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1                   A bill to be entitled  
2           An act relating to paper reduction; amending s.  
3           97.052, F.S.; requiring that the uniform statewide  
4           voter registration application be designed to elicit  
5           the e-mail address of an applicant and whether the  
6           applicant desires to receive sample ballots by e-mail;  
7           amending s. 101.20, F.S.; authorizing a supervisor of  
8           elections to send a sample ballot to a registered  
9           elector by e-mail under certain circumstances;  
10          amending s. 200.069, F.S.; authorizing the property  
11          appraiser to prepare and make available on the  
12          office's website the notice of proposed property taxes  
13          if approved by ordinance of the county governing  
14          board; providing additional notice requirements;  
15          amending s. 553.79, F.S.; providing authorization for  
16          a building's site plans to be maintained in electronic  
17          form at the work site; requiring that the plans be  
18          open to inspection by the building official or a duly  
19          authorized representative; amending s. 627.421, F.S.;  
20          authorizing an insurer to post certain insurance  
21          policies on its website in lieu of mailing or  
22          delivering a policy to the insureds; providing  
23          additional requirements for accessibility and  
24          retrievability by the insured; amending ss. 192.0105,  
25          197.3635, and 200.065, F.S.; revising cross-  
26          references; providing an effective date.

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

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Section 1. Paragraphs (e) through (t) of subsection (2) of section 97.052, Florida Statutes, are redesignated as paragraphs (f) through (u), respectively, and a new paragraph (e) is added to that section, to read:

97.052 Uniform statewide voter registration application.—

(2) The uniform statewide voter registration application must be designed to elicit the following information from the applicant:

(e) E-mail address and whether the applicant wishes to receive sample ballots by e-mail.

The registration application must be in plain language and designed so that convicted felons whose civil rights have been restored and persons who have been adjudicated mentally incapacitated and have had their voting rights restored are not required to reveal their prior conviction or adjudication.

Section 2. Subsection (2) of section 101.20, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

101.20 Publication of ballot form; sample ballots.—

(2) Upon completion of the list of qualified candidates, a sample ballot may ~~shall~~ be published by the supervisor of elections in a newspaper of general circulation in the county, before ~~prior to~~ the day of election. A supervisor may send a sample ballot to each registered elector by e-mail at least 7 days before any election if an e-mail address has been provided and the elector has not opted out of receipt of a sample ballot by electronic delivery. If an e-mail address has not been

57 | provided, or if the elector has opted out of electronic  
 58 | delivery, ~~If the county has an addressograph or equivalent~~  
 59 | ~~system for mailing to registered electors,~~ a sample ballot may  
 60 | be mailed to each registered elector or to each household in  
 61 | which there is a registered elector, in lieu of publication, at  
 62 | least 7 days before ~~prior to~~ any election.

63 | Section 3. Section 200.069, Florida Statutes, is amended  
 64 | to read:

65 | 200.069 Notice of proposed property taxes and non-ad  
 66 | valorem assessments.—

67 | (1) (a) Pursuant to s. 200.065(2) (b), the property  
 68 | appraiser, in the name of the taxing authorities and local  
 69 | governing boards levying non-ad valorem assessments within his  
 70 | or her jurisdiction and at the expense of the county, shall  
 71 | prepare and deliver by first-class mail to each taxpayer to be  
 72 | listed on the current year's assessment roll a notice of  
 73 | proposed property taxes, which notice shall contain the elements  
 74 | and use the format provided in the following form.

75 | Notwithstanding the provisions of s. 195.022, no county officer  
 76 | shall use a form other than that provided herein. The Department  
 77 | of Revenue may adjust the spacing and placement on the form of  
 78 | the elements listed in this section as it considers necessary  
 79 | based on changes in conditions necessitated by various taxing  
 80 | authorities. If the elements are in the order listed, the  
 81 | placement of the listed columns may be varied at the discretion  
 82 | and expense of the property appraiser, and the property  
 83 | appraiser may use printing technology and devices to complete  
 84 | the form, the spacing, and the placement of the information in

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85 the columns. A county officer may use a form other than that  
86 provided by the department for purposes of this part, but only  
87 if his or her office pays the related expenses and he or she  
88 obtains prior written permission from the executive director of  
89 the department; however, a county officer may not use a form the  
90 substantive content of which is at variance with the form  
91 prescribed by the department. The county officer may continue to  
92 use such an approved form until the law that specifies the form  
93 is amended or repealed or until the officer receives written  
94 disapproval from the executive director.

