of his or her vote-by-mail ballot.
- (d) For purposes of this section, the term "immediate family" refers to the following, as applicable:
  - 1. The voter's spouse, parent, child, grandparent,

Page 69 of 108

grandchild, or sibling, or the parent, child, grandparent, grandchild, or sibling of the voter's spouse.

- 2. The designee's spouse, parent, child, grandparent, grandchild, or sibling, or the parent, child, grandparent, grandchild, or sibling of the designee's spouse.
- (2) A request for a vote-by-mail ballot to be mailed to a voter must be received no later than 5 p.m. on the 10th day before the election by the supervisor. The supervisor shall mail vote-by-mail ballots to voters requesting ballots by such deadline no later than 8 days before the election.
- (2)(3) ACCESS TO VOTE-BY-MAIL REQUEST INFORMATION.—For each request for a vote-by-mail ballot received, the supervisor shall record the following information: the date the request was made; the identity of the voter's designee making the request, if any; the Florida driver license number, Florida identification card number, or last four digits of the social security number of the voter elector provided with a written request; the date the vote-by-mail ballot was delivered to the voter or the voter's designee or the date the vote-by-mail ballot was delivered to the post office or other carrier; the address to which the ballot was mailed or the identity of the voter's designee to whom the ballot was delivered; the date the ballot was received by the supervisor; the absence of the voter's signature on the voter's certificate, if applicable; whether the voter's certificate contains a signature that does

Page 70 of 108

not match the <u>voter's</u> <u>elector's</u> signature in the registration books or precinct register; and such other information he or she may deem necessary. This information <u>must shall</u> be provided in electronic format as provided by division rule. The information <u>must shall</u> be updated and made available no later than 8 a.m. of each day, including weekends, beginning 60 days before the primary until 15 days after the general election and shall be contemporaneously provided to the division. This information <u>is shall be</u> confidential and exempt from s. 119.07(1) and <u>may shall</u> be made available to or reproduced only for the voter requesting the ballot, a canvassing board, an election official, a political party or official thereof, a candidate who has filed qualification papers and is opposed in an upcoming election, and registered political committees for political purposes only.

## (3) (4) DELIVERY OF VOTE-BY-MAIL BALLOTS.

- (a) No later than 45 days before each presidential preference primary election, primary election, and general election, the supervisor of elections shall send a vote-by-mail ballot as provided in subparagraph (d)2. (e)2. to each absent uniformed services voter and to each overseas voter who has requested a vote-by-mail ballot.
- (b) The supervisor shall mail a vote-by-mail ballot to each absent qualified voter, other than those listed in paragraph (a), who has requested such a ballot, between the 40th and 33rd days before the presidential preference primary

Page 71 of 108

1776 election, primary election, and general election.

- (c) Except as otherwise provided in paragraph (a) or paragraph (b) subsection (2) and after the period described in this paragraph, the supervisor shall mail vote-by-mail ballots within 2 business days after receiving a request for such a ballot, but no later than the 10th day before election day. The deadline to submit a request for a ballot to be mailed is 5 p.m. local time on the 12th day before an upcoming election.
- (d) (e) Upon a request for a vote-by-mail ballot, the supervisor shall provide a vote-by-mail ballot to each voter elector by whom a request for that ballot has been made, by one of the following means:
- 1. By nonforwardable, return-if-undeliverable mail to the voter's elector's current mailing address on file with the supervisor or any other address the voter elector specifies in the request. The envelopes must be prominently marked "Do Not Forward."
- 2. By forwardable mail, e-mail, or facsimile machine transmission to absent uniformed services voters and overseas voters. The absent uniformed services voter or overseas voter may designate in the vote-by-mail ballot request the preferred method of transmission. If the voter does not designate the method of transmission, the vote-by-mail ballot <u>must shall</u> be mailed.
  - 3. By personal delivery before 7 p.m. on election day to

Page 72 of 108

the voter after vote-by-mail ballots have been mailed and up to 7 p.m. on election day elector, upon presentation of the identification required in s. 101.043.

1801

1802

1803

1804

1805

1806

1807

1808

1809

1810

1811

1812

1813

1814

1815

1816

1817

1818

1819

1820

1821

1822

1823

1824

1825

By delivery to the voter's a designee after vote-bymail ballots have been mailed and up to 7 p.m. on election day or up to 9 days before the day of an election. Any voter elector may designate in writing a person to pick up the ballot for the voter elector; however, the person designated may not pick up more than two vote-by-mail ballots per election, other than the designee's own ballot, except that additional ballots may be picked up for members of the designee's immediate family. For purposes of this section, "immediate family" means the designee's spouse or the parent, child, grandparent, grandchild, or sibling of the designee or of the designee's spouse. The designee shall provide to the supervisor the written authorization by the voter <del>clector</del> and a picture identification of the designee and must complete an affidavit. The designee shall state in the affidavit that the designee is authorized by the voter elector to pick up that ballot and shall indicate if the voter elector is a member of the designee's immediate family and, if so, the relationship. The department shall prescribe the form of the affidavit. If the supervisor is satisfied that the designee is authorized to pick up the ballot and that the signature of the voter <del>elector</del> on the written authorization matches the signature of the voter elector on file, the

Page 73 of 108

supervisor  $\underline{\text{must}}$   $\underline{\text{shall}}$  give the ballot to that designee for delivery to the voter  $\underline{\text{elector}}$ .

