

By Senator Gaetz

4-00489-11

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1                   A bill to be entitled  
2           An act relating to voting methods and procedure;  
3           amending s. 101.6952, F.S.; permitting absent  
4           uniformed services voters or overseas voters to use  
5           the Official Federal Write-In Absentee Ballot to vote  
6           in any federal, state, or local election; providing an  
7           effective date.

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

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11           Section 1. Section 101.6952, Florida Statutes, is amended  
12           to read:

13           101.6952 Absentee ballots for absent uniformed services and  
14           overseas voters.—

15           (1) If an absent uniformed services voter's or an overseas  
16           voter's request for an absentee ballot includes an e-mail  
17           address, the supervisor of elections shall:

18           (a) Record the voter's e-mail address in the absentee  
19           ballot record;

20           (b) Confirm by e-mail that the absentee ballot request was  
21           received and include in that e-mail the estimated date the  
22           absentee ballot will be sent to the voter; and

23           (c) Notify the voter by e-mail when the voted absentee  
24           ballot is received by the supervisor of elections.

25           (2) For absentee ballots received from absent uniformed  
26           services voters or overseas voters, there is a presumption that  
27           the envelope was mailed on the date stated on the outside of the  
28           return envelope, regardless of the absence of a postmark on the  
29           mailed envelope or the existence of a postmark date that is

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30 later than the date of the election.

31 (3) An absent uniformed services voter or an overseas voter  
32 may vote in any federal, state, or local election by using the  
33 Official Federal Write-In Absentee Ballot (Standard Form 186A),  
34 provided through the Federal Voting Assistance Program, or any  
35 other similar ballot provided for such voters to use in federal  
36 elections.

37 Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2011.