Bill No. CS for SB 618

Amendment No. ___ Barcode 093146

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Senate Amendment (with title amendment)

Senators Jones and Meek moved the following amendment:

On page 8, line 22, through page 26, line 4, delete those lines

and insert: that ballot was entitled to vote <u>in the county</u> at the precinct in the election and that the person had not already cast a ballot in the election.

registered in the county and entitled to vote at the precinct in the election, the canvassing board shall compare the signature on the provisional ballot envelope with the signature on the voter's registration and, if it matches, shall count the ballot. The provisional ballot of a voter who is otherwise entitled to vote shall not be rejected because the voter did not cast his or her ballot in the precinct of his or her legal residence. However, if the voter did not vote the ballot to which he or she was entitled, the canvassing board shall duplicate the ballot for the races that the voter was entitled to vote in his or her legal precinct and count

the valid votes in races in which the voter was entitled to 2 vote. The canvassing board shall use rules adopted by the 3 division pursuant to s. 102.166(5) to determine whether an 4 overvoted or undervoted race contains a valid vote. 5 If it is determined that the person voting the 6 provisional ballot was not registered in the county or 7 entitled to vote at the precinct in the election, the provisional ballot shall not be counted and the ballot shall 8 remain in the envelope containing the Provisional Ballot 10 Voter's Certificate and Affirmation and the envelope shall be marked "Rejected as Illegal." 11 12 (3) The Provisional Ballot Voter's Certificate and 13 Affirmation shall be in substantially the following form: 14 15 STATE OF FLORIDA 16 COUNTY OF 17 I do solemnly swear (or affirm) that my name is; 18 that my date of birth is; that I am registered to vote 19 20 and at the time I registered I resided at, in the 21 municipality of, in County, Florida; that I am registered in the Party; that I am a qualified voter of 22 the county; and that I have not voted in this election. I 23 24 understand that if I commit any fraud in connection with voting, vote a fraudulent ballot, or vote more than once in an 25 election, I can be convicted of a felony of the third degree 26 27 and fined up to \$5,000 and/or imprisoned for up to 5 years. 28 ...(Signature of Voter)... 29 ...(Current Residence Address)... 30 ...(Current Mailing Address)... 31 ...(City, State, Zip Code)...

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    Sworn to and subscribed before me this .... day of ......,
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    ...(year)....
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    ...(Clerk or Inspector of Election Official)...
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 6
                                  Ballot Style/Party Issued: ....
    Precinct # ....
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   Additional information may be provided to further assist the
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 9
    supervisor of elections in determining eligibility. If known,
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   please provide the place and date that you registered to vote.
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           Section 8. Paragraphs (a) and (c) of subsection (2) of
    section 101.151, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:
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           101.151 Specifications for ballots.--
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           (2)(a) The ballot shall have headings under which
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    shall appear the names of the offices and the names of the
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    duly nominated candidates for the respective offices in the
    following order: the heading "President and Vice President"
18
   and thereunder the names of the candidates for President and
19
   Vice President of the United States nominated by the political
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   party that received the highest vote for Governor in the last
    general election of the Governor in this state. Then shall
22
   appear the names of other candidates for President and Vice
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    President of the United States who have been properly
   nominated. Votes cast for write-in candidates for President
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26
   and Vice President shall be counted as votes cast for the
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   presidential electors supporting such candidates. Then shall
28
   follow the heading "Congressional" and thereunder the offices
   of United States Senator and Representative in Congress; then
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    the heading "State" and thereunder the offices of Governor and
31 | Lieutenant Governor, Secretary of State, Attorney General,
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Chief Financial Officer Comptroller, Treasurer, Commissioner of Education, Commissioner of Agriculture, state attorney, and public defender, together with the names of the candidates for each office and the title of the office which they seek; then the heading "Legislative" and thereunder the offices of state senator and state representative; then the heading "County" and thereunder clerk of the circuit court, clerk of the county court (when authorized by law), sheriff, property appraiser, tax collector, district superintendent of schools, and supervisor of elections. Thereafter follows: members of the board of county commissioners, and such other county and district offices as are involved in the general election, in the order fixed by the Department of State, followed, in the year of their election, by "Party Offices," and thereunder the offices of state and county party executive committee members. In a general election, in addition to the names printed on the ballot, a blank space shall be provided under each heading for an office for which a write-in candidate has qualified. With respect to write-in candidates, if two or more candidates are seeking election to one office, only one blank space shall be provided.

