

1 A bill to be entitled
 2 An act relating to early voting sites; amending s.
 3 101.657, F.S.; permitting the supervisor of elections to
 4 designate additional early voting sites; providing an
 5 effective date.

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

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 9 Section 1. Subsection (1) of section 101.657, Florida
 10 Statutes, is amended to read:

11 101.657 Early voting.--

12 (1)(a) As a convenience to the voter, the supervisor of
 13 elections shall allow an elector to vote early in the main or
 14 branch office of the supervisor. The supervisor shall mark,
 15 code, indicate on, or otherwise track the voter's precinct for
 16 each early voted ballot. In order for a branch office to be used
 17 for early voting, it shall be a permanent facility of the
 18 supervisor and shall have been designated and used as such for
 19 at least 1 year prior to the election. The supervisor may also
 20 designate any city hall or other permanent public ~~library~~
 21 facility as early voting sites; however, if so designated, the
 22 sites must be geographically located so as to provide all voters
 23 in the county an equal opportunity to cast a ballot, insofar as
 24 is practicable. The results or tabulation of votes cast during
 25 early voting may not be made before the close of the polls on
 26 election day. Results shall be reported by precinct.

27 (b) The supervisor shall designate each early voting site
 28 by no later than the 30th day prior to an election and shall

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29 designate an early voting area, as defined in s. 97.021, at each
30 early voting site.

31 (c) All early voting sites in a county shall be open on
32 the same days for the same amount of time and shall allow any
33 person in line at the closing of an early voting site to vote.

34 (d) Early voting shall begin on the 15th day before an
35 election and end on the 2nd day before an election. For purposes
36 of a special election held pursuant to s. 100.101, early voting
37 shall begin on the 8th day before an election and end on the 2nd
38 day before an election. Early voting shall be provided for 8
39 hours per weekday and 8 hours in the aggregate each weekend at
40 each site during the applicable periods. Early voting sites
41 shall open no sooner than 7 a.m. and close no later than 7 p.m.
42 on each applicable day.

43 (e) Notwithstanding the requirements of s. 100.3605,
44 municipalities may provide early voting in municipal elections
45 that are not held in conjunction with county or state elections.
46 If a municipality provides early voting, it may designate as
47 many sites as necessary and shall conduct its activities in
48 accordance with the provisions of paragraphs (a)-(c). The
49 supervisor is not required to conduct early voting if it is
50 provided pursuant to this subsection.

51 (f) Notwithstanding the requirements of s. 189.405,
52 special districts may provide early voting in any district
53 election not held in conjunction with county or state elections.
54 If a special district provides early voting, it may designate as
55 many sites as necessary and shall conduct its activities in
56 accordance with the provisions of paragraphs (a)-(c). The

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57 supervisor is not required to conduct early voting if it is
58 provided pursuant to this subsection.

59 Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2009.