

1 A bill to be entitled
2 An act relating to election integrity; amending s.
3 97.021, F.S.; revising definitions; amending s.
4 97.022, F.S.; revising the information the Department
5 of State is required to include in a specified report;
6 amending s. 97.051, F.S.; requiring persons to swear
7 or affirm they have reviewed the voter registration
8 instructions, are a United States citizen, and
9 understand the penalties for providing false
10 information; amending s. 97.052, F.S.; requiring the
11 voter registration application to elicit documentation
12 required by the United States Election Assistance
13 Commission or federal law; amending s. 97.0525, F.S.;
14 requiring that an applicant's citizenship status be
15 verified by the records of the Department of Highway
16 Safety and Motor Vehicles; providing that an applicant
17 will be registered as an unverified voter, but may not
18 vote, if his or her legal status as a United States
19 citizen cannot be verified through the Department of
20 Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles; requiring the
21 online voter registration system to transmit certain
22 information to the supervisor of elections and
23 generate certain notices; requiring the supervisor of
24 elections to verify the legal status of certain
25 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

elections; amending s. 101.043, F.S.; revising the forms of identification required to be provided at polls; amending ss. 101.048, 101.151, 101.5606, 101.5608, and 101.5612, F.S.; conforming provisions to changes made by the act; amending s. 101.56075, F.S.; requiring voting be completed on an official ballot using a pen or marker; amending s. 101.591, F.S.; removing provisions relating to the performance of a manual audit; requiring the county canvassing board or other local board responsible for certifying an election to conduct an automated, independent vote validation of voting systems used in all precincts; providing the process for conducting such automated, independent vote validation; requiring the canvassing board to publish a specified notice on the county's website, the supervisor's website, or in certain newspapers; requiring that the vote validation be completed and made public before the certification of the election; providing reporting requirements for county canvassing boards; requiring the results of the vote validation be included in a specified report submitted to the Governor and Legislature by a specified date each year; amending s. 101.5911, F.S.; requiring the Department of State to adopt certain rules; amending s. 101.595, F.S.; revising certain

reporting requirements for the Department of State;
amending ss. 101.68 and 101.6923, F.S.; conforming
provisions to changes made by the act; amending s.
102.111, F.S.; revising the meeting time for the
Elections Canvassing Commission; amending s. 102.141,
F.S.; revising provisions relating to reporting
election results; requiring counties to conduct an
automated independent vote validation process for a
specified purpose within a specified timeframe after
unofficial results are reported; requiring the county
canvassing board to take specified actions upon making
a determination that the automated independent vote
validation process failed to count votes; requiring
the county canvassing board to conduct a system
validation review under specified circumstances;
removing provisions relating to recounts by the county
canvassing board; requiring the county canvassing
board to publish certain notice containing manual
review information through specified means; requiring
the county canvassing board to submit to the
Department of State specified forms containing a vote
validation report; removing the requirement for the
supervisor to file with the Department of State
certain results and statistical information; amending
s. 102.166, F.S.; requiring manual reviews of

126 overvotes and undervotes unless certain conditions
127 exist; providing that the Secretary of State is
128 responsible for ordering such review in specified
129 races and the county canvassing board, or local board
130 responsible for certifying the election, is
131 responsible for ordering such reviews in all other
132 races; authorizing political parties to designate a
133 certain expert to be allowed in the central counting
134 room while reviews are being performed; prohibiting
135 such person from interfering with the normal operation
136 of the canvassing board; creating s. 104.042, F.S.;
137 providing a statute of limitations period for election
138 fraud; amending s. 106.08, F.S.; revising the
139 contributions or expenditures that a foreign national
140 is prohibited from making or offering to make;
141 prohibiting certain persons from accepting specified
142 contributions; prohibiting certain persons from making
143 specified contributions or expenditures; providing
144 penalties; creating s. 322.034, F.S.; requiring that
145 Florida driver licenses and identification cards
146 include certain information by a specified date;
147 requiring the Department of Highway Safety and Motor
148 Vehicles to issue certain replacement or renewal cards
149 at no charge; amending s. 895.02, F.S.; revising the
150 definition of the term "racketeering activity";

amending ss. 98.065, 98.0755, 101.67, and 104.16,
F.S.; conforming cross-references; providing effective
dates.