95 (b) In lieu of delivery of the notice of proposed property  
96 taxes by first-class mail, the property appraiser may prepare  
97 and make available for viewing and printing on his or her  
98 office's website the notice of proposed property taxes for each  
99 taxpayer to be listed on the current year's assessment roll, if,  
100 following a recommendation by the property appraiser, the county  
101 governing board of his or her jurisdiction approves the measure  
102 by ordinance. If approved by ordinance of the county governing  
103 board, the property appraiser shall provide legal notice in a  
104 periodical that meets the requirements of s. 50.011 that the  
105 notice of proposed property taxes and non-ad valorem assessments  
106 is available on the property appraiser's website. Such a legal  
107 notice must contain the property appraiser's website address.  
108 The property appraiser may also provide notification by e-mail  
109 to property owners or other interested parties who have  
110 registered a request with the property appraiser for e-mail  
111 notification when the notice of proposed property taxes and non-  
112 ad valorem assessments is available on the website.

113 |        (2)~~(1)~~ The first page of the notice shall read:

114 |

115 |                               NOTICE OF PROPOSED PROPERTY TAXES

116 |                               DO NOT PAY—THIS IS NOT A BILL

117 |        The taxing authorities which levy property taxes against  
118 | your property will soon hold PUBLIC HEARINGS to adopt budgets  
119 | and tax rates for the next year.

120 |        The purpose of these PUBLIC HEARINGS is to receive opinions  
121 | from the general public and to answer questions on the proposed  
122 | tax change and budget PRIOR TO TAKING FINAL ACTION.

123 |        Each taxing authority may AMEND OR ALTER its proposals at  
124 | the hearing.

125 |

126 |        (3)~~(2)~~(a) The notice shall include a brief legal  
127 | description of the property, the name and mailing address of the  
128 | owner of record, and the tax information applicable to the  
129 | specific parcel in question. The information shall be in  
130 | columnar form. There shall be seven column headings which shall  
131 | read: "Taxing Authority," "Your Property Taxes Last Year," "Last  
132 | Year's Adjusted Tax Rate (Millage)," "Your Taxes This Year IF NO  
133 | Budget Change Is Adopted," "Tax Rate This Year IF PROPOSED  
134 | Budget Is Adopted (Millage)," "Your Taxes This Year IF PROPOSED  
135 | Budget Change Is Adopted," and "A Public Hearing on the Proposed  
136 | Taxes and Budget Will Be Held:."

137 |        (b) As used in this section, the term "last year's  
138 | adjusted tax rate" means the rolled-back rate calculated  
139 | pursuant to s. 200.065(1).

140 |        (4)~~(3)~~ There shall be under each column heading an entry

141 for the county; the school district levy required pursuant to s.  
 142 1011.60(6); other operating school levies; the municipality or  
 143 municipal service taxing unit or units in which the parcel lies,  
 144 if any; the water management district levying pursuant to s.  
 145 373.503; the independent special districts in which the parcel  
 146 lies, if any; and for all voted levies for debt service  
 147 applicable to the parcel, if any.

148 (5)~~(4)~~ For each entry listed in subsection (4)~~(3)~~, there  
 149 shall appear on the notice the following:

150 (a) In the first column, a brief, commonly used name for  
 151 the taxing authority or its governing body. The entry in the  
 152 first column for the levy required pursuant to s. 1011.60(6)  
 153 shall be "By State Law." The entry for other operating school  
 154 district levies shall be "By Local Board." Both school levy  
 155 entries shall be indented and preceded by the notation "Public  
 156 Schools:". For each voted levy for debt service, the entry shall  
 157 be "Voter Approved Debt Payments."

158 (b) In the second column, the gross amount of ad valorem  
 159 taxes levied against the parcel in the previous year. If the  
 160 parcel did not exist in the previous year, the second column  
 161 shall be blank.

162 (c) In the third column, last year's adjusted tax rate or,  
 163 in the case of voted levies for debt service, the tax rate  
 164 previously authorized by referendum.

165 (d) In the fourth column, the gross amount of ad valorem  
 166 taxes which will apply to the parcel in the current year if each  
 167 taxing authority levies last year's adjusted tax rate or, in the  
 168 case of voted levies for debt service, the amount previously

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169 authorized by referendum.

170 (e) In the fifth column, the tax rate that each taxing  
171 authority must levy against the parcel to fund the proposed  
172 budget or, in the case of voted levies for debt service, the tax  
173 rate previously authorized by referendum.

174 (f) In the sixth column, the gross amount of ad valorem  
175 taxes that must be levied in the current year if the proposed  
176 budget is adopted.