- 5. Except as provided in s. 101.655, the supervisor may not deliver a vote-by-mail ballot to a voter an elector or a voter's designee pursuant to subparagraph 3. or subparagraph 4., respectively, during the mandatory early voting period and up to 7 p.m. on election day, an elector's immediate family member on the day of the election unless there is an emergency, to the extent that the voter elector will be unable to go to a designated early voting site in his or her county or to his or her assigned polling place on election day. If a vote-by-mail ballot is delivered, the voter elector or his or her designee must shall execute an affidavit affirming to the facts which allow for delivery of the vote-by-mail ballot. The department shall adopt a rule providing for the form of the affidavit.
- $\underline{(4)}$  SPECIAL CIRCUMSTANCES.—If the department is unable to certify candidates for an election in time to comply with paragraph  $\underline{(3)}$   $\underline{(a)}$   $\underline{(4)}$   $\underline{(a)}$ , the Department of State is authorized to prescribe rules for a ballot to be sent to absent uniformed services voters and overseas voters.
- (5)(6) MATERIALS.—Only the materials necessary to vote by mail may be mailed or delivered with any vote-by-mail ballot.
- (6) (7) PROHIBITION.—Except as expressly authorized for voters having a disability under s. 101.662, for overseas voters under s. 101.697, or for local referenda under ss. 101.6102 and

Page 74 of 108

1851	101.6103, a county, municipality, or state agency may not send a
1852	vote-by-mail ballot to a voter unless the voter has requested a
1853	vote-by-mail ballot in the manner authorized under this section.
1854	Section 25. Subsection (1) of section 101.67, Florida
1855	Statutes, is amended to read:
1856	101.67 Safekeeping of mailed ballots; deadline for
1857	receiving vote-by-mail ballots
1858	(1) (a) The supervisor of elections shall safely keep in
1859	his or her office any envelopes received containing marked
1860	ballots of absent electors, and he or she shall, before the
1861	canvassing of the election returns, deliver the envelopes to the
1862	county canvassing board along with his or her file or list kept
1863	regarding said ballots.
1864	(b) To the extent practicable, the supervisor of elections
1865	shall segregate any vote-by-mail ballots received from a person
1866	to whom notice has been sent pursuant to s. 98.075(7) but for
1867	whom a final determination of eligibility has not been made, and
1868	shall treat them as provisional ballots for individual review by
1869	the county canvassing board. The supervisor shall attempt to
1870	contact each voter whose ballot has been set aside under this
1871	paragraph in the same manner as if the voter had voted a
1872	provisional ballot under s. 101.048.
1873	Section 26. Subsection (1) of section 101.68, Florida
1874	Statutes, is amended to read:

Page 75 of 108

101.68 Canvassing of vote-by-mail ballot.-

CODING: Words stricken are deletions; words underlined are additions.

1875

- (1) (a) The supervisor of the county where the absent elector resides shall receive the voted ballot, at which time the supervisor shall compare the signature of the elector on the voter's certificate with the signature of the elector in the registration books or the precinct register to determine whether the elector is duly registered in the county and must record on the elector's registration record that the elector has voted. During the signature comparison process, the supervisor may not use any knowledge of the political affiliation of the elector voter whose signature is subject to verification.
- (b) An elector who dies after casting a vote-by-mail ballot but on or before election day shall remain listed in the registration books until the results have been certified for the election in which the ballot was cast. The supervisor shall safely keep the ballot unopened in his or her office until the county canvassing board canvasses the vote <u>pursuant to subsection (2)</u>.
- (c) If two or more vote-by-mail ballots for the same election are returned in one mailing envelope, the ballots may not be counted.
- (d) Except as provided in subsection (4), after a vote-by-mail ballot is received by the supervisor, the ballot is deemed to have been cast, and changes or additions may not be made to the voter's certificate.
  - Section 27. Section 101.6923, Florida Statutes, is amended

Page 76 of 108

1901 to read:

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

- (1) This section applies The provisions of this section apply to voters who are subject to the provisions of s. 97.0535 and who have not provided the identification or information required by s. 97.0535 by the time the vote-by-mail ballot is mailed.
- (2) A voter covered by this section <u>must</u> shall be provided with printed instructions with his or her vote-by-mail ballot in substantially the following form:

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

1. In order to ensure that your vote-by-mail ballot will be counted, it should be completed and returned as soon as possible so that it can reach the supervisor of elections of the county in which your precinct is located no later than 7 p.m. on the date of the election. However, if you are an overseas voter casting a ballot in a presidential preference primary or general election, your vote-by-mail ballot must be postmarked or dated no later than the date of the election and received by the supervisor of elections of the county in which you are

Page 77 of 108

registered to vote no later than 10 days after the date of the election. Note that the later you return your ballot, the less time you will have to cure signature deficiencies, which is authorized until 5 p.m. local time on the 2nd day after the election.