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

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

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

(6) "Ballot" means a printed sheet of paper containing
contests, including offices and candidates, constitutional
amendments, and other public measures upon which a voter's
selections will be marked by using the pen or marker recommended
by the voting system vendor. The term includes a voter-
verifiable paper output upon which a voter's selections are
marked by a voter interface device that meets voter
accessibility requirements for individuals with disabilities
under s. 301 of the Help America Vote Act of 2002 and s.
101.56062 or "official ballot" when used in reference to:

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

176 ~~(b) "Marksense ballots" means that printed sheet of paper,~~
177 ~~used in conjunction with an electronic or electromechanical vote~~
178 ~~tabulation voting system, containing the names of candidates, or~~
179 ~~a statement of proposed constitutional amendments or other~~
180 ~~questions or propositions submitted to the electorate at any~~
181 ~~election, on which sheet of paper an elector casts his or her~~
182 ~~vote.~~

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

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

199 **Section 2. Effective July 1, 2026, subsection (7) of**
200 **section 97.022, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:**

201 97.022 Office of Election Crimes and Security; creation;
202 purpose and duties.—

203 (7) By January 15 of each year, the department shall
204 submit a report to the Governor, the President of the Senate,
205 and the Speaker of the House of Representatives detailing
206 information on investigations of alleged election law violations
207 or election irregularities conducted during the prior calendar
208 year. The report must include the total number of complaints
209 received and independent investigations initiated and the number
210 of complaints referred to another agency for further
211 investigation or prosecution, including the total number of
212 those matters sent to a special officer pursuant to s. 102.091.
213 The report must include any alleged violations of s.
214 106.08(12)(b), irregularities involving foreign national
215 influence, and the department's recommendations to the
216 Legislature to mitigate foreign national influence in elections.
217 For each alleged violation or irregularity investigated, the
218 report must include:

- 219 (a) The source of the alleged violation or irregularity;
220 (b) The law allegedly violated or the nature of the
221 irregularity reported;
222 (c) The county in which the alleged violation or
223 irregularity occurred;
224 (d) Whether the alleged violation or irregularity was
225 referred to another agency for further investigation or

prosecution and, if so, to which agency; and

(e) The current status of the investigation or resulting criminal case.

Section 3. Section 97.051, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

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

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

97.052 Uniform statewide voter registration application.—

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

(v) Documentation required by the United States Election

251 Assistance Commission or federal law.

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

254 97.0525 Online voter registration.—

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

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

276 (c) If the applicant's name and date of birth cannot be
277 verified by the records of the Department of Highway Safety and
278 Motor Vehicles, ~~or if the applicant indicated that he or she has~~
279 ~~not been issued a Florida driver license or Florida~~
280 ~~identification card,~~ the online voter registration system shall
281 populate the applicant's information except for the applicant's
282 personal identifying number into a printable voter registration
283 application pursuant to s. 97.052(2) which ~~and direct~~ the
284 applicant may ~~to~~ print, complete any required field, sign, and
285 date the application and deliver the application to the
286 supervisor of elections for disposition pursuant to s. 97.073.

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

301 supervisor of elections and to the applicant which states that
302 the applicant's legal status as a United States citizen cannot
303 be verified by the Department of Highway Safety and Motor
304 Vehicles and that the applicant must provide to the supervisor
305 of elections sufficient evidence of his or her United States
306 citizenship and the supervisor of elections must verify the
307 applicant's legal status as a United States citizen before the
308 applicant may vote. Such notice must include a list of documents
309 acceptable as evidence United States citizenship as set forth in
310 s. 98.075(6)(c).

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

321 (e) If the applicant indicates that he or she has not been
322 issued a Florida driver license or Florida identification card,
323 or chooses to use the system to prepopulate an application to
324 print, sign, and deliver, the online voter registration system
325 must populate the applicant's information into a uniform

326 statewide voter registration application under s. 97.052(2) and
327 direct the applicant to print, sign, and date the application
328 and deliver the application to the supervisor of elections for
329 disposition under s. 97.073.

