

HB 991

2026

A bill to be entitled  
An act relating to elections; amending s. 97.021, F.S.; revising definitions; amending s. 97.022, F.S.; revising the information the Department of State is required to include in a specified report; amending s. 97.051, F.S.; requiring persons to swear or affirm they have reviewed the voter registration instructions, are a United States citizen, and understand the penalties for providing false information; amending s. 97.052, F.S.; requiring the voter registration application to elicit documentation required by the United States Election Assistance Commission or federal law; amending s. 97.0525, F.S.; requiring that an applicant's citizenship status be verified by the records of the Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles; providing that an applicant will be registered as an unverified voter, but may not vote, if his or her legal status as a United States citizen cannot be verified through the Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles; requiring the online voter registration system to transmit certain information to the supervisor of elections and generate certain notices; requiring the supervisor of elections to verify the legal status of certain applicants and provide certain notice; providing that,

26 under specified circumstances, the online voter  
27 registration system may populate the applicant's  
28 information into a printable voter registration  
29 application; amending s. 97.053, F.S.; requiring an  
30 applicant's legal status to be verified for a voter  
31 registration application to be valid; providing that  
32 an applicant will be deemed an unverified voter if his  
33 or her application fails to meet specified  
34 requirements; requiring an applicant to provide  
35 certain evidence to the supervisor of elections to  
36 prove the applicant's legal status under specified  
37 circumstances; providing for retroactivity; providing  
38 certain applicants a provisional ballot and such  
39 ballot may only be counted if the applicant can verify  
40 his or her legal status within a specified timeframe;  
41 amending s. 97.057, F.S.; requiring the Department of  
42 Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles to provide the  
43 Department of State documentary proof of an  
44 applicant's citizenship; amending s. 98.045, F.S.;  
45 requiring supervisors to make certain determinations  
46 relating to applicants who were previously registered  
47 to vote, but later removed for ineligibility, and to  
48 follow specified procedures to notify the applicant,  
49 if applicable; amending s. 98.075, F.S.; requiring the  
50 Department of State to verify the United States

51 citizenship status of any registered voter after a  
52 specified date; requiring specified notices regarding  
53 an applicant's potential ineligibility to vote;  
54 requiring certain applicants to submit specified  
55 information to the supervisor of elections; requiring  
56 certain documentation be recorded in the statewide  
57 voter registration system; amending s. 98.093, F.S.;  
58 requiring the Department of Highway Safety and Motor  
59 Vehicles to provide the Department of State with  
60 information identifying United States citizens who  
61 have been issued a new, renewed, or replacement  
62 Florida driver license or Florida identification card;  
63 requiring the Department of Highway Safety and Motor  
64 Vehicles to provide the Department of State with  
65 changes in residence address and Florida driver  
66 license or identification card numbers of individuals  
67 who have declined to register or update their voter  
68 registration; creating s. 98.094, F.S.; requiring the  
69 Division of Elections to provide a list of registered  
70 voters to federal courts for a specified purpose;  
71 requiring the jury coordinator to prepare a specified  
72 list with certain information and send such list to  
73 the division; specifying the manner in which such list  
74 may be sent; requiring the division to provide such  
75 information to the appropriate supervisor of

HB 991

2026

76 elections; amending ss. 101.151, 101.5606, 101.5608,  
77 and 101.5612, F.S.; conforming provisions to changes  
78 made in the act; amending s. 101.56075, F.S.;  
79 requiring voting be completed on an official ballot  
80 using a pen or marker; amending s. 101.591, F.S.;  
81 removing provisions relating to the performance of a  
82 manual audit; requiring the county canvassing board or  
83 other local board responsible for certifying an  
84 election to conduct an automated, independent vote  
85 validation of voting systems used in all precincts;  
86 providing the process for conducting such automated,  
87 independent vote validation; requiring the canvassing  
88 board to publish a specified notice on the county's  
89 website, the supervisor's website, or in certain  
90 newspapers; requiring that the vote validation be  
91 completed and made public before the certification of  
92 the election; providing reporting requirements for  
93 county canvassing boards; requiring the results of the  
94 vote validation be included in a specified report  
95 submitted to the Governor and Legislature by a  
96 specified date each year; amending s. 101.5911, F.S.;  
97 requiring the Department of State to adopt certain  
98 rules; amending s. 101.595, F.S.; revising certain  
99 reporting requirements for the Department of State;  
100 amending s. 102.111, F.S.; revising the meeting time

101 for the Elections Canvassing Commission; amending s.  
102 102.141, F.S.; revising provisions relating to  
103 reporting election results; requiring counties to  
104 conduct an automated independent vote validation  
105 process for a specified purpose within a specified  
106 timeframe after unofficial results are reported;  
107 requiring the county canvassing board to take  
108 specified actions upon making a determination that the  
109 automated independent vote validation process failed  
110 to count votes; requiring the county canvassing board  
111 to conduct a system validation review under specified  
112 circumstances; removing provisions relating to  
113 recounts by the county canvassing board; requiring the  
114 county canvassing board to publish certain notice  
115 containing manual review information through specified  
116 means; requiring the county canvassing board to submit  
117 to the Department of State specified forms containing  
118 a vote validation report; removing the requirement for  
119 the supervisor to file with the Department of State  
120 certain results and statistical information; amending  
121 s. 102.166, F.S.; requiring manual reviews of  
122 overvotes and undervotes unless certain conditions  
123 exist; providing that the Secretary of State is  
124 responsible for ordering such review in specified  
125 races and the county canvassing board, or local board

126 responsible for certifying the election, is  
127 responsible for ordering such reviews in all other  
128 races; authorizing political parties to designate a  
129 certain expert to be allowed in the central counting  
130 room while reviews are being performed; prohibiting  
131 such person from interfering with the normal operation  
132 of the canvassing board; creating s. 104.042, F.S.;  
133 providing a statute of limitations period for election  
134 fraud; amending s. 106.08, F.S.; revising the  
135 contributions or expenditures that a foreign national  
136 is prohibited from making or offering to make;  
137 prohibiting political parties, political committees,  
138 committees associated with ballot issues or questions,  
139 electioneering communications organizations, and  
140 candidates from knowingly accepting contributions from  
141 foreign nationals; providing penalties; creating s.  
142 322.034, F.S.; requiring that Florida driver licenses  
143 and identification cards include certain information  
144 by a specified date; requiring the Department of  
145 Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles to issue certain  
146 replacement or renewal cards at no charge; amending  
147 ss. 98.065, 98.0755, 101.048, 101.67, and 104.16,  
148 F.S.; conforming cross-references; providing an  
149 effective date.  
150

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

152

153 **Section 1. Subsections (6), (43), and (47) of section**  
154 **97.021, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:**

155 97.021 Definitions.—For the purposes of this code, except  
156 where the context clearly indicates otherwise, the term:

157 (6) "Ballot" means a printed sheet of paper containing  
158 contests, including offices and candidates, constitutional  
159 amendments, and other public measures upon which a voter's  
160 selections will be marked by using the pen or marker recommended  
161 by the voting system vendor. The term includes a voter-  
162 verifiable paper output upon which a voter's selections are  
163 marked by a voter interface device that meets voter  
164 accessibility requirements for individuals with disabilities  
165 under s. 301 of the Help America Vote Act of 2002 and s.

166 101.56062 or "official ballot" when used in reference to:

167 (a) "Electronic or electromechanical devices" means a  
168 ballot that is voted by the process of electronically  
169 designating, including by touchscreen, or marking with a marking  
170 device for tabulation by automatic tabulating equipment or data  
171 processing equipment.

172 (b) "Marksense ballots" means that printed sheet of paper,  
173 used in conjunction with an electronic or electromechanical vote  
174 tabulation voting system, containing the names of candidates, or  
175 a statement of proposed constitutional amendments or other

HB 991

2026

176 ~~questions or propositions submitted to the electorate at any~~  
177 ~~election, on which sheet of paper an elector casts his or her~~  
178 ~~vote.~~

179 (43) "Voter interface device" means any device that  
180 communicates voting instructions and ballot information to a  
181 voter and allows the voter to select and vote for candidates and  
182 issues. A voter interface device may not be used to tabulate  
183 votes. Any vote tabulation must be based upon a subsequent scan  
184 of the marked ~~marksense~~ ballot ~~or the voter-verifiable paper~~  
185 ~~output~~ after the voter interface device process has been  
186 completed.

187 (47) "Voting system" means a method of casting and  
188 processing votes that ~~functions wholly or partly by use of~~  
189 ~~electromechanical or electronic apparatus or by use of marksense~~  
190 ~~ballots and includes, but is not limited to, equipment,~~  
191 ~~hardware, firmware, and software; ballots; the procedures for~~  
192 ~~casting and processing votes; and the programs, operating~~  
193 ~~manuals, and supplies; and reports, printouts, and other~~  
194 ~~documentation software necessary for the system's operation.~~

195 **Section 2. Subsection (7) of section 97.022, Florida  
196 Statutes, is amended to read:**

197 97.022 Office of Election Crimes and Security; creation;  
198 purpose and duties.—

199 (7) By January 15 of each year, the department shall  
200 submit a report to the Governor, the President of the Senate,

201 and the Speaker of the House of Representatives detailing  
202 information on investigations of alleged election law violations  
203 or election irregularities conducted during the prior calendar  
204 year. The report must include the total number of complaints  
205 received and independent investigations initiated and the number  
206 of complaints referred to another agency for further  
207 investigation or prosecution, including the total number of  
208 those matters sent to a special officer pursuant to s. 102.091.

209 The report must include any alleged violations of s.  
210 106.08(12) (b), irregularities involving foreign national  
211 influence, and the department's recommendations to the  
212 Legislature to mitigate foreign national influence in elections.