- 2. Mark your ballot in secret as instructed on the ballot. You must mark your own ballot unless you are unable to do so because of blindness, disability, or inability to read or write.
- 3. Mark only the number of candidates or issue choices for a race as indicated on the ballot. If you are allowed to "Vote for One" candidate and you vote for more than one, your vote in that race will not be counted.
- 4. Place your marked ballot in the enclosed secrecy envelope and seal the envelope.
- 5. 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.
- c. A vote-by-mail ballot will be considered illegal and will not be counted if the signature on the Voter's Certificate

Page 78 of 108

does not match the signature on record. The signature on file at the start of the canvass of the vote-by-mail ballots is the signature that will be used to verify your signature on the Voter's Certificate. If you need to update your signature for this election, send your signature update on a voter registration application to your supervisor of elections so that it is received before your vote-by-mail ballot is received.

- 6. Unless you meet one of the exemptions in Item 7., you must make a copy of one of the following forms of identification:
- a. Identification which must include your name and photograph: United States passport; debit or credit card; military identification; student identification; retirement center identification; neighborhood association identification; public assistance identification; veteran health identification card issued by the United States Department of Veterans Affairs; a Florida license to carry a concealed weapon or firearm; or an employee identification card issued by any branch, department, agency, or entity of the Federal Government, the state, a county, or a municipality; or
- b. Identification which shows your name and current residence address: current utility bill, bank statement, government check, paycheck, or government document (excluding voter information card).
  - 7. The identification requirements of Item 6. do not apply

Page 79 of 108

1976 if you meet one of the following requirements:

1977

1978

1979

1980

1981

1982

1983

1984

1985

1986

1987

1988

1989

1990

1991

1992

1993

1994

1995

1996

1997

1998

1999

2000

- a. You are 65 years of age or older.
- b. You have a temporary or permanent physical disability.
- c. You are a member of a uniformed service on active duty who, by reason of such active duty, will be absent from the 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.
  - f. You are currently residing outside the United States.
- 8. 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

Page 80 of 108

in an election using a false identity or false address, or under any other circumstances making your ballot false or fraudulent.

Section 28. Subsections (1) and (3) of section 101.6925, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

- 101.6925 Canvassing special vote-by-mail ballots.-
- (1) The supervisor of the county where the <u>voter</u> absent elector resides shall receive the voted special vote-by-mail ballot, at which time the mailing envelope <u>must</u> shall be opened to determine if the voter has enclosed the identification required or has indicated on the Voter's Certificate that he or she is exempt from the identification requirements.
- envelope and the voter has not indicated that he or she is exempt from the identification requirements, the supervisor <u>must shall</u> check the voter registration records to determine if the voter's identification was previously received or the voter had previously notified the supervisor that he or she was exempt. The envelope with the Voter's Certificate <u>may shall</u> not be opened unless the identification has been received or the voter has indicated that he or she is exempt. The ballot <u>must shall</u> be treated as a provisional ballot <u>and may until 7 p.m. on election day and shall</u> not be canvassed unless the supervisor has received the required identification or written indication of exemption by 5 7 p.m. <u>local time on the 2nd day following the on</u> election day.

Page 81 of 108

Section 29. Subsection (1) of section 101.694, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

101.694 Mailing of ballots upon receipt of federal postcard application.—

- (1) Upon receipt of a federal postcard application for a vote-by-mail ballot executed by a person whose registration is in order or whose application is sufficient to register or update the registration of that person, the supervisor shall send the ballot in accordance with s. 101.62(3) s. 101.62(4).
- Section 30. Subsection (2) of section 101.71, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
  - 101.71 Polling place. -

(2) Notwithstanding the provisions of subsection (1), whenever the supervisor of elections of any county determines that the accommodations for holding any election at a polling place designated for any precinct in the county are unavailable, are inadequate for the expeditious and efficient housing and handling of voting and voting paraphernalia, or do not comply with the requirements of s. 101.715, the supervisor shall, not less than 30 days prior to the holding of an election, provide for the voting place for such precinct to be moved to another site that is accessible to the public on election day in said precinct or, if such is not available, to another site that is accessible to the public on election day in a contiguous precinct. If such action of the supervisor results in the voting

Page 82 of 108

2051

2052

2053

2054

2055

2056

2057

2058

2059

2060

20612062

2063

2064

2065

2066

2067

2068

2069

2070

2071

2072

2073

2074

2075

place for two or more precincts being located for the purposes of an election in one building, the supervisor of elections shall provide adequate supplies, equipment, and personnel are available to accommodate the voters for the precincts that are collocated. When any supervisor moves any polling place pursuant to this subsection, the supervisor shall, not more than 30 days or fewer than 7 days prior to the holding of an election, give notice of the change of the polling place for the precinct involved, with clear description of the voting place to which changed, by publication on the county's website as provided in s. 50.0311, on the supervisor's website, or at least once in a newspaper of general circulation in the county and on the supervisor of elections' website. A notice of the change of the polling place involved shall be mailed, at least 14 days prior to an election, to each registered elector or to each household in which there is a registered elector.

Section 31. Subsection (2) of 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 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

Page 83 of 108

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.

- (2) 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 published on the affected county's website as provided in s.