(c) If in any election all the offices as set forth in paragraph (a) are not involved, those offices <u>not</u> to be filled shall be <u>omitted and the remaining offices shall be</u> arranged on the ballot in the order named.

Section 9. Section 101.2512, Florida Statutes, is created to read:

101.2512 Candidates' names on general election ballots.--

(1) The supervisor of elections shall print on the general election ballot the names of candidates nominated by

primary election or special primary election or the names of candidates selected by the appropriate executive committee of any political party pursuant to the requirements of this code.

(2) In addition to the names printed on the ballot as provided in subsection (1), the supervisor of elections shall print on the general election ballot the names of each nonpartisan candidate, minor party candidate, or candidate with no party affiliation who has obtained a position on the general election ballot in compliance with the requirements of this code.

Section 10. Section 101.475, Florida Statutes, is created to read:

- <u>101.475</u> Procedure of election officials where name is not on precinct register.--
- (1) If a person presents himself or herself to vote and his or her name is not on the precinct register, the pollworker shall contact the office of the supervisor of elections or access a master list of registered voters in the county to determine whether the person is registered to vote.
- (2) If the person is registered in the county and is in the correct precinct, the person shall be allowed to vote.
- (3) If the person is registered in the county but is not in the correct precinct, the pollworker shall direct the person to the proper precinct to vote.
- (4) If the pollworker is unable to verify whether the person is registered in the county, the pollworker shall issue the person a provisional ballot pursuant to s. 101.048.
- (5) If the pollworker verifies that the person is not registered in the county, but the person nonetheless maintains that he or she is entitled to vote, the pollworker shall issue the person a provisional ballot pursuant to s. 101.048.

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Section 11. Section 101.5601, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

101.5601 Short title.--Sections 101.5601-101.5614 may be cited 101.5601 through 101.5615 shall be known as the "Electronic Voting Systems Act."

Section 12. Effective September 2, 2002, subsections (3) and (4) of section 101.5606, Florida Statutes, as amended by section 18 of chapter 2001-40, Laws of Florida, are amended to read:

101.5606 Requirements for approval of systems. -- No electronic or electromechanical voting system shall be approved by the Department of State unless it is so constructed that:

- It immediately rejects The automatic tabulating equipment shall be set to reject a ballot and provide the elector an opportunity to correct the ballot where the number of votes for an office or measure exceeds the number which the voter is entitled to cast or where the tabulating equipment reads the ballot as a ballot with no votes cast.
- (4) For systems using paper ballots, it accepts a rejected ballot pursuant to subsection (3) if a voter chooses to cast the ballot, but records no vote for any office that has been overvoted or undervoted. For rejected ballots that voters choose to cast, the automatic tabulating equipment will be set to accept the ballot and reject all votes for any office or measure when the number of votes therefor exceeds the number which the voter is entitled to cast or when the voter is not entitled to cast a vote for the office or measure.

Section 13. Paragraph (b) of subsection (2) of section 31 | 101.5608, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

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

- (2) When an electronic or electromechanical voting system utilizes a ballot card or paper ballot, the following procedures shall be followed:
- (b) Any voter who spoils his or her ballot or makes an error may return the ballot to the election official and secure another ballot, except that in no case shall a voter be furnished more than three ballots. If the vote tabulation device has rejected a ballot, the ballot shall be considered spoiled and a new ballot shall be provided to the voter unless the voter chooses to cast the rejected ballot. The election official, without examining the original ballot, shall state the possible reasons for the rejection and shall provide instruction to direct the voter to the instruction model provided at the precinct pursuant to s. 101.5611. A spoiled ballot shall be preserved, without examination, in an envelope provided for that purpose. The stub shall be removed from the ballot and placed in an envelope.