213 For each alleged violation or irregularity investigated, the  
214 report must include:

- 215 (a) The source of the alleged violation or irregularity;
- 216 (b) The law allegedly violated or the nature of the  
217 irregularity reported;
- 218 (c) The county in which the alleged violation or  
219 irregularity occurred;
- 220 (d) Whether the alleged violation or irregularity was  
221 referred to another agency for further investigation or  
222 prosecution and, if so, to which agency; and
- 223 (e) The current status of the investigation or resulting  
224 criminal case.

225 **Section 3. Section 97.051, Florida Statutes, is amended to**

HB 991

2026

226 **read:**

227       97.051 Oath upon registering.—A person registering to vote  
228 must subscribe to the following oath: "I do solemnly swear (or  
229 affirm) that I am a United States citizen and will protect and  
230 defend the Constitution of the United States and the  
231 Constitution of the State of Florida, that I am qualified to  
232 register as an elector under the Constitution and laws of the  
233 State of Florida, and that all information provided in this  
234 application is true. I have carefully reviewed the instructions  
235 for completing the Florida Voter Registration Application. I  
236 understand that if I have provided false information on this  
237 application, I could be subject to criminal penalties for  
238 perjury, fines, or imprisonment, and deportation from the United  
239 States if I am not a United States citizen."

240       **Section 4. Paragraph (v) is added to subsection (2) of**  
241 **section 97.052, Florida Statutes, to read:**

242       97.052 Uniform statewide voter registration application.—  
243       (2) The uniform statewide voter registration application  
244 must be designed to elicit the following information from the  
245 applicant:

246       (v) Documentation required by the United States Election  
247 Assistance Commission or federal law.

248       **Section 5. Subsection (4) of section 97.0525, Florida**  
249 **Statutes, is amended to read:**

250       97.0525 Online voter registration.—

251        (4) (a) The online voter registration system shall compare  
252 the Florida driver license number or Florida identification  
253 number submitted pursuant to s. 97.052(2)(n) with information  
254 maintained by the Department of Highway Safety and Motor  
255 Vehicles to confirm that the name and date of birth on the  
256 application are consistent with the records of the Department of  
257 Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles and the applicant's legal  
258 status as a United States citizen can be verified by the records  
259 of the Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles.

260        (b) If the applicant's name and date of birth are  
261 consistent with the records of the Department of Highway Safety  
262 and Motor Vehicles, and the applicant's legal status as a United  
263 States citizen can be verified by the records of the Department  
264 of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles, the online voter  
265 registration system shall transmit, using the statewide voter  
266 registration system maintained pursuant to s. 98.035, the  
267 applicant's registration application, along with the digital  
268 signature of the applicant on file with the Department of  
269 Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles, to the supervisor of  
270 elections. The applicant's digital signature satisfies the  
271 signature requirement of s. 97.052(2)(q) .

272        (c) If the applicant's name and date of birth cannot be  
273 verified by the records of the Department of Highway Safety and  
274 Motor Vehicles, ~~or if the applicant indicated that he or she has~~  
275 ~~not been issued a Florida driver license or Florida~~

276 ~~identification card~~, the online voter registration system shall  
277 populate the applicant's information except for the applicant's  
278 personal identifying number into a printable voter registration  
279 application pursuant to s. 97.052(2) which and direct the  
280 applicant may to print, complete any required field, sign, and  
281 date the application and deliver the application to the  
282 supervisor of elections for disposition pursuant to s. 97.073.

283 (d)1. If the applicant's legal status as a United States  
284 citizen cannot be verified by the records of the Department of  
285 Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles, the applicant will be  
286 registered as an unverified voter provided all other  
287 requirements have been met. The unverified voter will not be  
288 allowed to vote until he or she has provided sufficient evidence  
289 of citizenship to the supervisor of elections. The online voter  
290 registration system must transmit, using the statewide voter  
291 registration system maintained under s. 98.035, the applicant's  
292 registration application, along with the digital signature of  
293 the applicant on file with the Department of Highway Safety and  
294 Motor Vehicles, to the supervisor of elections. The applicant's  
295 digital signature satisfies the signature requirement of s.  
296 97.052(2)(q). The system must generate a notice to the  
297 supervisor of elections and to the applicant which states that  
298 the applicant's legal status as a United States citizen cannot  
299 be verified by the Department of Highway Safety and Motor  
300 Vehicles and that the applicant must provide to the supervisor

301 of elections sufficient evidence of his or her United States  
302 citizenship and the supervisor of elections must verify the  
303 applicant's legal status as a United States citizen before the  
304 applicant may vote. Such notice must include a list of documents  
305 acceptable as evidence United States citizenship as set forth in  
306 s. 98.075(6)(c).

307 2. The supervisor of elections shall verify the legal  
308 status of an applicant identified by the Department of Highway  
309 Safety and Motor Vehicle as a person who is potentially not a  
310 United States citizen. If the supervisor determines based on  
311 credible and reliable information that the applicant is  
312 potentially ineligible to vote because he or she is not a United  
313 States citizen, the supervisor must provide notice to the  
314 applicant in accordance with s. 98.075(8). Such notice must  
315 include the list of documents acceptable as evidence of United  
316 States citizenship as set forth in s. 98.075(6)(c).

317 (e) If the applicant indicates that he or she has not been  
318 issued a Florida driver license or Florida identification card,  
319 or chooses to use the system to prepopulate an application to  
320 print, sign, and deliver, the online voter registration system  
321 must populate the applicant's information into a uniform  
322 statewide voter registration application under s. 97.052(2) and  
323 direct the applicant to print, sign, and date the application  
324 and deliver the application to the supervisor of elections for  
325 disposition under s. 97.073.

326       **Section 6. Subsections (2) and (6) of section 97.053, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:**

328       97.053 Acceptance of voter registration applications.—  
329       (2) A voter registration application is complete and becomes the official voter registration record of that applicant when all information necessary to establish the applicant's eligibility under pursuant to s. 97.041 is received by a voter registration official and verified under pursuant to subsection (6). Except as provided in subsection (6), if the applicant fails to complete his or her voter registration application on or before prior to the date of book closing for an election, then such applicant is shall not be eligible to vote in that election.

339       (6)(a) A voter registration application, including an application with a change in name, address, or party affiliation, may be accepted as valid only after the department has verified the authenticity or nonexistence of the Florida driver license number, the Florida identification card number, or the last four digits of the social security number provided by the applicant and the applicant's legal status as a United States citizen has been verified or recorded as verified in the statewide voter registration system. If a completed voter registration application has been received by the book-closing deadline but the Florida driver license number, the Florida identification card number, or the last four digits of the

351 social security number provided by the applicant or the  
352 applicant's legal status as a United States citizen, whichever  
353 is applicable, cannot be verified, the applicant must shall be  
354 notified that the number cannot be verified and that the  
355 applicant must provide evidence to the supervisor evidence  
356 sufficient to verify the authenticity of the applicant's driver  
357 license number, Florida identification card number, or last four  
358 digits of the social security number or provide one of the  
359 documents acceptable as evidence of United States citizenship  
360 set forth s. 98.075(6)(c), whichever is applicable. An applicant  
361 whose application does not meet the requirements of this  
362 subsection is deemed an unverified voter until the requirements  
363 have been met.

364 (b) If the applicant provides the necessary evidence, the  
365 supervisor shall place the applicant's name on the registration  
366 rolls as an active voter.

367 (c) If the application is to update to the voter's record  
368 with a change in name, address, or party affiliation, whichever  
369 is applicable, the change is retroactive to the date the  
370 application was initially received and the necessary  
371 documentation is verified.

372 (d) If the applicant has not provided the necessary  
373 evidence to validate the applicant's number or citizenship as  
374 required under paragraph (a) before or the number has not  
375 otherwise been verified prior to the applicant appears

376 ~~presenting himself or herself to vote, the applicant must shall~~  
377 be provided a provisional ballot. The provisional ballot must  
378 ~~shall be counted pursuant to s. 101.048, only if the requisite~~  
379 ~~verification occurs number is verified~~ by the end of the  
380 canvassing period or if the applicant presents ~~evidence~~ to the  
381 supervisor of elections evidence sufficient to verify the  
382 authenticity of the applicant's Florida driver license number,  
383 Florida identification card number, ~~or~~ last four digits of the  
384 social security number, or provides one of the documents  
385 acceptable as evidence of United States citizenship set forth s.  
386 98.075(6)(c), whichever is applicable, no later than 5 p.m. of  
387 the second day following the election.

388 **Section 7. Subsections (11) and (13) of section 97.057,  
389 Florida Statutes, are amended to read:**

390 97.057 Voter registration by the Department of Highway  
391 Safety and Motor Vehicles.—

392 (11) The Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles  
393 shall enter into an agreement with the department to match  
394 information in the statewide voter registration system with  
395 information in the database of the Department of Highway Safety  
396 and Motor Vehicles to the extent required to verify the accuracy  
397 of a person's Florida ~~the~~ driver license number, Florida  
398 identification number, ~~or~~ last four digits of his or her the  
399 social security number, or legal status as a United States  
400 citizen, as applicable, provided on applications for voter

401 registration as required in s. 97.053. The department shall also  
402 include the documentary proof that the applicant provided in  
403 support of his or her United States citizenship.

404 (13) Notwithstanding a declination to register or to  
405 update a voter registration pursuant to subparagraph (2)(b)2.,  
406 the Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles shall, in  
407 accordance with s. 98.093(8), must assist the Department of  
408 State in regularly identifying changes in residence address or  
409 number on the Florida driver license or Florida identification  
410 card of persons who may be voters of a voter. The Department of  
411 ~~State must report each such change to the appropriate supervisor~~  
412 ~~of elections who must change the voter's registration records in~~  
413 ~~accordance with s. 98.065(4).~~

414 **Section 8. Subsection (1) of section 98.045, Florida  
415 Statutes, is amended to read:**

416 98.045 Administration of voter registration.—

417 (1) ELIGIBILITY OF APPLICANT.—

418 (a) The supervisor shall ~~must~~ ensure that any eligible  
419 applicant for voter registration is registered to vote and that  
420 each application for voter registration is processed in  
421 accordance with law. The supervisor shall determine whether a  
422 voter registration applicant is ineligible to vote based on any  
423 of the following:

424 1.~~(a)~~ The failure to complete a voter registration  
425 application as specified in s. 97.053.