177 (g) In the seventh column, the date, the time, and a brief  
178 description of the location of the public hearing required  
179 pursuant to s. 200.065(2)(c).

180 (6)~~(5)~~ Following the entries for each taxing authority, a  
181 final entry shall show: in the first column, the words "Total  
182 Property Taxes:" and in the second, fourth, and sixth columns,  
183 the sum of the entries for each of the individual taxing  
184 authorities. The second, fourth, and sixth columns shall,  
185 immediately below said entries, be labeled Column 1, Column 2,  
186 and Column 3, respectively. Below these labels shall appear, in  
187 boldfaced type, the statement: SEE REVERSE SIDE FOR EXPLANATION.

188 (7)~~(6)~~(a) The second page of the notice shall state the  
189 parcel's market value and for each taxing authority that levies  
190 an ad valorem tax against the parcel:

191 1. The assessed value, value of exemptions, and taxable  
192 value for the previous year and the current year.

193 2. Each assessment reduction and exemption applicable to  
194 the property, including the value of the assessment reduction or  
195 exemption and tax levies to which they apply.

196 (b) The reverse side of the second page shall contain

197 definitions and explanations for the values included on the  
 198 front side.

199 (8)~~(7)~~ The following statement shall appear after the  
 200 values listed on the front of the second page:

201 If you feel that the market value of your property is  
 202 inaccurate or does not reflect fair market value, or if you are  
 203 entitled to an exemption or classification that is not reflected  
 204 above, contact your county property appraiser at ...(phone  
 205 number)... or ...(location)....

206 If the property appraiser's office is unable to resolve the  
 207 matter as to market value, classification, or an exemption, you  
 208 may file a petition for adjustment with the Value Adjustment  
 209 Board. Petition forms are available from the county property  
 210 appraiser and must be filed ON OR BEFORE ...(date)....

211 (9)~~(8)~~ The reverse side of the first page of the form  
 212 shall read:

214 EXPLANATION

215 \*COLUMN 1—"YOUR PROPERTY TAXES LAST YEAR"

216 This column shows the taxes that applied last year to your  
 217 property. These amounts were based on budgets adopted last year  
 218 and your property's previous taxable value.

219 \*COLUMN 2—"YOUR TAXES IF NO BUDGET CHANGE IS ADOPTED"

220 This column shows what your taxes will be this year IF EACH  
 221 TAXING AUTHORITY DOES NOT CHANGE ITS PROPERTY TAX LEVY. These  
 222 amounts are based on last year's budgets and your current  
 223 assessment.

224 \*COLUMN 3—"YOUR TAXES IF PROPOSED BUDGET CHANGE IS ADOPTED"



225 | This column shows what your taxes will be this year under the  
 226 | BUDGET ACTUALLY PROPOSED by each local taxing authority. The  
 227 | proposal is NOT final and may be amended at the public hearings  
 228 | shown on the front side of this notice. The difference between  
 229 | columns 2 and 3 is the tax change proposed by each local taxing  
 230 | authority and is NOT the result of higher assessments.

231 | \*Note: Amounts shown on this form do NOT reflect early payment  
 232 | discounts you may have received or may be eligible to receive.  
 233 | (Discounts are a maximum of 4 percent of the amounts shown on  
 234 | this form.)

235 |  
 236 | (10)~~(9)~~ The bottom portion of the notice shall further  
 237 | read in bold, conspicuous print:

238 | "Your final tax bill may contain non-ad valorem assessments  
 239 | which may not be reflected on this notice such as assessments  
 240 | for roads, fire, garbage, lighting, drainage, water, sewer, or  
 241 | other governmental services and facilities which may be levied  
 242 | by your county, city, or any special district."

243 | (11)~~(10)~~(a) If requested by the local governing board  
 244 | levying non-ad valorem assessments and agreed to by the property  
 245 | appraiser, the notice specified in this section may contain a  
 246 | notice of proposed or adopted non-ad valorem assessments. If so  
 247 | agreed, the notice shall be titled:

248 |  
 249 | NOTICE OF PROPOSED PROPERTY TAXES  
 250 | AND PROPOSED OR ADOPTED  
 251 | NON-AD VALOREM ASSESSMENTS  
 252 | DO NOT PAY—THIS IS NOT A BILL

253  
254 There must be a clear partition between the notice of proposed  
255 property taxes and the notice of proposed or adopted non-ad  
256 valorem assessments. The partition must be a bold, horizontal  
257 line approximately 1/8-inch thick. By rule, the department  
258 shall provide a format for the form of the notice of proposed or  
259 adopted non-ad valorem assessments which meets the following  
260 minimum requirements:

261 1. There must be subheading for columns listing the  
262 levying local governing board, with corresponding assessment  
263 rates expressed in dollars and cents per unit of assessment, and  
264 the associated assessment amount.