  50.0311, on the affected supervisor's website, or 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.
- Section 32. Subsection (2) of section 102.111, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
  - 102.111 Elections Canvassing Commission.-
- (2) The Elections Canvassing Commission shall meet at 89 a.m. on the 9th day after a primary election and at 89 a.m. on the 14th day after a general election to certify the returns of the election for each federal, state, and multicounty office. If a member of a county canvassing board that was constituted pursuant to s. 102.141 determines, within 5 days after the

Page 84 of 108

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

Section 33. Subsection (2) of section 102.112, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

- 102.112 Deadline for submission of county returns to the Department of State.—
- (2) Returns must be filed <u>no later than noon</u> by 5 p.m. on the <u>8th</u> 7th day following a primary election and <u>no later than</u> by noon on the <u>13th</u> 12th day following the general election.

  However, the Department of State may correct typographical errors, including the transposition of numbers, in any returns submitted to the Department of State pursuant to s. 102.111(2).
- Section 34. Subsection (1), paragraph (b) of subsection (2), and subsection (10) of section 102.141, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:
  - 102.141 County canvassing board; duties.-
- (1) The county canvassing board shall be composed of the supervisor of elections; a county court judge, who shall act as chair; and the chair of the board of county commissioners. The names of the canvassing board members must be published on the

Page 85 of 108

supervisor's website upon completion of the logic and accuracy test. At least two alternate canvassing board members must be appointed pursuant to paragraph (e). In the event any member of the county canvassing board is unable to serve, is a candidate who has opposition in the election being canvassed, or is an active participant in the campaign or candidacy of any candidate who has opposition in the election being canvassed, such member shall be replaced as follows:

- (a) If <u>a</u> no county court judge is <u>unable</u> able to serve or if all are disqualified, the chief judge of the judicial circuit in which the county is located <u>must shall</u> appoint as a substitute member a qualified elector of the county who is not a candidate with opposition in the election being canvassed and who is not an active participant in the campaign or candidacy of any candidate with opposition in the election being canvassed. In such event, the members of the county canvassing board shall meet and elect a chair.
- (b) If the supervisor of elections is unable to serve or is disqualified, the chair of the board of county commissioners must shall appoint as a substitute member a member of the board of county commissioners who is not a candidate with opposition in the election being canvassed and who is not an active participant in the campaign or candidacy of any candidate with opposition in the election being canvassed. The supervisor, however, shall act in an advisory capacity to the canvassing

Page 86 of 108

2151 board.

- (c) If the chair of the board of county commissioners is unable to serve or is disqualified, the board of county commissioners <u>must shall</u> appoint as a substitute member one of its members who is not a candidate with opposition in the election being canvassed and who is not an active participant in the campaign or candidacy of any candidate with opposition in the election being canvassed.
- (d) If a substitute member or alternate member cannot be appointed as provided elsewhere in this subsection, or in the event of a vacancy in such office, the chief judge of the judicial circuit in which the county is located <u>must shall</u> appoint as a substitute member or alternate member a qualified elector of the county who is not a candidate with opposition in the election being canvassed and who is not an active participant in the campaign or candidacy of any candidate with opposition in the election being canvassed.
- (e)1. The chief judge of the judicial circuit in which the county is located shall appoint a county court judge as an alternate member of the county canvassing board or, if each county court judge is unable to serve or is disqualified, shall appoint an alternate member who is qualified to serve as a substitute member under paragraph (a). Any alternate may serve in any seat.
  - 2. The chair of the board of county commissioners shall

Page 87 of 108

appoint a member of the board of county commissioners as an alternate member of the county canvassing board or, if each member of the board of county commissioners is unable to serve or is disqualified, shall appoint an alternate member who is qualified to serve as a substitute member under paragraph (d).

- 3. If a member of the county canvassing board is unable to participate in a meeting of the board, the chair of the county canvassing board or his or her designee <u>must shall</u> designate which alternate member will serve as a member of the board in the place of the member who is unable to participate at that meeting.
- 4. If not serving as one of the three members of the county canvassing board, an alternate member may be present, observe, and communicate with the three members constituting the county canvassing board, but may not vote in the board's decisions or determinations.

(2)

(b) Public notice of the canvassing board members, alternates, time, and place at which the county canvassing board shall meet to canvass the absent electors' ballots and provisional ballots must be given at least 48 hours prior thereto by publication on the county's website as provided in s. 50.0311, on the supervisor's website, or and published in one or more newspapers of general circulation in the county. or, If the applicable website becomes unavailable or there is no newspaper

Page 88 of 108

of general circulation in the county, the notice must be posted by posting such notice in at least four conspicuous places in the county. The time given in the notice as to the convening of the meeting of the county canvassing board must be specific and may not be a time period during which the board may meet.

- (10) (a) The supervisor At the same time that the official results of an election are certified to the Department of State, the county canvassing board shall file a report with the Division of Elections on the conduct of the election no later than 20 business days after the Elections Canvassing Commission certifies the election. The report must describe, at a minimum, all of the following:
- 1. All equipment or software malfunctions at the precinct level, at a counting location, or within computer and telecommunications networks supporting a county location, and the steps that were taken to address the malfunctions.
- 2. All election definition errors that were discovered after the logic and accuracy test, and the steps that were taken to address the errors.  $\div$
- 3. All ballot printing errors, vote-by-mail ballot mailing errors, or ballot supply problems, and the steps that were taken to address the errors or problems.  $\div$
- 4. All staffing shortages or procedural violations by employees or precinct workers which were addressed by the supervisor of elections or the county canvassing board during

Page 89 of 108

the conduct of the election, and the steps that were taken to correct such issues. $\div$ 