426       2.~~(b)~~ The applicant is deceased.

427       3.~~(c)~~ The applicant has been convicted of a felony for  
428 which his or her voting rights have not been restored.

429       4.~~(d)~~ The applicant has been adjudicated mentally  
430 incapacitated with respect to the right to vote and such right  
431 has not been restored.

432       5.~~(e)~~ The applicant does not meet the age requirement  
433 pursuant to s. 97.041.

434       6.~~(f)~~ The applicant is not a United States citizen.

435       7.~~(g)~~ The applicant is a fictitious person.

436       8.~~(h)~~ The applicant has provided an address of legal  
437 residence that is not his or her legal residence.

438       9.~~(i)~~ The applicant has provided a Florida driver license  
439 number, Florida identification card number, or the last four  
440 digits of a social security number that is not verifiable by the  
441 department.

442       (b) If the most updated voter registration records show  
443 that a new applicant was previously registered but subsequently  
444 removed from the statewide voter registration system under s.  
445 98.075(8) for ineligibility by reason of a felony conviction  
446 without voting rights restored, adjudication as mentally  
447 incapacitated with respect to voting without voting rights  
448 restored, death, or legal status as not a United States citizen,  
449 the supervisor must, within 10 days after receiving a new  
450 application, verify the current eligibility of the applicant to

451 register by reviewing any governmental entity document or source  
452 to determine whether the applicant remains ineligible. If the  
453 supervisor determines that the applicant is still ineligible to  
454 vote, the supervisor must deny the application and notify the  
455 applicant pursuant to s. 97.073.

456 **Section 9. Subsections (6), (7), and (8) of section**  
457 **98.075, Florida Statutes, are renumbered as subsections (7),**  
458 **(8), and (9), respectively, subsections (4) and (5), present**  
459 **subsection (6), paragraph (a) of present subsection (7), and**  
460 **paragraph (a) of present subsection (8) are amended, and a new**  
461 **subsection (6) is added to that section, to read:**

462 98.075 Registration records maintenance activities;  
463 ineligibility determinations.—

464 (4) ADJUDICATION OF MENTAL INCAPACITY.—The department  
465 shall identify those registered voters who have been adjudicated  
466 mentally incapacitated with respect to voting and who have not  
467 had their voting rights restored by comparing information  
468 received from the clerk of the circuit court as provided in s.  
469 98.093. The department shall review such information and make an  
470 initial determination as to whether the information is credible  
471 and reliable. If the department determines that the information  
472 is credible and reliable, the department must notify the  
473 supervisor and provide a copy of the supporting documentation  
474 indicating the potential ineligibility of the voter to be  
475 registered. Upon receipt of the notice that the department has

HB 991

2026

476 made a determination of initial credibility and reliability, the  
477 supervisor shall adhere to the procedures set forth in  
478 subsection (8) ~~(7)~~ before the removal of a registered voter from  
479 the statewide voter registration system.

480 (5) FELONY CONVICTION.—

481 (a) The department shall identify those registered voters  
482 who have been convicted of a felony and whose voting rights have  
483 not been restored by comparing information received from, but  
484 not limited to, a clerk of the circuit court, the Board of  
485 Executive Clemency, the Department of Corrections, the  
486 Department of Law Enforcement, or a United States Attorney's  
487 Office, as provided in s. 98.093. The department shall review  
488 such information and make an initial determination as to whether  
489 the information is credible and reliable. If the department  
490 determines that the information is credible and reliable, the  
491 department must notify the supervisor and provide a copy of the  
492 supporting documentation indicating the potential ineligibility  
493 of the voter to be registered. Upon receipt of the notice that  
494 the department has made a determination of initial credibility  
495 and reliability, the supervisor shall adhere to the procedures  
496 set forth in subsection (8) ~~(7)~~ before the removal of a  
497 registered voter's name from the statewide voter registration  
498 system.

499 (b) The supervisors shall coordinate with their respective  
500 clerks of the court to obtain information pursuant to s. 98.093

HB 991

2026

501 to identify registered voters within their respective  
502 jurisdictions who have been convicted of a felony during the  
503 preceding week and whose voting rights have not been restored.  
504 The supervisor shall adhere to the procedures set forth in  
505 subsection (8) ~~(7)~~ before the removal of a registered voter's  
506 name from the statewide voter registration system. For purposes  
507 of this paragraph, a supervisor's duties under subsection (8)  
508 ~~(7)~~ begin upon his or her determination that the information  
509 received from the clerk is credible and reliable.

510 (6) CITIZENSHIP.—

511 (a) The Department of State shall verify the citizenship  
512 status of all voters registered as of September 30, 2026, whose  
513 legal status has not already been verified as a United States  
514 citizen. If the citizenship status of a registered voter cannot  
515 be verified or the voter record does not indicate that the  
516 registered voter's citizenship is verified, the department must  
517 notify the supervisor of elections who must notify the  
518 registered voter.

519 (b) The department shall review the information received  
520 from the Department of Highway Safety under s. 98.093(8) and  
521 make an initial determination as to whether the information and  
522 any other information regarding citizenship is credible and  
523 reliable. If the department determines that the information is  
524 credible and reliable, the department must notify the supervisor  
525 and provide a copy of the supporting documentation indicating

526 the potential ineligibility of the voter.

527 (c) Upon receipt of the notice under paragraph (a) or  
528 paragraph (b), the supervisor of elections must notify the  
529 registered voter in accordance with subsection (8) that his or  
530 her United States citizenship could not be verified and require  
531 the registered voter to submit evidence sufficient to verify his  
532 or her citizenship status. The notice to the registered voter  
533 must include the following list of documents that will be  
534 accepted as evidence of United States citizenship:

535 1. A current and valid United States passport.

536 2. A United States birth certificate.

537 3. A Consular Report of Birth Abroad provided by the  
538 United States Department of State.

539 4. A current and valid Florida driver license or Florida  
540 identification card issued by the Department of Highway Safety  
541 and Motor Vehicles if such driver license or identification card  
542 indicates United States citizenship.

543 5. A naturalization certificate, a certificate of  
544 citizenship, a certificate number, or an alien registration  
545 number issued by the United States Department of Homeland  
546 Security.

547 6. A current and valid photo identification issued by the  
548 Federal Government or the government of this state which  
549 indicates United States citizenship.

550 7. An order from a federal court granting United States

551 citizenship.

552 (d) If the registered voter's legal name is different than  
553 the name that appears on one of the documents specified in  
554 paragraph (c), the applicant must also provide official  
555 documentation providing proof of a legal name change.

556 (e) The type of document provided or used to verify  
557 citizenship must be recorded in the statewide voter registration  
558 system.

559 (7)-(6) OTHER BASES FOR INELIGIBILITY.—Subsections (2)-(6)  
560 (2)-(5) do not limit or restrict the department or the  
561 supervisor in his or her duty to act upon direct receipt of,  
562 access to, or knowledge of information from any governmental  
563 entity that identifies a registered voter as potentially  
564 ineligible. If the department or supervisor receives information  
565 from any governmental entity other than those identified in  
566 subsections (2)-(6) (2)-(5) that a registered voter is  
567 ineligible because the voter is deceased, adjudicated a  
568 convicted felon without having had his or her voting rights  
569 restored, adjudicated mentally incapacitated without having had  
570 his or her voting rights restored, does not meet the age  
571 requirement pursuant to s. 97.041, is not a United States  
572 citizen, is a fictitious person, or has listed an address that  
573 is not his or her address of legal residence, the supervisor  
574 must adhere to the procedures set forth in subsection (8) (7)  
575 before the removal of the name of a registered voter who is

576 determined to be ineligible from the statewide voter  
577 registration system.

578 (8)-(7) PROCEDURES FOR REMOVAL.—

579 (a) If the supervisor receives notice or information  
580 pursuant to subsections (4)-(7) ~~(4)-(6)~~, the supervisor of the  
581 county in which the voter is registered must:

582 1. Notify the registered voter of his or her potential  
583 ineligibility by mail within 7 days after receipt of notice or  
584 information. The notice must include:

585 a. A statement of the basis for the registered voter's  
586 potential ineligibility and a copy of any documentation upon  
587 which the potential ineligibility is based. Such documentation  
588 must include any conviction from another jurisdiction determined  
589 to be a similar offense to murder or a felony sexual offense, as  
590 those terms are defined in s. 98.0751.

591 b. A statement that failure to respond within 30 days  
592 after receipt of the notice may result in a determination of  
593 ineligibility and in removal of the registered voter's name from  
594 the statewide voter registration system.

595 c. A return form that requires the registered voter to  
596 admit or deny the accuracy of the information underlying the  
597 potential ineligibility for purposes of a final determination by  
598 the supervisor.

599 d. A statement that, if the voter is denying the accuracy  
600 of the information underlying the potential ineligibility, the

601 voter has a right to request a hearing for the purpose of  
602 determining eligibility.

603 e. Instructions for the registered voter to contact the  
604 supervisor of elections of the county in which the voter is  
605 registered if assistance is needed in resolving the matter.

606 f. Instructions for seeking restoration of civil rights  
607 pursuant to s. 8, Art. IV of the State Constitution and  
608 information explaining voting rights restoration pursuant to s.  
609 4, Art. VI of the State Constitution following a felony  
610 conviction, if applicable.

611 g. The following statement: "If you attempt to vote at an  
612 early voting site or your normal election day polling place, you  
613 will be required to vote a provisional ballot. If you vote by  
614 mail, your ballot will be treated as a provisional ballot. In  
615 either case, your ballot may not be counted until a final  
616 determination of eligibility is made. If you wish for your  
617 ballot to be counted, you must contact the supervisor of  
618 elections office within 2 days after the election and present  
619 evidence that you are eligible to vote."

