

1 A bill to be entitled
 2 An act relating to voter education; requiring district
 3 school boards and county supervisors of elections jointly
 4 to provide a program of voter education for high school
 5 seniors; providing program requirements, including form,
 6 participation, content, and time conducted; providing for
 7 the use of county voting equipment in high school
 8 elections under certain conditions; providing an effective
 9 date.

10

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

12

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

21 (2) The voter education must include information
 22 concerning:

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

24 (b) The operation of the type of voting equipment used in
 25 the county, including, where applicable, new electronic voting
 26 machines.

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

28 (d) The importance of voting.

29 (e) Voting by absentee ballot.

HB 0291

2004

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

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

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

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

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

43 Section 2. As an adjunct to the voter education program
 44 and to familiarize high school students who are in grade 12 with
 45 the voting system used in their county, each school district may
 46 make arrangements with the supervisor of elections for use of
 47 the county's voting equipment in any election held in a high
 48 school in the district in which only students are candidates, if
 49 there is no conflict with another scheduled election as
 50 determined by the supervisor of elections.

51 Section 3. This act shall take effect July 1, 2004.