2228

2229

2230

2231

2232

2233

2234

2235

2236

2237

2238

2239

2240

2241

2242

2243

2244

2245

2246

2247

2248

2249

2250

- 5. All instances where needs for staffing or equipment were insufficient to meet the needs of the voters.; and
- 6. Any additional information regarding material issues or problems associated with the conduct of the election.
- (b) If a supervisor discovers new or additional information on any of the items required to be included in the report pursuant to paragraph (a) after the report is filed, the supervisor <u>must shall</u> notify the division that new information has been discovered no later than the next business day after the discovery, and the supervisor <u>must shall</u> file an amended report signed by the supervisor of elections on the conduct of the election within 10 days after the discovery.
- (c) Such reports  $\underline{must}$  shall be maintained on file in the Division of Elections and  $\underline{must}$  shall be available for public inspection.
- (d) The division shall review the conduct of election reports utilize the reports submitted by the canvassing boards to determine what problems may be likely to occur in other elections and disseminate such information, along with possible solutions and training, to the supervisors of elections.
- (e) The department shall submit the analysis of these reports for the general election as part of the consolidated reports required under ss. 101.591 and 101.595 to the Governor,

Page 90 of 108

the President of the Senate, and the Speaker of the House of
Representatives by February 15 of each year following a general
election.

Section 35. Section 103.021, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

- 103.021 Nomination for presidential electors.—Candidates for presidential electors shall be nominated in the following manner:
- (1) (a) The Governor shall nominate the presidential electors of each political party. The state executive committee of each political party shall by resolution recommend candidates for presidential electors and deliver a certified copy thereof to the Governor no later than noon on August 24 before September 4 of each presidential election year. The Governor shall nominate only the electors recommended by the state executive committee of the respective political party.
- (b) The state executive committee of each political party shall submit the Florida voter registration number and contact information of each presidential elector. Each such presidential elector <u>must shall</u> be a qualified <u>registered voter of this state</u> and member elector of the party he or she represents who has taken <u>a written an</u> oath that he or she will vote for the candidates of the party that he or she is nominated to represent.
  - (c) The Governor shall certify to the Department of State

Page 91 of 108

no later than 5 p.m. on August 24 or before September 1, in each presidential election year, the names of a number of electors for each political party equal to the number of senators and representatives which this state has in Congress.

- (2) The names of the presidential electors <u>may shall</u> not be printed on the general election ballot, but the names of the actual candidates for President and Vice President for whom the presidential electors will vote if elected <u>must shall</u> be printed on the ballot in the order in which the party of which the candidate is a nominee polled the highest number of votes for Governor in the last general election.
- (3) Candidates for President and Vice President with no party affiliation may have their names printed on the general election ballots if a petition is signed by 1 percent of the registered voters electors of this state, as shown by the compilation by the Department of State for the last preceding general election. A separate petition from each county for which signatures are solicited shall be submitted to the supervisor of elections of the respective county no later than noon on July 15 of each presidential election year. The supervisor shall check the names and, on or before the date of the primary election, shall certify the number shown as registered voters electors of the county. The supervisor shall be paid by the person requesting the certification the cost of checking the petitions as prescribed in s. 99.097. The supervisor shall then forward

the certificate to the Department of State which shall determine whether or not the percentage factor required in this section has been met. When the percentage factor required in this section has been met, the Department of State shall order the names of the candidates for whom the petition was circulated to be included on the ballot and shall allow permit the required number of persons to be certified as presidential electors in the same manner as party candidates.

2301

2302

2303

2304

2305

2306

2307

2308

2309

2310

2311

2312

2313

2314

2315

2316

2317

2318

2319

2320

2321

2322

2323

2324

2325

(4)(a) A minor political party that is affiliated with a national party holding a national convention to nominate candidates for President and Vice President of the United States may have the names of its candidates for President and Vice President of the United States printed on the general election ballot by filing with the Department of State a certificate naming the candidates for President and Vice President and listing the required number of persons to serve as presidential electors. Notification to the Department of State under this subsection must shall be made no later than 5 p.m. on August 24 by September 1 of the year in which the general election is held. When the Department of State has been so notified, it shall order the names of the candidates nominated by the minor political party to be included on the ballot and shall allow permit the required number of persons to be certified as presidential electors in the same manner as other party candidates. As used in this section, the term "national party"

means a political party that is registered with and recognized as a qualified national committee of a political party by the Federal Election Commission.

2326

2327

2328

2329

2330

2331

2332

2333

2334

2335

2336

2337

2338

2339

2340

2341

2342

2343

2344

2345

2346

2347

2348

2349

2350

A minor political party that is not affiliated with a national party holding a national convention to nominate candidates for President and Vice President of the United States may have the names of its candidates for President and Vice President printed on the general election ballot if a petition is signed by 1 percent of the registered voters electors of this state, as shown by the compilation by the Department of State for the preceding general election. A separate petition from each county for which signatures are solicited must shall be submitted to the supervisors of elections of the respective county no later than noon on July 15 of each presidential election year. The supervisor shall check the names and, on or before the date of the primary election, shall certify the number shown as registered voters electors of the county. The supervisor shall be paid by the person requesting the certification the cost of checking the petitions as prescribed in s. 99.097. The supervisor shall then forward the certificate to the Department of State, which shall determine whether or not the percentage factor required in this section has been met. When the percentage factor required in this section has been met, the Department of State shall order the names of the candidates for whom the petition was circulated to be included

Page 94 of 108

on the ballot and shall <u>allow permit</u> the required number of persons to be certified as <u>presidential</u> electors in the same manner as other party candidates.