620 2. If the mailed notice is returned as undeliverable, the  
621 supervisor must, within 14 days after receiving the returned  
622 notice, either publish notice once in a newspaper of general  
623 circulation in the county in which the voter was last registered  
624 or publish notice on the county's website as provided in s.  
625 50.0311 or on the supervisor's website, as deemed appropriate by

626 the supervisor. The notice must contain the following:

627 a. The voter's name and address.

628 b. A statement that the voter is potentially ineligible to  
629 be registered to vote.

630 c. A statement that failure to respond within 30 days  
631 after the notice is published may result in a determination of  
632 ineligibility by the supervisor and removal of the registered  
633 voter's name from the statewide voter registration system.

634 d. An instruction for the voter to contact the supervisor  
635 no later than 30 days after the date of the published notice to  
636 receive information regarding the basis for the potential  
637 ineligibility and the procedure to resolve the matter.

638 e. An instruction to the voter that, if further assistance  
639 is needed, the voter should contact the supervisor of elections  
640 of the county in which the voter is registered.

641 f. A statement that, if the voter denies the accuracy of  
642 the information underlying the potential ineligibility, the  
643 voter has a right to request a hearing for the purpose of  
644 determining eligibility.

645 g. The following statement: "If you attempt to vote at an  
646 early voting site or your normal election day polling place, you  
647 will be required to vote a provisional ballot. If you vote by  
648 mail, your ballot will be treated as a provisional ballot. In  
649 either case, your ballot may not be counted until a final  
650 determination of eligibility is made. If you wish for your

651 ballot to be counted, you must contact the supervisor of  
652 elections office within 2 days after the election and present  
653 evidence that you are eligible to vote."

654 3. If a registered voter fails to respond to a notice  
655 pursuant to subparagraph 1. or subparagraph 2., the supervisor  
656 must make a final determination of the voter's eligibility  
657 within 7 days after expiration of the voter's timeframe to  
658 respond. If the supervisor determines that the voter is  
659 ineligible, the supervisor must remove the name of the  
660 registered voter from the statewide voter registration system  
661 within 7 days. The supervisor shall notify the registered voter  
662 of the supervisor's determination and action.

663 4. If a registered voter responds to the notice pursuant  
664 to subparagraph 1. or subparagraph 2. and admits the accuracy of  
665 the information underlying the potential ineligibility, the  
666 supervisor must, as soon as practicable, make a final  
667 determination of ineligibility and remove the voter's name from  
668 the statewide voter registration system. The supervisor shall  
669 notify the registered voter of the supervisor's determination  
670 and action.

671 5. If a registered voter responds to the notice issued  
672 pursuant to subparagraph 1. or subparagraph 2. and denies the  
673 accuracy of the information underlying the potential  
674 ineligibility but does not request a hearing, the supervisor  
675 must review the evidence and make a determination of eligibility

HB 991

2026

676 no later than 30 days after receiving the response from the  
677 voter. If the supervisor determines that the registered voter is  
678 ineligible, the supervisor must remove the voter's name from the  
679 statewide voter registration system upon such determination and  
680 notify the registered voter of the supervisor's determination  
681 and action and that the removed voter has a right to appeal a  
682 determination of ineligibility pursuant to s. 98.0755. If such  
683 registered voter requests a hearing, the supervisor must send  
684 notice to the registered voter to attend a hearing at a time and  
685 place specified in the notice. The supervisor shall schedule and  
686 issue notice for the hearing within 7 days after receiving the  
687 voter's request for a hearing and shall hold the hearing no  
688 later than 30 days after issuing the notice of the hearing. A  
689 voter may request an extension upon showing good cause by  
690 submitting an affidavit to the supervisor as to why he or she is  
691 unable to attend the scheduled hearing. Upon hearing all  
692 evidence presented at the hearing, the supervisor shall make a  
693 determination of eligibility within 7 days. If the supervisor  
694 determines that the registered voter is ineligible, the  
695 supervisor must remove the voter's name from the statewide voter  
696 registration system and notify the registered voter of the  
697 supervisor's determination and action and that the removed voter  
698 has a right to appeal a determination of ineligibility pursuant  
699 to s. 98.0755.

700 (9)-(8) CERTIFICATION.—

HB 991

2026

(a) No later than July 31 and January 31 of each year, the supervisor shall certify to the department that the supervisor has conducted the activities required pursuant to this section during the first 6 months and the second 6 months of the year, respectively. The certification must include the number of persons to whom notices were sent pursuant to subsection (8) ~~(7)~~; the number of persons who responded to the notices; the number of notices returned as undeliverable; the number of notices published in the newspaper, on the county's website, or on the supervisor's website; the number of hearings conducted; and the number of persons removed from the statewide voter registration system and the reasons for such removals.

Section 10. Subsection (9) of section 98.093, Florida

Statutes, is amended, and paragraphs (d), (e), and (f) are added to subsection (8) of that section, to read:

98.093 Duty of officials to furnish information relating  
to deceased persons, persons adjudicated mentally incapacitated,  
persons convicted of a felony, and persons who are not United  
States citizens.—

720 (8) DEPARTMENT OF HIGHWAY SAFETY AND MOTOR VEHICLES.—The  
721 Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles shall furnish  
722 weekly to the department the following information:

723 (d) Information identifying those persons who during the  
724 preceding week presented evidence of United States citizenship  
725 upon being issued a new, renewed, or replacement Florida driver

726 license or Florida identification card. The information must  
727 contain the person's name; address; date of birth; last four  
728 digits of his or her social security number, if applicable;  
729 Florida driver license number or Florida identification card  
730 number, if available; the type of documentary proof the person  
731 provided in support of his or her citizenship; and, if  
732 applicable, the person's alien registration number or other  
733 legal status identifier.

734 (e) Information identifying a change in residence address  
735 on the Florida driver license or Florida identification card of  
736 any person who declined to register or update his or her voter's  
737 registration record under s. 97.057(2)(b)2. The information must  
738 contain the person's name; date of birth; sex; last four digits  
739 of his or her social security number, if available; and Florida  
740 driver license or Florida identification card number in order to  
741 identify a voter's registration record. The Department of State  
742 must report each such change to the appropriate supervisor of  
743 elections who must change the voter's registration records in  
744 accordance with s. 98.065(4).

745 (f) Information identifying new, renewed, or replacement  
746 Florida driver license or Florida identification card numbers  
747 issued to persons who declined to register or update his or her  
748 voter's registration record under s. 97.057(2)(b)2. The  
749 information must contain the person's name; date of birth; last  
750 four digits of his or her social security number, if available;

751 and the person's prior and current Florida driver license or  
752 Florida identification card number in order to identify a  
753 voter's registration record. The Department of State must report  
754 the prior and current Florida driver license or Florida  
755 identification card numbers to the appropriate supervisor of  
756 elections who must update the voter's registration records and  
757 provide notice of the change to the registered voter in the same  
758 manner as a change of address made in accordance with s.  
759 98.065(4).

760 (9) CONSTRUCTION.—This section does not limit or restrict  
761 the supervisor in his or her duty to act upon direct receipt of,  
762 access to, or knowledge of official information from these and  
763 other governmental entities that identify a registered voter as  
764 potentially ineligible and to initiate removal of the name of  
765 the registered voter who is determined to be ineligible from the  
766 statewide voter registration system pursuant to s. 98.075(8) s.  
767 98.075(7).

768 **Section 11. Section 98.094, Florida Statutes, is created  
769 to read:**

770 98.094 Federal jury notice.—

771 (1) The Division of Elections shall provide a list,  
772 monthly, of registered voters to federal courts for purposes of  
773 selecting jurors and the jury coordinator must provide the  
774 division notice regarding any ineligible or potentially  
775 ineligible voters.

776        (2) The jury coordinator shall prepare or cause to be  
777        prepared a list of each person disqualified or potentially  
778        disqualified as a prospective juror from jury service because  
779        the person is not a United States citizen, was convicted of a  
780        felony, is deceased, is not a resident of this state, or is not  
781        a resident of the county in which such jury service is required.  
782        The list must be prepared and sent to the division according to  
783        the jury summons cycle used by the clerk of court. This section  
784        does not prevent the list from being sent more frequently. The  
785        list prepared by the jury coordinator may be provided by mail,  
786        e-mail, or other electronic means to the division.

787        (3) The jury coordinator shall provide the division with  
788        all of the following information about each disqualified or  
789        potentially disqualified juror:

- 790        (a) The full name of the juror.
- 791        (b) Current and prior addresses, if any.
- 792        (c) Telephone number, if available.
- 793        (d) Date of birth.
- 794        (e) The reason the prospective juror is disqualified.

795        (4) The division shall provide the information received  
796        under subsection (3) to the appropriate supervisor of elections  
797        in the county of residence of the disqualified juror in order  
798        for the supervisor to initiate address list maintenance under s.  
799        98.065 or eligibility maintenance under s. 98.075(8), as  
800        applicable.

801       **Section 12. Subsection (1) of section 101.151, Florida**  
802       **Statutes, is amended to read:**

803       101.151 Specifications for ballots.—

804       (1) (a) ~~Marksense~~ Ballots must shall be printed on paper of  
805       such thickness that the printing cannot be distinguished from  
806       the back and must shall meet the specifications of the voting  
807       system that will be used to tabulate the ballots.

808       (b) Polling places and early voting sites may employ a  
809       ballot-on-demand production system to print individual ~~Marksense~~  
810       ballots, including provisional ballots, for eligible voters  
811       ~~electors~~. Ballot-on-demand technology may be used to produce  
812       ~~Marksense~~ vote-by-mail, early voting, and election-day ballots.

813       **Section 13. Subsection (4) of section 101.5606, Florida**  
814       **Statutes, is amended to read:**

815       101.5606 Requirements for approval of systems.—No  
816       electronic or electromechanical voting system shall be approved  
817       by the Department of State unless it is so constructed that:

818       (4) ~~For systems using Marksense ballots,~~ It accepts a  
819       rejected ballot pursuant to subsection (3) if a voter chooses to  
820       cast the ballot, but records no vote for any office that has  
821       been overvoted or undervoted.

