

By the Committee on Education; and Senator Sebesta

304-2026-03

1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to voter education; requiring
3 district school boards and county supervisors
4 of elections jointly to provide a program of
5 voter education for high-school seniors;
6 providing guidelines for the content of the
7 educational program; requiring that the program
8 of voter education be conducted during school
9 hours; providing for use of county voting
10 equipment in certain school elections;
11 providing an effective date.

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

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15 Section 1. (1) Each district school board and county
16 supervisor of elections shall cooperate to provide voter
17 education to high-school students who are in grade 12. The
18 voter education shall be in the form of a presentation and is
19 mandatory for public high schools and voluntary for nonpublic
20 high schools. Each supervisor of elections shall conduct and
21 provide voting equipment for the presentations for the public
22 high schools and, upon request, the nonpublic high schools.

23 (2) The voter education must include information
24 concerning:

- 25 (a) How to register to vote and preregister.
26 (b) The operation of new electronic voting machines.
27 (c) How, when, and where to vote.
28 (d) The importance of voting.
29 (e) How to vote by way of absentee ballot.
30 (f) How to work at a poll on election day.
31 (g) How to sign up to run for elected office.

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

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

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

13 Section 2. As an adjunct to the voter education
14 program and to familiarize high-school students who are in
15 grade 12 with the voting system used in their county, each
16 school district may make arrangements with the supervisor of
17 elections for use of the county's voting equipment in any
18 election held in a high school in the district in which only
19 students are candidates, if there is no conflict with another
20 scheduled election as determined by the supervisor of
21 elections.

22 Section 3. This act shall take effect July 1, 2003.

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STATEMENT OF SUBSTANTIAL CHANGES CONTAINED IN
COMMITTEE SUBSTITUTE FOR
Senate Bill 2114

The committee substitute:
includes additional information in the voter education
program;
clarifies that the program must be conducted as determined by
local school board policy;
requires the supervisors of elections to provide voting
equipment as a part of the voter education program;
allows the school district to make arrangements with the
supervisors of elections for the use of county voting
equipment in certain school elections; and
includes a technical change.