

By Representative Prieguez

1 A bill to be entitled
 2 An act relating to elections; creating s.
 3 101.675, F.S.; requiring periodic updating of
 4 the signatures of certain voters to facilitate
 5 signature verification of absentee ballots;
 6 requiring the supervisors of elections to send
 7 such voters a notice to sign and return for
 8 such purpose; requiring the notice sent to
 9 Hispanic registrants to be in both English and
 10 Spanish; authorizing such updating at the main
 11 office or any branch office of the supervisor;
 12 providing an effective date.

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

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 16 Section 1. Section 101.675, Florida Statutes, is
 17 created to read:

18 101.675 Updating of signatures of voters 55 years of
 19 age or older.--The signature of each registered voter who is
 20 55 years of age or older shall be updated every 4 years as
 21 provided in this section to facilitate the verification of
 22 signatures on absentee ballots. As soon after the 1st day of
 23 January as is practicable every 4 years, beginning with the
 24 year 2000, the supervisor of elections of each county shall
 25 send to every registered voter of that county who is 55 years
 26 of age or older a notice for the voter to sign and return to
 27 update the voter's signature. The notice sent to each voter
 28 who has provided the information on his or her voter
 29 registration application that he or she is Hispanic must be
 30 provided in both English and Spanish. The notice must be sent
 31 as nonforwardable, return-if-undeliverable mail and must

1 include the return envelope for the voter to use. Any voter
2 receiving such notice may instead update his or her signature
3 at the main office or any branch office of the supervisor.
4 Failure of a voter to update his or her signature under this
5 section does not affect the registration of the voter or
6 subject the voter to any civil or criminal penalty.

7 Section 2. This act shall take effect January 1, 2000.

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10 HOUSE SUMMARY

11 Requires updating every 4 years of the signatures of
12 registered voters 55 years of age or older to facilitate
13 signature verification of absentee ballots. Requires the
14 supervisors of elections to send such voters a notice to
15 sign and return for such purpose, and requires the notice
sent to Hispanic registrants to be in both English and
Spanish. Authorizes such updating at the main office or
any branch office of the supervisor.