822       **Section 14. Section 101.56075, Florida Statutes, is**  
823       **amended to read:**

824       101.56075 Voting methods.—For the purpose of designating  
825       ballot selections, all voting must be by official Marksense

826 ballot, using a pen or marker recommended by the voting system  
827 vendor. Persons with disabilities may vote using marking device  
828 ~~or~~ a voter interface device that produces a voter-verifiable  
829 paper output and meets the voter accessibility requirements for  
830 individuals with disabilities under s. 301 of the federal Help  
831 America Vote Act of 2002 and s. 101.56062.

832 **Section 15. Subsections (1), (2), and (3) of section**  
833 **101.5608, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:**

834 101.5608 Voting ~~at the polls by electronic or~~  
835 ~~electromechanical method; procedures.—~~

836 (1) Each voter elector desiring to vote shall be  
837 identified to the clerk or inspector of the election as a duly  
838 qualified voter elector of such election and shall sign his or  
839 her name on the precinct register or other form or device  
840 provided by the supervisor. The inspector shall compare the  
841 signature with the signature on the identification provided by  
842 the voter elector. If the inspector is reasonably sure that the  
843 person is entitled to vote, the inspector shall provide the  
844 person with a ballot.

845 (2) When an electronic or electromechanical voting system  
846 utilizes a ballot ~~card or marksense ballot~~, the following  
847 procedures must shall be followed to vote:

848 (a) After receiving a ballot from an inspector, the voter  
849 elector shall, without leaving the polling place, retire to a  
850 booth or compartment and mark the ballot. After marking his or

851 her ballot, the voter ~~elector~~ shall place the ballot in a  
852 secrecy envelope so that the ballot will be deposited in the  
853 tabulator without exposing the voter's choices.

854 (b) Any voter who spoils his or her ballot or makes an  
855 error may return the ballot to the election official and secure  
856 another ballot, except that in no case shall a voter be  
857 furnished more than three ballots. If the vote tabulation device  
858 has rejected a ballot, the ballot must ~~shall~~ be considered  
859 spoiled and a new ballot must ~~shall~~ be provided to the voter  
860 unless the voter chooses to cast the rejected ballot. The  
861 election official, without examining the original ballot, shall  
862 state the possible reasons for the rejection and ~~shall~~ provide  
863 instruction to the voter pursuant to s. 101.5611. A spoiled  
864 ballot must ~~shall~~ be preserved, without examination, in an  
865 envelope provided for that purpose. The stub must ~~shall~~ be  
866 removed from the ballot and placed in an envelope.

867 (c) The supervisor of elections shall prepare for each  
868 polling place at least one ballot box to contain the ballots of  
869 a particular precinct, and each ballot box must ~~shall~~ be plainly  
870 marked with the name of the precinct for which it is intended.

871 (3) The Department of State shall promulgate rules  
872 regarding voting procedures to be used when an electronic or  
873 electromechanical voting system is of a type which does not  
874 utilize a ballot ~~card or marksense ballot~~.

875 **Section 16. Subsection (5) of section 101.5612, Florida**

HB 991

2026

876 **Statutes, is amended to read:**

877 101.5612 Testing of tabulating equipment.—

878 (5) Any tests involving ~~marksense~~ ballots pursuant to this  
879 section shall employ test ballots created by the supervisor of  
880 elections using actual ballots that have been printed for the  
881 election. If ballot-on-demand ballots will be used in the  
882 election, the supervisor shall also create test ballots using  
883 the ballot-on-demand technology that will be used to produce  
884 ballots in the election, using the same paper stock as will be  
885 used for ballots in the election.

886 **Section 17. Section 101.591, Florida Statutes, is amended  
887 to read:**

888 101.591 Voting system automated independent vote  
889 validation process; system approval; procedures audit.—

890 (1) Before ~~Immediately following~~ the certification of each  
891 election, the county canvassing board or the local board  
892 responsible for certifying the election shall conduct ~~a manual~~  
893 ~~audit or~~ an automated, independent vote validation audit of the  
894 voting systems used in ~~all randomly selected~~ precincts.

895 (2) (a) ~~A manual audit shall consist of a public manual~~  
896 ~~tally of the votes cast in one randomly selected race that~~  
897 ~~appears on the ballot. The tally sheet shall include election-~~  
898 ~~day, vote by mail, early voting, provisional, and overseas~~  
899 ~~ballots, in at least 1 percent but no more than 2 percent of the~~  
900 ~~precincts chosen at random by the county canvassing board or the~~

901 local board responsible for certifying the election. If 1  
902 percent of the precincts is less than one entire precinct, the  
903 audit shall be conducted using at least one precinct chosen at  
904 random by the county canvassing board or the local board  
905 responsible for certifying the election. Such precincts shall be  
906 selected at a publicly noticed canvassing board meeting.

907 (2) (a) ~~(b)~~ An automated independent vote validation process  
908 ~~must~~ audit shall consist of an a public automated verification  
909 of the tally of the votes cast across every race that appears on  
910 the ballot. The tally sheet must ~~shall~~ include all valid  
911 election day, vote-by-mail, early voting, provisional, and  
912 overseas ballots received by the start of the vote validation  
913 process in all at least 20 percent of the precincts chosen at  
914 random by the county canvassing board or the local board  
915 responsible for certifying the election. Such precincts shall be  
916 selected at a publicly noticed canvassing board meeting.

917 (b) ~~(c)~~ The division shall adopt rules for approval of an  
918 automated independent vote validation process ~~audit system~~ which  
919 provide that the process ~~system~~, at a minimum, must be:

- 920 1. Completely independent of the primary voting system.
- 921 2. Fast enough to produce final vote validation ~~audit~~  
922 results within the timeframe prescribed in subsection (4).
- 923 3. Capable of demonstrating that the ballots of record  
924 have been accurately adjudicated by the automated independent  
925 vote validation process in agreement with the vote tabulation

HB 991

2026

926 system and is capable of allowing the canvassing board to  
927 manually adjudicate ballots needing review. A canvassing board  
928 is not precluded from reviewing a digital image of a ballot  
929 corresponding to a physical paper ballot in conducting its  
930 review audit system.

931 (3) The canvassing board shall publish ~~post~~ a notice of  
932 the automated independent vote validation process ~~audit~~,  
933 including the date, time, and place such process will occur, on  
934 the county website as provided in s. 50.0311, on the supervisor  
935 of election's website, or once in one or more newspapers of  
936 general circulation in the county in which the process will  
937 occur. Such process must be open to the public, ~~in four~~  
938 ~~conspicuous places in the county and on the home page of the~~  
939 ~~county supervisor of elections website.~~

940 (4) The automated independent vote validation process  
941 ~~audit~~ must be completed and the results made public before the  
942 certification of the election by each county canvassing board  
943 and in accordance with s. 102.141 ~~no later than 11:59 p.m. on~~  
944 ~~the 7th day following certification of the election by the~~  
945 ~~county canvassing board or the local board responsible for~~  
946 ~~certifying the election.~~

947 (5) By December 15 of each general election year, the  
948 county canvassing board or the board responsible for certifying  
949 the election shall provide a report with the results of the  
950 automated independent vote validation process ~~audit~~ to the

951 Department of State in a standard format as prescribed by the  
952 department under s. 101.5911. Each county's ~~The~~ report must be  
953 consolidated into one report and included with the overvote and  
954 undervote report required under s. 101.595(1). The report must,  
955 at a minimum, shall contain all of, but is not limited to, the  
956 following ~~items~~:

957 (a) The overall agreement accuracy of the automated  
958 independent vote validation process audit.

959 (b) A description of any problems or differences  
960 discrepancies encountered during the automated independent vote  
961 validation process.

962 (c) The likely cause of such problems or differences  
963 discrepancies.

964 (d) Any recommended corrective action with respect to  
965 avoiding or mitigating such circumstances in future elections.

966 (6) The department shall consolidate the county automated  
967 independent vote validation results and include the results as  
968 part of the post-general election report submitted to the  
969 Governor, the President of the Senate, and the Speaker of the  
970 House of Representatives by February 15 of each year following a  
971 general election as required under ss. 101.595(3) and  
972 102.141(11) If a manual recount is undertaken pursuant to s.  
973 102.166, the canvassing board is not required to perform the  
974 audit provided for in this section.

975 **Section 18. Section 101.5911, Florida Statutes, is amended**

HB 991

2026

976 **to read:**

977 101.5911 Rulemaking authority for automated independent  
978 vote validation process approval; voting system audit  
979 procedures. Effective upon this act becoming a law, The  
980 department of State shall adopt rules to implement the  
981 provisions of s. 101.591, as amended by s. 8, chapter 2007-30,  
982 Laws of Florida, which provides for the testing and approval of  
983 an automated independent vote validation process, and prescribes  
984 prescribe detailed automated independent vote validation audit  
985 procedures for each voting system, which must shall be uniform  
986 to the extent practicable, along with the standard form for  
987 automated independent vote validation process audit reports.

988 **Section 19. Subsections (1) and (3) of section 101.595, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:**

990 101.595 Analysis of overvotes and undervotes reports of  
991 voting problems.—

992 (1) No later than December 15 of each general election  
993 year, the supervisor of elections in each county shall report to  
994 the Department of State the total number of overvotes and  
995 undervotes in the "President and Vice President" or "Governor  
996 and Lieutenant Governor" race that appears first on the ballot  
997 or, if neither appears, the first race appearing on the ballot  
998 pursuant to s. 101.151(2), along with the likely reasons for  
999 such overvotes and undervotes and other information as may be  
1000 useful in evaluating the performance of the voting system and

1001 identifying problems with ballot design and instructions which  
1002 may have contributed to voter confusion. This report must be  
1003 consolidated into one report with the automated independent vote  
1004 validation audit report required under s. 101.591(6) ~~s.~~  
1005 ~~101.591(5)~~.

