



HB 1297

2003
CS

CHAMBER ACTION

The Committee on Education K-20 recommends the following:

Committee Substitute

Remove the entire bill and insert:

A bill to be entitled

An act relating to voter education; requiring district school boards and county supervisors of elections jointly to provide a program of voter education for high school seniors; providing guidelines for the content of the educational program; requiring that the program of voter education be conducted during school hours; providing for the use of county voting equipment in high school elections under certain conditions; providing an effective date.

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

Section 1. (1) Each district school board and county supervisor of elections shall cooperate to provide voter education to high school students who are in grade 12. The voter education shall be in the form of a presentation and is mandatory for public high schools and voluntary for nonpublic high schools. Each supervisor of elections shall conduct and



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29 provide voting equipment for the presentations for the public
30 high schools and, upon request, the nonpublic high schools.

31 (2) The voter education must include information
32 concerning:

33 (a) How to register to vote and preregister to vote.

34 (b) The operation of the type of voting equipment used in
35 the county, including, where applicable, new electronic voting
36 machines.

37 (c) How, when, and where to vote.

38 (d) The importance of voting.

39 (e) Voting by absentee ballot.

40 (f) How to work at a poll on election day.

41 (g) How to qualify as a candidate for elected office.

42 (3) The voter education program must provide students with
43 the opportunity, sufficient information, and sufficient time to
44 complete and hand in to the supervisor of elections applications
45 for voter registration.

46 (4) The voter education program shall be conducted during
47 school hours each term of the school year in order to reach a
48 maximum number of students in the most effective and efficient
49 manner, as determined by local school board policy.

50 (5) A student may not be excluded from the voter education
51 program due to an irregular class schedule, and students
52 enrolled in a magnet program must be provided voter education.

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54 As an adjunct to the voter education program and to familiarize
55 high school students who are in grade 12 with the voting system
56 used in their county, each school district may make arrangements



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57 | with the supervisor of elections for use of the county's voting
58 | equipment in any election held in a high school in the district
59 | in which only students are candidates, if there is no conflict
60 | with another scheduled election as determined by the supervisor
61 | of elections.

62 | Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2003.

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