- (5) When for any reason a person nominated or elected as a presidential elector is unable to serve because of death, incapacity, or otherwise, the Governor may appoint a person to fill such vacancy who possesses the qualifications required for the elector to have been nominated in the first instance. Such person shall file with the Governor <u>a written an</u> oath that he or she will support the same candidates for President and Vice President that the person who is unable to serve was committed to support.
- (6) A presidential elector's refusal or failure to vote for the candidates for President and Vice President of the party the presidential elector was nominated to represent constitutes a resignation of the position. His or her vote may not be recorded, and his or her position as a presidential electors must be filled as provided in subsection (5).
- Section 36. Section 103.022, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
- 103.022 Write-in candidates for President and Vice President.—
- (1) Persons seeking to qualify for election as write-in candidates for President and Vice President of the United States may have a blank space provided on the general election ballot

Page 95 of 108

for their names to be written in by filing an oath with the Department of State at any time after the 57th day, but before noon of the 49th day, prior to the date of the primary election in the year in which a presidential election is held.

- (2) The Department of State shall prescribe the form to be used in administering the oath.
- (3) The write-in candidates shall file with the department a certificate naming the required number of persons to serve as electors. The write-in candidates shall submit the Florida voter registration number and contact information for each presidential elector. Each presidential elector must be a qualified registered voter of this state. Such write-in candidates are shall not be entitled to have their names on the ballot.

Section 37. Subsection (4) of section 103.091, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

103.091 Political parties.-

(4) Any political party other than a minor political party may by rule provide for the membership of its state or county executive committee to be elected for 4-year terms at the primary election in each year a presidential election is held. The terms shall commence on the first day of the month following each presidential general election; but the names of candidates for political party offices may shall not be placed on the ballot at any other election. The results of such election are

Page 96 of 108

shall be determined by a plurality of the votes cast. In such event, electors seeking to qualify for such office shall do so with the Department of State or supervisor of elections not earlier than noon of the 71st day, or later than noon of the 67th day, preceding the primary election. A qualifying office may accept and hold qualifying papers submitted not earlier than 14 days before the beginning of the qualifying period, to be processed and filed during the qualifying period. The outgoing chair of each county executive committee shall, within 30 days after the committee members take office, hold an organizational meeting of all newly elected members for the purpose of electing officers. The chair of each state executive committee shall, within 60 days after the committee members take office, hold an organizational meeting of all newly elected members for the purpose of electing officers.

Section 38. Section 104.16, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

104.16 Voting fraudulent ballot.-

- (1) Any elector who knowingly votes or attempts to vote a fraudulent ballot, or any person who knowingly solicits, or attempts, to vote a fraudulent ballot, is guilty of a felony of the third degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082, s. 775.083, or s. 775.084.
- (2) Subsection (1) does not apply to an elector to whom notice has been sent pursuant to s. 98.075(7) and who votes a

Page 97 of 108

2426	provisional ballot or vote-by-mail ballot before a final
2427	determination of eligibility is made.
2428	Section 39. Section 104.18, Florida Statutes, is amended
2429	to read:
2430	104.18 Casting more than one ballot at any election
2431	(1) Except as provided in s. 101.6952, whoever willfully
2432	votes more than one ballot at any election commits a felony of
2433	the third degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082, s.
2434	775.083, or s. 775.084. In any prosecution under this section,
2435	the prosecution may proceed in any jurisdiction in which one of
2436	the ballots was willfully cast, and it is not necessary to prove
2437	which of the ballots was cast first.
2438	(2) For purposes of this section, the term "votes more
2439	than one ballot at any election" means an occurrence of any of
2440	the following:
2441	(a) Voting more than once in the same election within a
2442	county located within this state.
2443	(b) Voting more than once in the same election by voting
2444	in two or more counties located in this state.
2445	(c) Voting more than once in the same election by voting
2446	in this state and in one or more other states or territories of
2447	the United States.
2448	Section 40. Subsection (1) of section 104.42, Florida
2449	Statutes, is amended to read:
2450	104.42 Fraudulent registration and illegal voting;

Page 98 of 108

2451 investigation.-

- (1) The supervisor of elections is authorized to investigate fraudulent registrations and illegal voting and to report his or her findings to the local state attorney and the Office of Election Crimes and Security Florida Elections Commission.
- Section 41. Paragraph (c) is added to subsection (4) of section 105.031, Florida Statutes, to read:
  - 105.031 Qualification; filing fee; candidate's oath; items required to be filed.—
    - (4) CANDIDATE'S OATH.-
  - (c) In addition, each candidate for judicial office shall, at the time of subscribing to the oath or affirmation, state in writing whether he or she owes any outstanding fines, fees, or penalties that cumulatively exceed \$250 for any violations of s.