Section 14. Section 101.5611, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

101.5611 Instructions to electors.--

(1) For the instruction of voters on election day, The supervisor of elections shall provide instruction at each polling place regarding one instruction model illustrating the manner of voting with the system. In instructing voters, no precinct official may favor any political party, candidate, or issue. Such instruction Each such instruction model shall show the arrangement of candidates party rows, office columns, and questions to be voted on. Additionally, the supervisor of elections shall provide instruction on the proper method of

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casting a ballot for the specific voting system utilized in that jurisdiction. Such instruction model shall be provided located at a place which voters must pass to reach the official voting booth.

(2) Before entering the voting booth each voter shall be offered instruction in voting by use of the instruction model, and the voter shall be given ample opportunity to operate the model by himself or herself. In instructing voters, no precinct official may show partiality to any political party or candidate.

(2) (2) (3) The supervisor of elections shall have posted at each polling place a notice that reads: "A person who commits or attempts to commit any fraud in connection with voting, votes a fraudulent ballot, or votes more than once in an election can be convicted of a felony of the third degree and fined up to \$5,000 and/or imprisoned for up to 5 years."

Section 15. Paragraphs (a) and (d) of subsection (4) of section 101.5612, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

101.5612 Testing of tabulating equipment.--

(4)(a)1. For electronic or electromechanical voting systems configured to include electronic or electromechanical tabulation devices which are distributed to the precincts, all or a sample of the devices to be used in the election shall be publicly tested. If a sample is to be tested, the sample shall consist of a random selection of at least 5 percent of the devices for an optical scan system or 2 percent of the devices for a touchscreen system or 10 of the devices for either system, as applicable, whichever is greater. The test shall be conducted by processing a group of ballots, causing the device to output results for the ballots processed, and 31 comparing the output of results to the results expected for

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29 30 the ballots processed. The group of ballots shall be produced so as to record a predetermined number of valid votes for each candidate and on each measure and to include for each office one or more ballots which have activated voting positions in excess of the number allowed by law in order to test the ability of the tabulating device to reject such votes.

- If any tested tabulating device is found to have an error in tabulation, it shall be deemed unsatisfactory. For each device deemed unsatisfactory, the canvassing board shall take steps to determine the cause of the error, shall attempt to identify and test other devices that could reasonably be expected to have the same error, and shall test a number of additional devices sufficient to determine that all devices are satisfactory. Upon deeming any device unsatisfactory, the canvassing board may require all devices to be tested or may declare that all devices are unsatisfactory.
- If the operation or output of any tested tabulation device, such as spelling or the order of candidates on a report, is in error, such problem shall be reported to the canvassing board. The canvassing board shall then determine if the reported problem warrants its deeming the device unsatisfactory.
- (d) Any tabulating device deemed unsatisfactory shall be recoded reprogrammed, repaired, or replaced and shall be made available for retesting. Such device must be determined by the canvassing board or its representative to be satisfactory before it may be used in any election. canvassing board or its representative shall announce at the close of the first testing the date, place, and time that any unsatisfactory device will be retested or may, at the option 31 of the board, notify by telephone each person who was present