1006 (3) The Department of State shall submit the overvote and  
1007 undervote analysis required under subsection (2) as part of the  
1008 post-general election report to the Governor, the President of  
1009 the Senate, and the Speaker of the House of Representatives by  
1010 February 15 of each year following a general election as  
1011 required under ss. 101.591(6) and 102.141(11).

1012 **Section 20. Subsection (2) of section 102.111, Florida  
1013 Statutes, is amended to read:**

1014 102.111 Elections Canvassing Commission.—

1015 (2) The Elections Canvassing Commission shall meet at 9 ~~8~~  
1016 a.m. on the 9th day after a primary election and at 9 ~~8~~ a.m. on  
1017 the 14th day after a general election to certify the returns of  
1018 the election for each federal, state, and multicounty office and  
1019 for each constitutional amendment. On days the Legislature  
1020 convenes for organizational session pursuant to s. 3(a), Art.  
1021 III of the State Constitution, such meeting will begin at 8 a.m.  
1022 If a member of a county canvassing board that was constituted  
1023 pursuant to s. 102.141 determines, within 5 days after the  
1024 certification by the Elections Canvassing Commission, that a  
1025 typographical error occurred in the official returns of the

1026 county, the correction of which could result in a change in the  
1027 outcome of an election, the county canvassing board must certify  
1028 corrected returns to the Department of State within 24 hours,  
1029 and the Elections Canvassing Commission must correct and  
1030 recertify the election returns as soon as practicable.

1031 **Section 21. Subsections (3) through (11) of section**  
1032 **102.141, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:**

1033 102.141 County canvassing board; duties.—  
1034 (3) The canvass, except the canvass of absent electors' returns and the canvass of provisional ballots, must ~~shall~~ be made from the returns and certificates of the inspectors as signed and filed by them with the supervisor, and the county canvassing board may ~~shall~~ not change the number of votes cast for a candidate, nominee, constitutional amendment, or other measure submitted to the electorate of the county, respectively, in any polling place, as shown by the returns. All returns must ~~shall~~ be made to the board on or before 2 a.m. of the day following any primary, general, or other election. If the returns from any precinct are missing, if there are any omissions on the returns from any precinct, or if there is an obvious error on any such returns, the canvassing board must ~~shall~~ order a retabulation of the returns from such precinct. Before canvassing such returns, the canvassing board shall examine the tabulation of the ballots cast in such precinct and determine whether the returns correctly reflect the votes cast.

1051 If there is a discrepancy between the returns and the tabulation  
1052 of the ballots cast, the tabulation of the ballots cast must  
1053 ~~shall~~ be presumed correct and such votes shall be canvassed  
1054 accordingly.

1055 (4) (a) The supervisor of elections shall upload into the  
1056 county's election management system by 7 p.m. local time on the  
1057 day before the election the results of all early voting and  
1058 vote-by-mail ballots that have been canvassed and tabulated by  
1059 the end of the early voting period. Pursuant to ss. 101.5614(8),  
1060 101.657, and 101.68(2), the tabulation of votes cast or the  
1061 results of such uploads may not be made public before the close  
1062 of the polls on election day.

1063 (b) The supervisor of elections, on behalf of the  
1064 canvassing board, shall report all early voting and all  
1065 tabulated vote-by-mail results to the Department of State within  
1066 30 minutes after the polls close. Thereafter, the canvassing  
1067 board shall report, with the exception of provisional ballot  
1068 results, updated precinct election results, which must be  
1069 uploaded to the department at least every 45 minutes until all  
1070 results are completely reported. The supervisor of elections  
1071 shall notify the department immediately of any circumstances  
1072 that do not permit periodic updates as required. Results must  
1073 ~~shall~~ be submitted in a format prescribed by the department.

1074 (5) (a) The canvassing board shall submit on forms or in  
1075 formats provided by the division unofficial returns to the

1076 Department of State for each federal, statewide, state, or  
1077 multicounty office or ballot measure no later than noon on the  
1078 third day after any primary election and no later than noon on  
1079 the fourth day after any general or other election. Such returns  
1080 must shall include the canvass of all ballots, including write-  
1081 in votes, as required by subsection (2).

1082 (b) After unofficial results are reported, each county  
1083 must conduct an automated independent vote validation process,  
1084 in accordance with s. 101.591, to validate that the votes  
1085 processed through the vote tabulation system for a candidate for  
1086 any office, candidate for retention to a judicial office, or a  
1087 measure appearing on the ballot do not:

1088 1. Have a discrepancy of more than one-half of a percent  
1089 when compared to the results of the automated independent vote  
1090 validation process; or  
1091 2. Result in a change in the outcome of the election.

1092  
1093 The automated independent vote validation process must be  
1094 completed no later than noon on the 6th day after any primary  
1095 election and no later than noon on the 7th day after any general  
1096 or other election.

1097 (c) ~~(6)~~ If the county canvassing board determines, after  
1098 the county conducts the automated independent vote validation  
1099 process in accordance with s. 101.591, and the comparison of the  
1100 results of the vote tabulation and the automated independent

1101 vote validation process indicates that the unofficial returns  
1102 may contain a counting error in which the vote tabulation system  
1103 or the automated independent vote validation process failed to  
1104 count votes that were properly marked in accordance with the  
1105 instructions on the ballot, the county canvassing board shall:

1106 1.(a) Correct the error and retabulate the affected  
1107 ballots with the vote tabulation system or the automated  
1108 independent vote validation process; or

1109 2.(b) Request that the Department of State verify the  
1110 tabulation software of the affected system or process. When the  
1111 Department of State verifies such software, the department shall  
1112 compare the software used to tabulate the votes with the  
1113 software filed with the department pursuant to s. 101.5607 and  
1114 check the election parameters.

1115 (6) (a)(7) If the comparison of the results of the vote  
1116 tabulation system and the automated independent vote validation  
1117 process reflects a difference as described in paragraph (5) (b),  
1118 the proper county election official under the oversight of the  
1119 county canvassing board must conduct a system validation review  
1120 using the images in the automated independent vote validation  
1121 process of the ballots in disagreement, which must include, but  
1122 is not limited to, a review of any clear overvotes or undervotes  
1123 that appear in the automated independent vote validation process  
1124 to adjudicate the voter's intent of such ballots before  
1125 certification of the county's official results. If the

1126 unofficial returns reflect that a candidate for any office was  
1127 defeated or eliminated by one-half of a percent or less of the  
1128 votes cast for such office, that a candidate for retention to a  
1129 judicial office was retained or not retained by one-half of a  
1130 percent or less of the votes cast on the question of retention,  
1131 or that a measure appearing on the ballot was approved or  
1132 rejected by one-half of a percent or less of the votes cast on  
1133 such measure, a system validation review must ~~recount shall~~ be  
1134 ordered of the votes cast with respect to such office or  
1135 measure. The Secretary of State is responsible for ordering such  
1136 system validation reviews ~~recounts~~ in all federal, state, and  
1137 multicounty races. The county canvassing board or the local  
1138 board responsible for certifying the election is responsible for  
1139 ordering a system validation review under this subsection  
1140 ~~recounts~~ in all other races. A system validation review ~~recount~~  
1141 need not be ordered with respect to the returns for any office,  
1142 however, if the candidate or candidates defeated or eliminated  
1143 from contention for such office by one-half of a percent or less  
1144 of the votes cast for such office request in writing that a  
1145 system validation review ~~recount~~ not be made.

1146 (a) ~~Each canvassing board responsible for conducting a~~  
1147 ~~recount shall put each marksense ballot through automatic~~  
1148 ~~tabulating equipment and determine whether the returns correctly~~  
1149 ~~reflect the votes cast. If any marksense ballot is physically~~  
1150 ~~damaged so that it cannot be properly counted by the automatic~~

1151 tabulating equipment during the recount, a true duplicate shall  
1152 be made of the damaged ballot pursuant to the procedures in s.  
1153 101.5614(4). Immediately before the start of the recount, a test  
1154 of the tabulating equipment shall be conducted as provided in s.  
1155 101.5612. If the test indicates no error, the recount tabulation  
1156 of the ballots cast shall be presumed correct and such votes  
1157 shall be canvassed accordingly. If an error is detected, the  
1158 cause therefor shall be ascertained and corrected and the  
1159 recount repeated, as necessary. The canvassing board shall  
1160 immediately report the error, along with the cause of the error  
1161 and the corrective measures being taken, to the Department of  
1162 State. No later than 11 days after the election, the canvassing  
1163 board shall file a separate incident report with the Department  
1164 of State, detailing the resolution of the matter and identifying  
1165 any measures that will avoid a future recurrence of the error.  
1166 If the automatic tabulating equipment used in a recount is not  
1167 part of the voting system and the ballots have already been  
1168 processed through such equipment, the canvassing board is not  
1169 required to put each ballot through any automatic tabulating  
1170 equipment again.

1171 (b) Each canvassing board responsible for conducting a  
1172 recount where touchscreen ballots were used shall examine the  
1173 counters on the precinct tabulators to ensure that the total of  
1174 the returns on the precinct tabulators equals the overall  
1175 election return. If there is a discrepancy between the overall

1176 election return and the counters of the precinct tabulators, the  
1177 counters of the precinct tabulators shall be presumed correct  
1178 and such votes shall be canvassed accordingly.

1179 (e) The canvassing board shall submit on forms or in  
1180 formats provided by the division a second set of unofficial  
1181 returns to the Department of State for each federal, statewide,  
1182 state, or multicounty office or ballot measure. The returns  
1183 shall be filed no later than 3 p.m. on the 5th day after any  
1184 primary election and no later than 3 p.m. on the 9th day after  
1185 any general election in which a recount was ordered by the  
1186 Secretary of State. If the canvassing board is unable to  
1187 complete the recount prescribed in this subsection by the  
1188 deadline, the second set of unofficial returns submitted by the  
1189 canvassing board shall be identical to the initial unofficial  
1190 returns and the submission shall also include a detailed  
1191 explanation of why it was unable to timely complete the recount.  
1192 However, the canvassing board shall complete the recount  
1193 prescribed in this subsection, along with any manual recount  
1194 prescribed in s. 102.166, and certify election returns in  
1195 accordance with the requirements of this chapter.