265 2. The purpose of each assessment must also be listed in  
266 the column listing the levying local governing board if the  
267 purpose is not clearly indicated by the name of the board.

268 3. Each non-ad valorem assessment for each levying local  
269 governing board must be listed separately.

270 4. If a county has too many municipal service benefit  
271 units or assessments to be listed separately, it shall combine  
272 them by function.

273 5. A brief statement outlining the responsibility of the  
274 tax collector and each levying local governing board as to any  
275 non-ad valorem assessment must be provided on the form,  
276 accompanied by directions as to which office to contact for  
277 particular questions or problems.

278 (b) If the notice includes all adopted non-ad valorem  
279 assessments, the provisions contained in subsection (10)~~(9)~~  
280 shall not be placed on the notice.

281 Section 4. Subsection (18) is added to section 553.79,  
 282 Florida Statutes, to read:

283 553.79 Permits; applications; issuance; inspections.—

284 (18) For the purposes of inspection and record retention,  
 285 site plans for the building may also be maintained in the form  
 286 of an electronic copy at the site of work. These plans shall be  
 287 open to inspection by the building official or by a duly  
 288 authorized representative, as required by the Florida Building  
 289 Code.

290 Section 5. Section 627.421, Florida Statutes, is amended  
 291 to read:

292 627.421 Delivery of policy.—

293 (1) Subject to the insurer's requirement as to payment of  
 294 premium, every policy shall be mailed or delivered to the  
 295 insured or to the person entitled thereto not later than 60 days  
 296 after the effectuation of coverage.

297 (2) In the event the original policy is delivered or is so  
 298 required to be delivered to or for deposit with any vendor,  
 299 mortgagee, or pledgee of any motor vehicle, and in which policy  
 300 any interest of the vendee, mortgagor, or pledgor in or with  
 301 reference to such vehicle is insured, a duplicate of such policy  
 302 setting forth the name and address of the insurer, insurance  
 303 classification of vehicle, type of coverage, limits of  
 304 liability, premiums for the respective coverages, and duration  
 305 of the policy, or memorandum thereof containing the same such  
 306 information, shall be delivered by the vendor, mortgagee, or  
 307 pledgee to each such vendee, mortgagor, or pledgor named in the  
 308 policy or coming within the group of persons designated in the

309 policy to be so included. If the policy does not provide  
310 coverage of legal liability for injury to persons or damage to  
311 the property of third parties, a statement of such fact shall be  
312 printed, written, or stamped conspicuously on the face of such  
313 duplicate policy or memorandum. This subsection does not apply  
314 to inland marine floater policies.

315 (3) Any automobile liability or physical damage policy  
316 shall contain on the front page a summary of major coverages,  
317 conditions, exclusions, and limitations contained in that  
318 policy. Any such summary shall state that the issued policy  
319 should be referred to for the actual contractual governing  
320 provisions. The company may, in lieu of the summary, provide a  
321 readable policy.

322 (4) Notwithstanding subsections (1) and (2), personal  
323 lines property and casualty insurance policies may be mailed,  
324 delivered, or, if the policies do not contain personally  
325 identifiable information, may be posted on the insurer's  
326 website. If the insurer elects to post insurance policies on its  
327 website in lieu of mailing or delivery to insureds, the insurer  
328 must comply with the following:

329 (a) Each policy must be easily accessible for as long as  
330 the policy remains in force.

331 (b) The insurer must archive all of its expired policies  
332 and make any expired policy available upon an insured's request  
333 for at least 5 years after the expiration of the policy.

334 (c) Each policy must be posted in a manner that enables  
335 the insured to print and save the policy using a program or  
336 application that is without charge and widely available on the

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337 Internet.

338 (d) When the insurer issues an initial policy form or any  
339 renewal form, the insurer must notify the insured, in the manner  
340 the insurer customarily uses to communicate with insureds, that  
341 the insured has the right to request and obtain without charge a  
342 paper or electronic copy of the insured's policy.