at the first testing as to the date, place, and time that the retesting will occur. 3 Section 16. Subsections (5) and (9) of section 4 101.5614, Florida Statutes, are amended to read: 101.5614 Canvass of returns.--5 6 (5) If any absentee ballot card of the type for which 7 the offices and measures are not printed directly on the card is physically damaged or defective so that it cannot properly 8 9 be counted by the automatic tabulating equipment, a true 10 duplicate copy shall be made of the damaged ballot card in the presence of witnesses and substituted for the damaged ballot. 11 12 Likewise, a duplicate ballot card shall be made, in the 13 presence of witnesses, of an absentee ballot initially rejected by the automatic tabulating equipment which contains 14 15 an overvoted race or a marked absentee ballot in which every 16 race is undervoted if the canvassing board determines, based 17 on rules adopted by the division pursuant to s. 102.166(5), 18 that a valid vote was cast for any overvoted or undervoted race. Such ballot shall be duplicated so that all valid votes 19 20 are counted by the automatic tabulating equipment. All 21 duplicate ballots shall be clearly labeled "duplicate," bear a serial number which shall be recorded on the defective ballot, 22 23 and be counted in lieu of the defective ballot a defective 24 ballot which shall not include the invalid votes. All 25 duplicate ballot cards shall be clearly labeled "duplicate," 26 bear a serial number which shall be recorded on the damaged or defective ballot card, and be counted in lieu of the damaged 27 or defective ballot. If any ballot card of the type for which 28 29 offices and measures are printed directly on the card is

damaged or defective so that it cannot properly be counted by

31 the automatic tabulating equipment, a true duplicate copy may

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29 30 be made of the damaged ballot card in the presence of witnesses and in the manner set forth above, or the valid votes on the damaged ballot card may be manually counted at the counting center by the canvassing board, whichever procedure is best suited to the system used. If any paper ballot is damaged or defective so that it cannot be counted properly by the automatic tabulating equipment, the ballot shall be counted manually at the counting center by the canvassing board. The totals for all such ballots or ballot cards counted manually shall be added to the totals for the several precincts or election districts. No vote shall be declared invalid or void if there is a clear indication on the ballot that the voter has made a definite choice as determined by the canvassing board. After duplicating a ballot has been duplicated, the defective ballot shall be placed in an envelope provided for that purpose, and the duplicate ballot shall be tallied with the other ballots for that precinct.

(9) Any supervisor of elections, deputy supervisor of elections, canvassing board member, election board member, or election employee who releases the results of any election prior to the closing of the polls in that county on election day commits a felony of the third degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082, s. 775.083, or s. 775.084.

Section 17. Effective September 2, 2002, subsection (1) of section 101.5614, Florida Statutes, as amended by section 22 of chapter 2001-40, Laws of Florida, is amended to read:

101.5614 Canvass of returns.--

(1) In precincts in which an electronic or electromechanical voting system is used, As soon as the polls 31 are closed, the election board shall secure the voting devices

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against further voting. The election board shall thereafter, open the ballot box in the presence of members of the public desiring to witness the proceedings, verify and count the number of voted ballots, unused ballots, provisional ballots, and spoiled ballots to ascertain whether such number corresponds with the number of ballots issued by the supervisor. If there is a difference, this fact shall be reported in writing to the county canvassing board with the reasons therefor if known. The total number of voted ballots shall be entered on the forms provided. The proceedings of the election board at the precinct after the polls have closed shall be open to the public; however, no person except a member of the election board shall touch any ballot or ballot container or interfere with or obstruct the orderly count of the ballots.

Section 18. Section 101.595, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

101.595 Analysis and reports of voting problems voter error.--

- (1) No later than December 15 of each general election year, the supervisor of elections in each county shall report on voter errors to the Department of State the total number of overvotes and undervotes in the first race appearing on the ballot pursuant to s. 101.151(2), along with the likely reasons for such overvotes and undervotes the errors and other information as may be useful in evaluating the performance of the voting system and identifying problems with ballot design and instructions which may have contributed to voter confusion.
- (2) The Department of State, upon receipt of such 31 | information, shall prepare a public report on the performance

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of each type of voting system. The report must contain, but is not limited to, the following information:

- (a) An identification of problems with the ballot design or instructions which may have contributed to voter confusion;
- (b) An identification of voting system design problems; and
- (c) Recommendations for correcting any problems identified.
- (3) The Department of State shall submit the report to the Governor, the President of the Senate, and the Speaker of the House of Representatives by January 31 of each year following a general election.
- Section 19. Paragraph (a) of subsection (2) of section 101.68, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:
 - 101.68 Canvassing of absentee ballot .--
- (2)(a) The county canvassing board may begin the canvassing of absentee ballots at 7 a.m. on the fourth day before the election, but not later than noon on the day following the election. In addition, for any county using electronic tabulating equipment, the processing of absentee ballots through such tabulating equipment may begin at 7 a.m. on the fourth day before the election. However, notwithstanding any such authorization to begin canvassing or otherwise processing absentee ballots early, no result shall be released until after the closing of the polls in that county on election day. Any supervisor of elections, deputy supervisor of elections, canvassing board member, election board member, or election employee who releases the results of a canvassing or processing of absentee ballots prior to the 31 closing of the polls in that county on election day commits a

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felony of the third degree, punishable as provided in s. 775.082, s. 775.083, or s. 775.084.

Section 20. Section 101.69, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

ballot.--The provisions of this code shall not be construed to prohibit any elector from voting in person at the elector's precinct on the day of an election notwithstanding that the elector has requested an absentee ballot for that election. An elector who has received an absentee ballot, but desires to vote in person, shall return the ballot, whether voted or not, to the election board in the elector's precinct. The returned ballot shall be marked "canceled" by the board and placed with other canceled ballots. However, if the elector does not is unable to return the ballot, the election official shall contact the supervisor's office to determine whether the supervisor has received the elector's absentee ballot. If the election official:

- (1) Confirms that the supervisor has not received the elector's absentee ballot, the elector shall be allowed to vote in person. The elector's absentee ballot, if subsequently received, shall not be counted and shall remain in the mailing envelope, and the envelope shall be marked "Rejected as Illegal."
- (2) Confirms that the supervisor has received the elector's absentee ballot, the elector shall not be allowed to vote in person. If the elector maintains that he or she has not returned the absentee ballot, the elector may vote a provisional ballot as provided in s. 101.048.
- 30 (3) Cannot confirm whether the supervisor has received the elector's absentee ballot, the elector may vote a

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29 30 provisional ballot as provided in s. 101.048.

Section 21. Subsection (4) of section 102.014, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

102.014 Poll worker recruitment and training.--

- (4) Each supervisor of elections shall be responsible for training inspectors and clerks, subject to the following minimum requirements:
- (a) No clerk shall be entitled to work at the polls unless he or she has had a minimum of 3 6 hours of training prior to each election during a general election year, at least 2 hours of which must occur after June 1 of that year.
- (b) No inspector shall work at the polls unless he or she has had a minimum of 2 3 hours of training prior to each election during a general election year, at least 1 hour of which must occur after June 1 of that year.
- (c) For the purposes of this subsection, the first and second primary elections shall be considered one election.

Section 22. Subsections (2), (4), and (6) of section 102.141, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

102.141 County canvassing board; duties. --

The county canvassing board shall meet in a building accessible to the public in the county where the election occurred at a time and place to be designated by the supervisor of elections to publicly canvass the absentee electors' ballots as provided for in s. 101.68 and provisional ballots as provided by s. 101.048. Public notice of the time and place at which the county canvassing board shall meet to canvass the absentee electors' ballots and provisional ballots shall be given at least 48 hours prior thereto by publication once in one or more newspapers of general circulation in the 31 county or, if there is no newspaper of general circulation in

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the county, by posting such notice in at least four conspicuous places in the county. As soon as the absentee electors' ballots and the provisional ballots are canvassed, the board shall proceed to publicly canvass the vote given each candidate, nominee, constitutional amendment, or other measure submitted to the electorate of the county, as shown by the returns then on file in the office of the supervisor of elections and the office of the county court judge.