    8, Art. II of the State Constitution, the Code of Ethics for Public Officers and Employees under part III of chapter 112, any local ethics ordinance governing standards of conduct and disclosure requirements, or chapter 106. If the candidate owes any outstanding fines, fees, or penalties exceeding the threshold amount specified in this paragraph, he or she must also specify the amount owed and each entity that levied such fine, fee, or penalty. For purposes of this paragraph, any such fines, fees, or penalties that have been paid in full at the time of subscribing to the oath or affirmation are not deemed to

Page 99 of 108

## 2476 be outstanding.

Section 42. Subsection (1) and paragraph (c) of subsection (8) of section 106.07, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

106.07 Reports; certification and filing.—

- (1) Each campaign treasurer designated by a candidate or political committee pursuant to s. 106.021 shall file regular reports of all contributions received, and all expenditures made, by or on behalf of such candidate or political committee. Except for the third calendar quarter immediately preceding a general election as provided in paragraphs (a) and (b), reports must shall be filed on the 10th day following the end of each calendar quarter month from the time the campaign treasurer is appointed, except that, if the 10th day following the end of a calendar quarter month occurs on a Saturday, Sunday, or legal holiday, the report must shall be filed on the next following day that is not a Saturday, Sunday, or legal holiday. Quarterly Monthly reports must shall include all contributions received and expenditures made during the calendar quarter month which have not otherwise been reported pursuant to this section.
- (a) A statewide candidate or a political committee required to file reports with the division must file reports:
- 1. On the 60th day immediately preceding the primary election, and each week thereafter, with the last weekly report being filed on the 4th day immediately preceding the general election.

Page 100 of 108

2. On the 10th day immediately preceding the general election, and each day thereafter, with the last daily report being filed the 5th day immediately preceding the general election.

- (b) Any other candidate or a political committee required to file reports with a filing officer other than the division must file reports on the 60th day immediately preceding the primary election, and biweekly on each Friday thereafter through and including the 4th day immediately preceding the general election, with additional reports due on the 25th and 11th days before the primary election and the general election.
- (c) Following the last day of qualifying for office, any unopposed candidate need only file a report within 90 days after the date such candidate became unopposed. Such report shall contain all previously unreported contributions and expenditures as required by this section and shall reflect disposition of funds as required by s. 106.141.
- (d)1. When a special election is called to fill a vacancy in office, all political committees making contributions or expenditures to influence the results of such special election or the preceding special primary election shall file campaign treasurers' reports with the filing officer on the dates set by the Department of State pursuant to s. 100.111.
- 2. When an election is called for an issue to appear on the ballot at a time when no candidates are scheduled to appear

Page 101 of 108

on the ballot, all political committees making contributions or expenditures in support of or in opposition to such issue shall file reports on the 18th and 4th days before such election.

- (e) The filing officer shall provide each candidate with a schedule designating the beginning and end of reporting periods as well as the corresponding designated due dates.
- (f) A county, a municipality, or any other local governmental entity is expressly preempted from enacting or adopting a reporting schedule that differs from the requirements established in this subsection.

(8)

appeal or dispute the fine, based upon, but not limited to, unusual circumstances surrounding the failure to file on the designated due date, and may request and shall be entitled to a hearing before the Florida Elections Commission, which shall have the authority to waive the fine in whole or in part. The Florida Elections Commission must consider the mitigating and aggravating circumstances contained in <a href="mailto:s.106.265(3">s.</a>
<a href="mailto:106.265(2">106.265(2)</a>) when determining the amount of a fine, if any, to be waived. Any such request shall be made within 20 days after receipt of the notice of payment due. In such case, the candidate or chair of the political committee shall, within the 20-day period, notify the filing officer in writing of his or her intention to bring the matter before the commission.

Page 102 of 108

Section 43. Paragraph (c) of subsection (7) of section 106.0702, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

106.0702 Reporting; political party executive committee candidates.—

(7)

(c) A reporting individual may appeal or dispute the fine, based upon, but not limited to, unusual circumstances surrounding the failure to file on the designated due date, and may request and is entitled to a hearing before the Florida Elections Commission, which has the authority to waive the fine in whole or in part. The Florida Elections Commission must consider the mitigating and aggravating circumstances contained in <a href="mailto:s.106.265(3">s.106.265(2)</a> when determining the amount of a fine, if any, to be waived. Any such request shall be made within 20 days after receipt of the notice of payment due. In such case, the reporting individual must, within 20 days after receipt of the notice, notify the supervisor in writing of his or her intention to bring the matter before the commission.

Section 44. Paragraph (a) of subsection (1) and paragraph (c) of subsection (7) of section 106.0703, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

106.0703 Electioneering communications organizations; reporting requirements; certification and filing; penalties.—

(1)(a) Each electioneering communications organization shall file regular reports of all contributions received and all

Page 103 of 108

expenditures made by or on behalf of the organization. Except for the third calendar quarter immediately preceding a general election as provided in paragraphs (b) and (c), reports must be filed on the 10th day following the end of each calendar quarter month from the time the organization is registered. However, if the 10th day following the end of a calendar quarter month occurs on a Saturday, Sunday, or legal holiday, the report must be filed on the next following day that is not a Saturday, Sunday, or legal holiday. Quarterly Monthly reports must include all contributions received and expenditures made during the calendar quarter month that have not otherwise been reported pursuant to this section.

