

By Senator Margolis

35-00146A-13

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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
4 early voting may be held to include specified
5 facilities or any other location designated by a
6 supervisor of elections as meeting the requirements of
7 state law; deleting a requirement that an early voting
8 site be designated and used as such for at least 1
9 year before an election; requiring that each county
10 operate a certain total number of voting sites;
11 revising the beginning and ending dates of early
12 voting; requiring a specified number of preprinted
13 ballots to be provided to each early voting site;
14 revising the hours of early voting to 12 hours per
15 weekday and 12 hours in the aggregate each weekend at
16 each site during the applicable periods; deleting
17 provisions that authorize the supervisor of elections
18 to provide early voting for certain elections and to
19 determine the hours of operation of early voting sites
20 in those elections; providing an effective date.

21
22 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

23
24 Section 1. Paragraphs (a) and (d) of subsection (1) of
25 section 101.657, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

26 101.657 Early voting.—

27 (1) (a) As a convenience to the voter, the supervisor of
28 elections shall allow an elector to vote early in the main or
29 branch office of the supervisor and may allow such early voting

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30 in any city hall, public library facility, courthouse, place of
31 worship, civic center, convention center, community center,
32 county government center, conference center, community college
33 facility, university or college, or any other location
34 designated by the supervisor as meeting the requirements of this
35 section. The supervisor shall mark, code, indicate on, or
36 otherwise track the voter's precinct for each early voted
37 ballot. ~~In order for a branch office to be used for early~~
38 ~~voting, it shall be a permanent facility of the supervisor and~~
39 ~~shall have been designated and used as such for at least 1 year~~
40 ~~prior to the election. The supervisor may also designate any~~
41 ~~city hall or permanent public library facility as Early voting~~
42 ~~sites; however, if so designated, the sites must be~~
43 geographically located so as to provide all voters in the county
44 an equal opportunity to cast a ballot, insofar as is
45 practicable. Each county shall operate the same total number of
46 early voting sites that the county used for the 2012 general
47 election, or one early voting site plus one additional early
48 voting site for every complete set of 50,000 registered voters
49 in the county as of July 1 of each general election year,
50 whichever is greater. The results or tabulation of votes cast
51 during early voting may not be made before the close of the
52 polls on election day. Results shall be reported by precinct.

53 (d) Early voting for a general election shall begin on the
54 15th ~~10th~~ day before the ~~an~~ election ~~that contains state or~~
55 ~~federal races~~ and end on the 2nd ~~3rd~~ day before the election. In
56 addition to providing for printing ballots on site during early
57 voting, each early voting site shall be provided with the same
58 number of preprinted ballots as the number of ballots cast at

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59 such site in the last general election. Early voting for any
60 other election shall begin on the 10th day before the election
61 and end on the 3rd day before the election. Early voting, and
62 shall be provided for 12 no less than 6 hours per weekday and 12
63 hours in the aggregate each weekend no more than 12 hours per
64 day at each site during the applicable periods. Early voting
65 sites shall open no sooner than 7 a.m. and close no later than 7
66 p.m. on each applicable day period. The supervisor of elections
67 ~~may provide early voting for elections that are not held in~~
68 ~~conjunction with a state or federal election. However, the~~
69 ~~supervisor has the discretion to determine the hours of~~
70 ~~operation of early voting sites in those elections.~~

71 Section 2. This act shall take effect July 1, 2013.