- (4) The canvassing board shall submit unofficial returns to the Department of State for each federal, statewide, state, or multicounty office or ballot measure no later than noon on the day after any primary, general, special, or other election. Such returns shall not include the canvass of any provisional ballots.
- (6) If the unofficial returns reflect that a candidate for any office was defeated or eliminated by one-half of a percent or less of the votes cast for such office, that a candidate for retention to a judicial office was retained or not retained by one-half of a percent or less of the votes cast on the question of retention, or that a measure appearing on the ballot was approved or rejected by one-half of a percent or less of the votes cast on such measure, the board responsible for certifying the results of the vote on such race or measure shall order a recount of the votes cast with respect to such office or measure. A recount need not be ordered with respect to the returns for any office, however, if the candidate or candidates defeated or eliminated from contention for such office by one-half of a percent or less of the votes cast for such office request in writing that a recount not be made.
 - (a) In counties with voting systems that use ballot

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29 30 cards or paper ballots, each canvassing board responsible for conducting a recount shall put each ballot through the automatic tabulating equipment for each precinct in which the office or issue appeared on the ballot and determine whether the returns correctly reflect the votes cast. If any paper ballot is physically damaged so that it cannot be properly counted by the automatic tabulating equipment during the recount, a true duplicate shall be made of the damaged ballot pursuant to the procedures in s. 101.5614(5). Immediately before the start of the recount and after completion of the count, a test of the tabulating equipment shall be conducted as provided in s. 101.5612. If the test indicates no error, the recount tabulation of the ballots cast shall be presumed correct and such votes shall be canvassed accordingly. error is detected, the cause therefor shall be ascertained and corrected and the recount repeated, as necessary. The canvassing board shall immediately report the error, along with the cause of the error and the corrective measures being taken, to the Department of State. No later than 11 days after the election, the canvassing board shall file a separate incident report with the Department of State, detailing the resolution of the matter and identifying any measures that will avoid a future recurrence of the error.

(b) In counties with voting systems that do not use ballot cards or paper ballots, each canvassing board responsible for conducting a recount shall examine the counters on the precinct tabulators to ensure that the total of the returns on the precinct tabulators equals the overall election return. If there is a discrepancy between the overall election return and the counters of the precinct tabulators, 31 the counters of the precinct tabulators shall be presumed

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correct and such votes shall be canvassed accordingly.

(c) The canvassing board shall submit a second set of unofficial returns to the Department of State for each federal, statewide, state, or multicounty office or ballot measure no later than noon on the second day after any election in which a recount was conducted pursuant to this subsection. Such returns shall not include the canvass of any provisional ballots. If the canvassing board is unable to complete the recount prescribed in this subsection by the deadline, the second set of unofficial returns submitted by the canvassing board shall be identical to the initial unofficial returns and the submission shall also include a detailed explanation of why it was unable to timely complete the recount. However, the canvassing board shall complete the recount prescribed in this subsection, along with any manual recount prescribed in s. 102.166, and certify election returns in accordance with the requirements of this chapter.

Section 23. Paragraph (a) of subsection (2) and subsection (6) of section 102.166, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

102.166 Manual recounts.--

(2)(a) If the second set of unofficial returns pursuant to s. 102.141 indicates that a candidate for any office was defeated or eliminated by between one-quarter and one-half of a percent of the votes cast for such office, that a candidate for retention to judicial office was retained or not retained by between one-quarter and one-half of a percent of the votes cast on the question of retention, or that a measure appearing on the ballot was approved or rejected by between one-quarter and one-half of a percent of the votes 31 cast on such measure, any such candidate, the political party

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of such candidate, or any political committee that supports or
   opposes such ballot measure is entitled to a manual recount of
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   the overvotes and undervotes cast in the entire geographic
    jurisdiction of such office or ballot measure, provided that a
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   request for a manual recount is made by 5 p.m. on the second
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    day after the election.
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    ====== T I T L E A M E N D M E N T ========
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   And the title is amended as follows:
           On page 2, line 27, through page 3, line 5, delete
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   those lines
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   and insert:
           102.141, F.S.; clarifying the timing for
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          reporting provisional ballot returns; providing
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           for the duplication of ballots that are damaged
           and cannot be counted by the automatic
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           tabulating equipment during a recount;
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           eliminating obsolete provisions; amending
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           102.166, F.S.;
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