343 Section 6. Paragraphs (a) and (c) of subsection (1) of  
344 section 192.0105, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

345 192.0105 Taxpayer rights.—There is created a Florida  
346 Taxpayer's Bill of Rights for property taxes and assessments to  
347 guarantee that the rights, privacy, and property of the  
348 taxpayers of this state are adequately safeguarded and protected  
349 during tax levy, assessment, collection, and enforcement  
350 processes administered under the revenue laws of this state. The  
351 Taxpayer's Bill of Rights compiles, in one document, brief but  
352 comprehensive statements that summarize the rights and  
353 obligations of the property appraisers, tax collectors, clerks  
354 of the court, local governing boards, the Department of Revenue,  
355 and taxpayers. Additional rights afforded to payors of taxes and  
356 assessments imposed under the revenue laws of this state are  
357 provided in s. 213.015. The rights afforded taxpayers to assure  
358 that their privacy and property are safeguarded and protected  
359 during tax levy, assessment, and collection are available only  
360 insofar as they are implemented in other parts of the Florida  
361 Statutes or rules of the Department of Revenue. The rights so  
362 guaranteed to state taxpayers in the Florida Statutes and the  
363 departmental rules include:

364 (1) THE RIGHT TO KNOW.—

365 (a) The right to be sent a notice of proposed property  
 366 taxes and proposed or adopted non-ad valorem assessments (see  
 367 ss. 194.011(1), 200.065(2)(b) and (d) and (13)(a), and 200.069).  
 368 The notice must also inform the taxpayer that the final tax bill  
 369 may contain additional non-ad valorem assessments (see s.  
 370 200.069(10) ~~200.069(9)~~).

371 (c) The right to advertised notice of the amount by which  
 372 the tentatively adopted millage rate results in taxes that  
 373 exceed the previous year's taxes (see s. 200.065(2)(d) and (3)).  
 374 The right to notification of a comparison of the amount of the  
 375 taxes to be levied from the proposed millage rate under the  
 376 tentative budget change, compared to the previous year's taxes,  
 377 and also compared to the taxes that would be levied if no budget  
 378 change is made (see ss. 200.065(2)(b) and 200.069(3) ~~200.069(2)~~,  
 379 ~~(3)~~, (4), (5), and (9) ~~(8)~~).

380  
 381 Notwithstanding the right to information contained in this  
 382 subsection, under s. 197.122 property owners are held to know  
 383 that property taxes are due and payable annually and are charged  
 384 with a duty to ascertain the amount of current and delinquent  
 385 taxes and obtain the necessary information from the applicable  
 386 governmental officials.

387 Section 7. Paragraph (c) of subsection (7) of section  
 388 197.3635, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

389 197.3635 Combined notice of ad valorem taxes and non-ad  
 390 valorem assessments; requirements.—A form for the combined  
 391 notice of ad valorem taxes and non-ad valorem assessments shall  
 392 be produced and paid for by the tax collector. The form shall

393 meet the requirements of this section and department rules and  
 394 is subject to approval by the department. By rule, the  
 395 department shall provide a format for the form of such combined  
 396 notice. The form shall:

397 (7) Contain within the ad valorem part:

398 (c) A listing of taxing authorities in the same sequence  
 399 and manner as listed on the notice required by s. 200.069(5)(a)  
 400 ~~200.069(4)(a)~~, with the exception that independent special  
 401 districts, municipal service taxing districts, and voted debt  
 402 service millages for each taxing authority shall be listed  
 403 separately. If a county has too many municipal service taxing  
 404 units to list separately, it shall combine them to disclose the  
 405 total number of such units and the amount of taxes levied.

406 Section 8. Subsection (11) of section 200.065, Florida  
 407 Statutes, is amended to read:

408 200.065 Method of fixing millage.—

409 (11) Notwithstanding the provisions of paragraph (2)(b)  
 410 and s. 200.069(5)(f) ~~200.069(4)(f)~~ to the contrary, the proposed  
 411 millage rates provided to the property appraiser by the taxing  
 412 authority, except for millage rates adopted by referendum, for  
 413 rates authorized by s. 1011.71, and for rates required by law to  
 414 be in a specified millage amount, shall be adjusted in the event  
 415 that a review notice is issued pursuant to s. 193.1142(4) and  
 416 the taxable value on the approved roll is at variance with the  
 417 taxable value certified pursuant to subsection (1). The  
 418 adjustment shall be made by the property appraiser, who shall  
 419 notify the taxing authorities affected by the adjustment within  
 420 5 days of the date the roll is approved pursuant to s.

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421 | 193.1142(4). The adjustment shall be such as to provide for no  
422 | change in the dollar amount of taxes levied from that initially  
423 | proposed by the taxing authority.

424 |       Section 9. This act shall take effect July 1, 2013.