1196 (d) The Department of State shall adopt detailed rules  
1197 prescribing additional recount procedures for each certified  
1198 voting system, which shall be uniform to the extent practicable.

1199 (b) (8) The canvassing board may employ such clerical help  
1200 to assist with the work of the board as it deems necessary, with

1201 at least one member of the board present at all times, until the  
1202 canvass of the returns is completed. The clerical help must  
1203 ~~shall~~ be paid from the same fund as inspectors and other  
1204 necessary election officials.

1205 (c) The canvassing board shall publish notice of the  
1206 system validation review, including the date, time, and place  
1207 such review will occur, on the county website as provided in s.  
1208 50.0311, on the supervisor of elections' website, or once in one  
1209 or more newspapers of general circulation in the county in which  
1210 the review will occur. Such review is open to the public.

1211 (d) The canvassing board shall submit on forms or in  
1212 formats provided by the division a vote validation report to the  
1213 department for each federal, state, or multicounty office or  
1214 ballot measure in accordance with paragraph (5) (b). If the  
1215 canvassing board is unable to complete the system validation  
1216 review by the deadline, the vote validation report submitted by  
1217 the canvassing board must be identical to the initial unofficial  
1218 returns and the submission must also include a detailed  
1219 explanation of the reason the board was unable to timely  
1220 complete the system validation review. However, the canvassing  
1221 board shall complete the system validation review prescribed in  
1222 this subsection, and certify official election returns, in  
1223 accordance with the requirements of this chapter.

1224 (e) The department shall adopt detailed rules prescribing  
1225 additional system validation review procedures for each

1226 certified voting system, which must be uniform to the extent  
1227 practicable.

1228 (7)-(9) Each member, substitute member, and alternate  
1229 member of the county canvassing board and all clerical help must  
1230 wear identification badges during any period in which the county  
1231 canvassing board is canvassing votes or engaging in other  
1232 official duties. The identification badges must ~~should~~ be worn  
1233 in a conspicuous and unobstructed area, and include the name of  
1234 the individual and his or her official position.

1235 (8)-(10)(a) The supervisor shall file a report with the  
1236 Division of Elections on the conduct of the election no later  
1237 than 20 business days after the Elections Canvassing Commission  
1238 certifies the election. The report must, at a minimum, describe  
1239 all of the following:

1240 1. All equipment or software malfunctions at the precinct  
1241 level, at a counting location, or within computer and  
1242 telecommunications networks supporting a county location, or  
1243 issues encountered with any state approved election system,  
1244 including, but not limited to, vote tabulation systems and  
1245 automated independent vote validation processes, and the steps  
1246 that were taken to address the malfunctions.

1247 2. All election definition errors that were discovered  
1248 after the logic and accuracy test, and the steps that were taken  
1249 to address the errors.

1250 3. All ballot printing errors, vote-by-mail ballot mailing

1251 errors, or ballot supply problems, and the steps that were taken  
1252 to address the errors or problems.

1253 4. All staffing shortages or procedural violations by  
1254 employees or precinct workers which were addressed by the  
1255 supervisor of elections or the county canvassing board during  
1256 the conduct of the election, and the steps that were taken to  
1257 correct such issues.

1258 5. All instances where needs for staffing or equipment  
1259 were insufficient to meet the needs of the voters.

1260 6. Any additional information regarding material issues or  
1261 problems associated with the conduct of the election.

1262 (b) If a supervisor discovers new or additional  
1263 information on any of the items required to be included in the  
1264 report pursuant to paragraph (a) after the report is filed, the  
1265 supervisor must notify the division that new information has  
1266 been discovered no later than the next business day after the  
1267 discovery, and the supervisor must file an amended report signed  
1268 by the supervisor of elections on the conduct of the election  
1269 within 10 days after the discovery.

1270 (c) Such reports must be maintained on file in the  
1271 Division of Elections and must be available for public  
1272 inspection.

1273 (d) The division shall review the conduct of election  
1274 reports to determine what problems may be likely to occur in  
1275 other elections and disseminate such information, along with

HB 991

2026

1276 possible solutions and training, to the supervisors of  
1277 elections.

1278 (e) For the general election, the department shall submit  
1279 the analysis of these reports for the post-general general  
1280 election report as part of the consolidated reports required  
1281 under ss. 101.591 and 101.595 to the Governor, the President of  
1282 the Senate, and the Speaker of the House of Representatives by  
1283 February 15 of each year following a general election.

1284 (11) ~~The supervisor shall file with the department a copy~~  
1285 ~~of or an export file from the results database of the county's~~  
1286 ~~voting system and other statistical information as may be~~  
1287 ~~required by the department, the Legislature, or the Election~~  
1288 ~~Assistance Commission. The department shall adopt rules~~  
1289 ~~establishing the required content and acceptable formats for the~~  
1290 ~~filings and time for filings.~~

1291 **Section 22. Section 102.166, Florida Statutes, is amended**  
1292 **to read:**

1293 102.166 Manual review recounts of overvotes and undervotes  
1294 in contests.—

1295 (1) If the vote tabulation system indicates and automated  
1296 independent vote validation process conducted under ss. 101.591  
1297 and 102.141 confirms second set of unofficial returns pursuant  
1298 to s. 102.141 indicates that a candidate for any office was  
1299 defeated or eliminated by one-quarter of a percent or less of  
1300 the votes cast for such office, that a candidate for retention

1301 to a judicial office was retained or not retained by one-quarter  
1302 of a percent or less of the votes cast on the question of  
1303 retention, or that a measure appearing on the ballot was  
1304 approved or rejected by one-quarter of a percent or less of the  
1305 votes cast on such measure, a manual review ~~recount~~ of the  
1306 overvotes and undervotes cast in the entire geographic  
1307 jurisdiction of such office or ballot measure must ~~shall~~ be  
1308 ordered and conducted in a manner consistent with s. 102.141(6)  
1309 unless:

1310 (a) The candidate or candidates defeated or eliminated  
1311 from contention by one-quarter of 1 percent or fewer of the  
1312 votes cast for such office request in writing that a manual  
1313 review ~~recount~~ not be made; or

1314 (b) The number of overvotes and undervotes is fewer than  
1315 the number of votes needed to change the outcome of the  
1316 election.

1317  
1318 The Secretary of State is responsible for ordering manual  
1319 reviews of all ~~a manual recount for~~ federal, state, and  
1320 multicounty races. The county canvassing board or local board  
1321 responsible for certifying the election is responsible for  
1322 ordering a manual review ~~recount~~ for all other races. A manual  
1323 review ~~recount~~ consists of a review by a designee of the  
1324 canvassing board ~~recount of paper marksense~~ ballots or of  
1325 digital images from an independent vote validation system, if

1326 applicable of those ballots by a person.

1327 (2) Any hardware or software used to identify and sort  
1328 overvotes and undervotes for a given race or ballot measure must  
1329 be certified by the Department of State. Any such hardware or  
1330 software must be capable of simultaneously identifying and  
1331 sorting overvotes and undervotes in multiple races while  
1332 simultaneously counting votes. Overvotes and undervotes must be  
1333 identified and sorted while conducting the automated independent  
1334 vote validation process ~~recounting ballots~~ pursuant to s.  
1335 102.141. Overvotes and undervotes must ~~may~~ be identified and  
1336 sorted physically or digitally.

1337 (3) Any manual ~~recount shall~~ be open to the  
1338 public. Each political party may designate one person with  
1339 expertise in the computer field who must be allowed in the  
1340 central counting room when the manual review is being conducted  
1341 and when the official votes are being counted. The designee may  
1342 not interfere with the normal operation of the canvassing board.

1343 (4) (a) A vote for a candidate or ballot measure must ~~shall~~  
1344 be counted if there is a clear indication on the ballot that the  
1345 voter has made a definite choice.

1346 (b) The Department of State shall adopt specific rules for  
1347 the federal write-in absentee ballot and for each certified  
1348 voting system prescribing what constitutes a "clear indication  
1349 on the ballot that the voter has made a definite choice." The  
1350 rules must ~~shall~~ be consistent, to the extent practicable, and

1351 may not:

1352       1. Authorize the use of any electronic or  
1353 electromechanical reading device to review a hybrid voting  
1354 system ballot that is produced using a voter interface device  
1355 and that contains both machine-readable fields and machine-  
1356 printed text of the contest titles and voter selections, unless  
1357 the printed text is illegible;

1358       2. Exclusively provide that the voter must properly mark  
1359 or designate his or her choice on the ballot; or

1360       3. Contain a catch-all provision that fails to identify  
1361 specific standards, such as "any other mark or indication  
1362 clearly indicating that the voter has made a definite choice."

1363       (c) The rule for the federal write-in absentee ballot must  
1364 address, at a minimum, the following issues:

1365       1. The appropriate lines or spaces for designating a  
1366 candidate choice and, for state and local races, the office or  
1367 ballot measure to be voted, including the proximity of each to  
1368 the other and the effect of intervening blank lines.

1369       2. The sufficiency of designating a candidate's first or  
1370 last name when no other candidate in the race has the same or a  
1371 similar name.

1372       3. The sufficiency of designating a candidate's first or  
1373 last name when an opposing candidate has the same or a similar  
1374 name, notwithstanding generational suffixes and titles such as  
1375 "Jr.," "Sr.," or "III." The rule should contemplate the

1376 sufficiency of additional first names and first initials, middle  
1377 names and middle initials, generational suffixes and titles,  
1378 nicknames, and, in general elections, the name or abbreviation  
1379 of a political party.