(7)

organization may appeal or dispute the fine, based upon, but not limited to, unusual circumstances surrounding the failure to file on the designated due date, and may request and shall be entitled to a hearing before the Florida Elections Commission, which shall have the authority to waive the fine in whole or in part. The Florida Elections Commission must consider the mitigating and aggravating circumstances contained in <u>s.</u> 106.265(3) <u>s. 106.265(2)</u> when determining the amount of a fine, if any, to be waived. Any such request shall be made within 20 days after receipt of the notice of payment due. In such case, the treasurer of the electioneering communications organization

Page 104 of 108

shall, within the 20-day period, notify the filing officer in writing of his or her intention to bring the matter before the commission.

Section 45. Paragraph (b) of subsection (2) of section 106.08, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

106.08 Contributions; limitations on.—

2607 (2)

2601

2602

2603

2604

2605

2606

2608

2609

2610

2611

2612

2613

2614

2615

2616

2617

26182619

2620

2621

2622

2623

2624

2625

to read:

A candidate for statewide office may not accept (b) contributions from national, state, or county executive committees of a political party, including any subordinate committee of the political party, or affiliated party committees, which contributions in the aggregate exceed \$250,000. Polling services, research services, costs for campaign staff, professional consulting services, and telephone calls, and text messages are not contributions to be counted toward the contribution limits of paragraph (a) or this paragraph. Any item not expressly identified in this paragraph as nonallocable is a contribution in an amount equal to the fair market value of the item and must be counted as allocable toward the contribution limits of paragraph (a) or this paragraph. Nonallocable, in-kind contributions must be reported by the candidate under s. 106.07 and by the political party or affiliated party committee under s. 106.29. Section 46. Section 106.1436, Florida Statutes, is created

Page 105 of 108

2626	106.1436 Voter guide; disclaimers; violations.—
2627	(1) As used in this section, the term "voter guide" means
2628	direct mail that is either an electioneering communication or a
2629	political advertisement sent for the purpose of advocating for
2630	or endorsing particular issues or candidates by recommending
2631	specific electoral choices to the voter or by indicating issue
2632	or candidate selections on an unofficial ballot. The term does
2633	not apply to direct mail or publications made by governmental
2634	entities or government officials in their official capacity.
2635	(2) A person may not, directly or indirectly, represent
2636	that a voter guide is an official publication of a political
2637	party unless such person is given written permission pursuant to
2638	<u>s. 103.081.</u>
2639	(3) A voter guide circulated before, or on the day of, an
2640	election must, in bold font with a font size of at least 12
2641	<pre>point, prominently:</pre>
2642	(a) Display the following disclaimer at the top of the
2643	first page of the voter guide:
2644	1. If the voter guide is an electioneering communication,
2645	the disclaimer required under s. 106.1439; or
2646	2. If the voter guide is a political advertisement, the
2647	disclaimer required under s. 106.143.
2648	(b) Be marked "Voter Guide" with such text appearing
2649	immediately below the disclaimer required in paragraph (a).
2650	(4)(a) In addition to any other penalties provided by law,

Page 106 of 108

2651	a person who fails to comply with this section commits a
2652	misdemeanor of the first degree, punishable as provided in s.
2653	775.082 or by a fine of not less than \$25 for each individual
2654	voter guide distributed.
2655	(b) Any fine imposed pursuant to paragraph (a) may not
2656	exceed \$2,500 in the aggregate in any calendar month.
2657	Section 47. Subsections (2) through (6) of section
2658	106.265, Florida Statutes, are renumbered as subsections (3)
2659	through (7), respectively, subsection (1) of that section is
2660	amended, and a new subsection (2) is added to that section, to
2661	read:
2662	106.265 Civil penalties.—
2663	(1) $\underline{\text{(a)}}$ The commission or, in cases referred to the
2664	Division of Administrative Hearings pursuant to s. $106.25(5)$ ,
2665	the administrative law judge is authorized upon the finding of a
2666	violation of this chapter or chapter 104 to impose civil
2667	penalties in the form of fines not to exceed $\$2,500$ $\$1,000$ per
2668	count. The fine must be multiplied by a factor of 3, not to
2669	exceed \$7,500, for each subsequent count of the same category,
2670	beginning with the fourth offense., or,
2671	(b) If applicable, the commission or the administrative
2672	law judge may instead to impose a civil penalty as provided in
2673	s. 104.271 or s. 106.19.
2674	(2) A fine imposed against a political committee jointly

Page 107 of 108

and severally attaches to the chair of the political committee,

CODING: Words stricken are deletions; words underlined are additions.

2675

the treasurer of the political committee, and any other person with control over the political committee. Collection of the fine from individuals may occur only if the political committee does not pay the fine within 30 days.

Section 48. Paragraph (e) of subsection (4) of section 322.142, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

- 322.142 Color photographic or digital imaged licenses. -
- (4) The department may maintain a film negative or print file. The department shall maintain a record of the digital image and signature of the licensees, together with other data required by the department for identification and retrieval. Reproductions from the file or digital record are exempt from the provisions of s. 119.07(1) and may be made and issued only:
- (e) To the Department of State or a supervisor of elections pursuant to an interagency agreement to facilitate determinations of eligibility of voter registration applicants and registered voters in accordance with ss. 98.045 and 98.075; Section 49. This act shall take effect July 1, 2023.

Page 108 of 108