

1 A bill to be entitled
 2 An act relating to early voting; amending s. 101.657,
 3 F.S.; expanding the list of available sites at which early
 4 voting may be held to include specified facilities or any
 5 other location designated by a supervisor of elections as
 6 meeting the requirements of state law; deleting a
 7 requirement that an early voting site be designated and
 8 used as such for at least 1 year before an election;
 9 providing requirements for determining the number of early
 10 voting sites each county must operate; expanding early
 11 voting hours to 12 hours per weekday and 12 hours in the
 12 aggregate each weekend at each site during the applicable
 13 periods; providing an effective date.

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

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 17 Section 1. Paragraphs (a) and (d) of subsection (1) of
 18 section 101.657, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

19 101.657 Early voting.—

20 (1) (a) As a convenience to the voter, the supervisor of
 21 elections shall allow an elector to vote early in the main or
 22 branch office of the supervisor and may allow such early voting
 23 in any city hall, public library facility, courthouse, place of
 24 worship, civic center, convention center, community center,
 25 county government center, conference center, community college
 26 facility, university or college, fairgrounds, or any other
 27 location designated by the supervisor as meeting the
 28 requirements of this section. The supervisor shall mark, code,

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29 indicate on, or otherwise track the voter's precinct for each
30 early voted ballot. ~~In order for a branch office to be used for~~
31 ~~early voting, it shall be a permanent facility of the supervisor~~
32 ~~and shall have been designated and used as such for at least 1~~
33 ~~year prior to the election. The supervisor may also designate~~
34 ~~any city hall or permanent public library facility as Early~~
35 ~~voting sites; however, if so designated, the sites must be~~
36 geographically located so as to provide all voters in the county
37 an equal opportunity to cast a ballot, insofar as is
38 practicable. Each county shall operate the same total number of
39 early voting sites that it used for the 2008 general election,
40 or one early voting site plus one additional early voting site
41 for every complete set of 65,000 registered voters in the county
42 as of July 1 of each general election year, whichever is
43 greater. The results or tabulation of votes cast during early
44 voting may not be made before the close of the polls on election
45 day. Results shall be reported by precinct.

46 (d) Early voting shall begin on the 15th day before an
47 election and end on the 2nd day before an election. For purposes
48 of a special election held pursuant to s. 100.101, early voting
49 shall begin on the 8th day before an election and end on the 2nd
50 day before an election. Early voting shall be provided for 12 &
51 hours per weekday and 12 & hours in the aggregate each weekend
52 at each site during the applicable periods. Early voting sites
53 shall open no sooner than 7 a.m. and close no later than 7 p.m.
54 on each applicable day.

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