1380 4. Candidate designations containing both a qualified  
1381 candidate's name and a political party, including those in which  
1382 the party designated is the candidate's party, is not the  
1383 candidate's party, has an opposing candidate in the race, or  
1384 does not have an opposing candidate in the race.

1385 5. Situations where the abbreviation or name of a  
1386 candidate is the same as the abbreviation or name of a political  
1387 party to which the candidate does not belong, including those in  
1388 which the party designated has another candidate in the race or  
1389 does not have a candidate in the race.

1390 6. The use of marks, symbols, or language, such as arrows,  
1391 quotation marks, or the word "same" or "ditto," to indicate that  
1392 the same political party designation applies to all listed  
1393 offices or the elector's approval or disapproval of all listed  
1394 ballot measures.

1395 7. Situations in which an elector designates the name of a  
1396 qualified candidate for an incorrect office.

1397 8. Situations in which an elector designates an otherwise  
1398 correct office name that includes an incorrect district number.

1399 (5) Procedures for a manual review ~~recount~~ are as follows:  
1400 (a) The county canvassing board shall appoint as many

1401 counting teams of at least two electors as is necessary to  
1402 manually review ~~recount~~ the ballots. A counting team must have,  
1403 when possible, members of at least two political parties. A  
1404 candidate involved in the race may ~~shall~~ not be a member of the  
1405 counting team.

1406 (b) Each duplicate ballot prepared pursuant to s.  
1407 101.5614(4) or s. 102.141(6) ~~s. 102.141(7)~~ ~~shall~~ be  
1408 compared with the original ballot to ensure the correctness of  
1409 the duplicate.

1410 (c) If a counting team is unable to determine whether the  
1411 ballot contains a clear indication that the voter has made a  
1412 definite choice, the ballot must ~~shall~~ be presented to the  
1413 county canvassing board for a determination.

1414 (d) The Department of State shall adopt detailed rules  
1415 prescribing additional review ~~recount~~ procedures for each  
1416 certified voting system which must ~~shall~~ be uniform to the  
1417 extent practicable. The rules must, at a minimum, ~~shall~~ address,  
1418 ~~at a minimum,~~ the following areas:

- 1419 1. Security of ballots during the manual review ~~recount~~  
1420 process. ~~;~~
- 1421 2. Time and place of manual reviews. ~~recounts~~;
- 1422 3. Public observance of manual reviews. ~~recounts~~;
- 1423 4. Objections to ballot determinations. ~~;~~
- 1424 5. Record of manual review ~~recount~~ proceedings. ~~;~~
- 1425 6. Procedures relating to candidate and petitioner

1426 representatives.~~;~~ and

1427 7. Procedures relating to the certification and the use of  
1428 automatic tabulating equipment that is not part of a voting  
1429 system.

1430 (6) Nothing in this section precludes a county canvassing  
1431 board or local board involved in the manual review ~~recount~~ from  
1432 comparing a digital image of a ballot to the corresponding  
1433 physical paper ballot during a manual review ~~recount~~.

1434 **Section 23. Section 104.042, Florida Statutes, is created  
1435 to read:**

1436 104.042 Limitations on actions for election fraud.—A  
1437 prosecution for a felony violation under the Election Code must  
1438 be commenced within 5 years after the date the violation is  
1439 committed.

1440 **Section 24. Paragraph (b) of subsection (12) of section  
1441 106.08, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:**

1442 106.08 Contributions; limitations on.—

1443 (12)

1444 (b) A foreign national may not make or offer to make,  
1445 directly or indirectly, a contribution or expenditure in  
1446 connection with any election held in the state or in connection  
1447 with a constitutional amendment proposed by initiative. A  
1448 political party, a political committee, an electioneering  
1449 communications organization, or a candidate may not knowingly  
1450 accept or solicit, directly or indirectly, a contribution from a

1451     foreign national in connection with any election held in this  
1452     state or in connection with a constitutional amendment proposed  
1453     by initiative. A person or entity who violates this section  
1454     commits a felony of the third degree, punishable as provided in  
1455     s. 775.082, s. 775.083, or s. 775.084, and shall also be subject  
1456     to a civil penalty equal to three times the amount contributed.  
1457     Such penalty shall be paid into the General Revenue Fund of this  
1458     state. Any penalty imposed against a person that is not an  
1459     individual jointly and severally attaches to the chair of the  
1460     entity if the entity does not pay the penalty within 30 days.  
1461     The Florida Election Commission shall be responsible for  
1462     determining violations, imposing civil penalties, and collecting  
1463     any unpaid civil penalties. The Florida Election Commission  
1464     shall report any violations of this section to the Office of  
1465     Election Crimes and Security to include in the department's  
1466     report under s. 97.022.

1467       **Section 25. Section 322.034, Florida Statutes, is created**  
1468       **to read:**

1469       322.034 Legal status designation on state-issued driver  
1470       licenses and identification cards.—

1471       (1) By July 1, 2027, a Florida driver license or Florida  
1472       identification card issued to a qualified applicant who is a  
1473       United States citizen as last recorded in the system must  
1474       include the legal status of United States citizen on the license  
1475       or card at the time of issuance, renewal, or replacement.

1476        (2) Notwithstanding this chapter, the department shall  
1477        issue, at no charge, a renewal or replacement license or card if  
1478        a licensee or cardholder timely updates his or her legal status  
1479        upon becoming a citizen of the United States as required in s.  
1480        322.19.

1481        **Section 26. Subsections (5) and (6) of section 98.065, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:**

1483        98.065 Registration list maintenance programs.—

1484        (5) A notice may not be issued pursuant to this section  
1485 and a voter's name may not be removed from the statewide voter  
1486 registration system later than 90 days prior to the date of a  
1487 federal election. However, this section does not preclude the  
1488 correction of registration records based on information  
1489 submitted by the voter or removal of the name of a voter from  
1490 the statewide voter registration system at any time upon the  
1491 voter's written request, by reason of the voter's death, or upon  
1492 a determination of the voter's ineligibility as provided in s.  
1493 98.075(8) s. 98.075(7).

1494        (6) The supervisor shall, at a minimum, conduct an annual  
1495 review of voter registration records to identify registration  
1496 records in which a voter is registered at an address that may  
1497 not be an address of legal residence for the voter. For those  
1498 registration records with such addresses that the supervisor has  
1499 reasonable belief are not legal residential addresses, the  
1500 supervisor shall initiate list maintenance activities pursuant

1501 to s. 98.075(7) ~~s. 98.075(6)~~ and (8) ~~(7)~~.

1502 **Section 27. Section 98.0755, Florida Statutes, is amended**  
1503 **to read:**

1504 98.0755 Appeal of determination of ineligibility.—Appeal  
1505 of the supervisor's determination of ineligibility pursuant to  
1506 s. 98.075(8) ~~s. 98.075(7)~~ may be taken to the circuit court in  
1507 and for the county where the person was registered. Notice of  
1508 appeal must be filed within the time and in the manner provided  
1509 by the Florida Rules of Appellate Procedure and acts as  
1510 supersedeas. Trial in the circuit court is de novo and governed  
1511 by the rules of that court. Unless the person can show that his  
1512 or her name was erroneously or illegally removed from the  
1513 statewide voter registration system, or that he or she is  
1514 indigent, the person must bear the costs of the trial in the  
1515 circuit court. Otherwise, the cost of the appeal must be paid by  
1516 the supervisor of elections.

1517 **Section 28. Subsection (1) of section 101.048, Florida**  
1518 **Statutes, is amended to read:**

1519 101.048 Provisional ballots.—

1520 (1) At all elections, a voter claiming to be properly  
1521 registered in the state and eligible to vote at the precinct in  
1522 the election but whose eligibility cannot be determined, a  
1523 person whom an election official asserts is not eligible,  
1524 including, but not limited to, a person to whom notice has been  
1525 sent pursuant to s. 98.075(8) ~~s. 98.075(7)~~, but for whom a final

1526 determination of eligibility has not been made, and other  
1527 persons specified in the code shall be entitled to vote a  
1528 provisional ballot. Once voted, the provisional ballot must be  
1529 placed in a secrecy envelope and thereafter sealed in a  
1530 provisional ballot envelope. The provisional ballot must be  
1531 deposited in a ballot box. All provisional ballots must remain  
1532 sealed in their envelopes for return to the supervisor of  
1533 elections. The department shall prescribe the form of the  
1534 provisional ballot envelope. A person casting a provisional  
1535 ballot has the right to present written evidence supporting his  
1536 or her eligibility to vote to the supervisor of elections by not  
1537 later than 5 p.m. on the second day following the election.

1538 **Section 29. Paragraph (b) of subsection (1) of section  
1539 101.67, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:**

1540 101.67 Safekeeping of mailed ballots; deadline for  
1541 receiving vote-by-mail ballots.—

1542 (1)

1543 (b) To the extent practicable, the supervisor of elections  
1544 shall segregate any vote-by-mail ballots received from a person  
1545 to whom notice has been sent pursuant to s. 98.075(8) s.  
1546 ~~98.075(7)~~, but for whom a final determination of eligibility has  
1547 not been made, and shall treat them as provisional ballots for  
1548 individual review by the county canvassing board. The supervisor  
1549 shall attempt to contact each voter whose ballot has been set  
1550 aside under this paragraph in the same manner as if the voter

HB 991

2026

1551 had voted a provisional ballot under s. 101.048.

1552 **Section 30. Subsection (2) of section 104.16, Florida**  
1553 **Statutes, is amended to read:**

1554 104.16 Voting fraudulent ballot.—

1555 (2) Subsection (1) does not apply to an elector to whom  
1556 notice has been sent pursuant to s. 98.075(8) ~~s. 98.075(7)~~ and  
1557 who votes a provisional ballot or vote-by-mail ballot before a  
1558 final determination of eligibility is made.

1559 **Section 31.** This act shall take effect July 1, 2026.