

By Senator Meek

36-1269A-01

See HB 171

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A bill to be entitled

An act relating to requests for absentee ballots; creating s. 104.046, F.S.; prohibiting the removal of any request for an absentee ballot from the main or any branch office of the supervisor of elections after submission to the supervisor; prohibiting any person other than the absent elector, a member of the elector's immediate family, or the elector's legal guardian from making any corrections or additions to a request for an absentee ballot after submission to the supervisor; providing penalties; providing an effective date.

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

Section 1. Section 104.046, Florida Statutes, is created to read:

104.046 Requests for absentee ballots; violations.--

(1) It is unlawful for any person, including an absent elector, to remove a request for an absentee ballot from the main or any branch office of the supervisor of elections for any reason, including the correction or addition of any information, after it has been submitted to the supervisor.

(2) It is unlawful for any person other than the absent elector, a member of the elector's immediate family as defined and authorized in s. 101.62, or the elector's legal guardian as authorized in s. 101.62 to make any corrections or additions to a request for an absentee ballot after it has been submitted to the supervisor of elections.

1 (3) A person who violates any provision of this
2 section commits a misdemeanor of the first degree, punishable
3 as provided in s. 775.082 or s. 775.083.

4 (4) A person who violates any provision of this
5 section a fifth or subsequent time commits a felony of the
6 third degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082, s.
7 775.083, or s. 775.084.

8 Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2001.

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LEGISLATIVE SUMMARY

Provides that it is a misdemeanor of the first degree for any person, including any absent elector, to remove a request for an absentee ballot from the main or any branch office of the supervisor of elections for any reason, including the correction or addition of any information, after it has been submitted to the supervisor; and for any person other than the absent elector, a member of the elector's immediate family, or the elector's legal guardian to make any corrections or additions to any request for an absentee ballot after it has been submitted to the supervisor. Provides that a fifth or subsequent violation is a felony of the first degree.