

By Senator Rich

34-807-07

1 A bill to be entitled

2 An act relating to specifications for ballots;

3 amending s. 101.151, F.S.; removing the

4 provision requiring placement on a ballot of

5 the names of the candidates for President and

6 Vice President of the United States nominated

7 by the political party receiving the most votes

8 in the last gubernatorial election before all

9 other candidates for President and Vice

10 President; requiring the placement of the names

11 of candidates nominated by major political

12 parties under the heading for each office

13 before placement of the names of other

14 candidates for each office; requiring the

15 rotation among precincts of the positions of

16 the names of major party candidates on general

17 election ballots and primary ballots; requiring

18 the rotation of the positions of the names of

19 major party candidates on absentee and early

20 voting ballots; requiring the name of each

21 major party candidate to appear, to the closest

22 degree possible, an equal number of times in

23 each major party ballot position; providing an

24 effective date.

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

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28 Section 1. Paragraph (a) of subsection (2) and

29 paragraph (a) of subsection (3) of section 101.151, Florida

30 Statutes, are amended to read:

31 101.151 Specifications for ballots.--

1 (2)(a) The ballot shall have headings under which
2 shall appear the names of the offices and the names of the
3 candidates for the respective offices in the following order:
4 the heading "President and Vice President" and thereunder the
5 names of the candidates for President and Vice President of
6 the United States ~~nominated by the political party that~~
7 ~~received the highest vote for Governor in the last general~~
8 ~~election of the Governor in this state. Then shall appear the~~
9 ~~names of other candidates for President and Vice President of~~
10 ~~the United States~~ who have been properly nominated. Then shall
11 follow the heading "Congressional" and thereunder the offices
12 of United States Senator and Representative in Congress; then
13 the heading "State" and thereunder the offices of Governor and
14 Lieutenant Governor, Attorney General, Chief Financial
15 Officer, Commissioner of Agriculture, state attorney, and
16 public defender, together with the names of the candidates for
17 each office and the title of the office which they seek; then
18 the heading "Legislative" and thereunder the offices of state
19 senator and state representative; then the heading "County"
20 and thereunder clerk of the circuit court, clerk of the county
21 court (when authorized by law), sheriff, property appraiser,
22 tax collector, district superintendent of schools, and
23 supervisor of elections. Thereafter follows: members of the
24 board of county commissioners, and such other county and
25 district offices as are involved in the election, in the order
26 fixed by the Department of State, followed, in the year of
27 their election, by "Party Offices," and thereunder the offices
28 of state and county party executive committee members. In a
29 general election, in addition to the names printed on the
30 ballot, a blank space shall be provided under each heading for
31 an office for which a write-in candidate has qualified. With

1 | respect to write-in candidates, if two or more candidates are
2 | seeking election to one office, only one blank space shall be
3 | provided.

4 | (3)(a) On a general election ballot, the names of
5 | candidates nominated by a major political party shall be
6 | placed first under the heading for each office, together with
7 | an appropriate abbreviation of party name. Except for absentee
8 | ballots or when the number of candidates for a particular
9 | office is the same as the number of candidates to be elected
10 | for that office, the names of the candidates of a major party
11 | on the ballot shall be rotated from one precinct to another so
12 | that the name of each major party candidate appears, to the
13 | extent possible, an equal number of times in each major party
14 | ballot position. On absentee and early voting ballots, the
15 | names of major party candidates for an office shall be rotated
16 | so that the name of each major party candidate appears, to the
17 | extent possible, an equal number of times in each major party
18 | ballot position, unless the number of candidates for a
19 | particular office is the same as the number of candidates to
20 | be elected for that office. ~~the party that received the~~
21 | ~~highest number of votes for Governor in the last election in~~
22 | ~~which a Governor was elected shall be placed first under the~~
23 | ~~heading for each office on the general election ballot,~~
24 | ~~together with an appropriate abbreviation of party name; the~~
25 | ~~names of the candidates of the party that received the second~~
26 | ~~highest vote for Governor shall be second under the heading~~
27 | ~~for each office, together with an appropriate abbreviation of~~
28 | ~~the party name.~~

29 | Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2007.
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SENATE SUMMARY

Removes the provision requiring placement on a ballot of the names of the candidates for President and Vice President of the United States nominated by the political party receiving the most votes in the last gubernatorial election before all other candidates for President and Vice President. Requires the placement of the names of candidates nominated by major political parties under the heading for each office before placement of the names of other candidates for each office. Requires the rotation among precincts of the positions of the names of major party candidates on general election ballots and primary ballots. Requires rotation of the positions of the names of major party candidates on absentee and early voting ballots. Requires the name of each major party candidate to appear, to the closest degree possible, an equal number of times in each major party ballot position.