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

332 97.053 Acceptance of voter registration applications.—

333 (2) A voter registration application is complete and
334 becomes the official voter registration record of that applicant
335 when all information necessary to establish the applicant's
336 eligibility under ~~pursuant to~~ s. 97.041 is received by a voter
337 registration official and verified under ~~pursuant to~~ subsection
338 (6). Except as provided in subsection (6), if the applicant
339 fails to complete his or her voter registration application on
340 or before ~~prior to~~ the date of book closing for an election,
341 ~~then~~ such applicant is ~~shall~~ not be eligible to vote in that
342 election.

343 (6)(a) A voter registration application, including an
344 application with a change in name, address, or party
345 affiliation, may be accepted as valid only after the department
346 has verified the authenticity or nonexistence of the Florida
347 driver license number, the Florida identification card number,
348 or the last four digits of the social security number provided
349 by the applicant and the applicant's legal status as a United
350 States citizen has been verified or recorded as verified in the

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

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

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

376 (d) If the applicant has not provided the ~~necessary~~
377 evidence to validate the applicant's number or citizenship as
378 required under paragraph (a) before ~~or the number has not~~
379 ~~otherwise been verified prior to~~ the applicant appears
380 ~~presenting himself or herself to vote,~~ the applicant must ~~shall~~
381 be provided a provisional ballot. The provisional ballot must
382 ~~shall~~ be counted pursuant to s. 101.048, only if the requisite
383 verification occurs ~~number is verified~~ by the end of the
384 canvassing period or if the applicant presents ~~evidence~~ to the
385 supervisor of elections evidence sufficient to verify the
386 authenticity of the applicant's Florida driver license number,
387 Florida identification card number, ~~or~~ last four digits of the
388 social security number, or provides one of the documents
389 acceptable as evidence of United States citizenship set forth s.
390 98.075(6)(c), whichever is applicable, no later than 5 p.m. of
391 the second day following the election.

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

394 97.057 Voter registration by the Department of Highway
395 Safety and Motor Vehicles.—

396 (11) The Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles
397 shall enter into an agreement with the department to match
398 information in the statewide voter registration system with
399 information in the database of the Department of Highway Safety
400 and Motor Vehicles to the extent required to verify the accuracy

401 of a person's Florida ~~the~~ driver license number, Florida
402 identification number, ~~or~~ last four digits of his or her ~~the~~
403 social security number, or legal status as a United States
404 citizen, as applicable, provided on applications for voter
405 registration as required in s. 97.053. The department shall also
406 include the documentary proof that the applicant provided in
407 support of his or her United States citizenship.

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

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

420 98.045 Administration of voter registration.—

421 (1) ELIGIBILITY OF APPLICANT.—

422 (a) The supervisor shall ~~must~~ ensure that any eligible
423 applicant for voter registration is registered to vote and that
424 each application for voter registration is processed in
425 accordance with law. The supervisor shall determine whether a

voter registration applicant is ineligible to vote based on any of the following:

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

(b) If the most updated voter registration records show that a new applicant was previously registered but subsequently removed from the statewide voter registration system under s. 98.075(8) for ineligibility by reason of a felony conviction without voting rights restored, adjudication as mentally

incapacitated with respect to voting without voting rights
restored, death, or legal status as not a United States citizen,
the supervisor must, within 10 days after receiving a new
application, verify the current eligibility of the applicant to
register by reviewing any governmental entity document or source
to determine whether the applicant remains ineligible. If the
supervisor determines that the applicant is still ineligible to
vote, the supervisor must deny the application and notify the
applicant pursuant to s. 97.073.

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

98.075 Registration records maintenance activities; ineligibility determinations.—

(4) ADJUDICATION OF MENTAL INCAPACITY.—The department shall identify those registered voters who have been adjudicated mentally incapacitated with respect to voting and who have not had their voting rights restored by comparing information received from the clerk of the circuit court as provided in s. 98.093. The department shall review such information and make an initial determination as to whether the information is credible and reliable. If the department determines that the information

476 is credible and reliable, the department must notify the
477 supervisor and provide a copy of the supporting documentation
478 indicating the potential ineligibility of the voter to be
479 registered. Upon receipt of the notice that the department has
480 made a determination of initial credibility and reliability, the
481 supervisor shall adhere to the procedures set forth in
482 subsection (8) ~~(7)~~ before the removal of a registered voter from
483 the statewide voter registration system.

484 (5) FELONY CONVICTION.—

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

registered voter's name from the statewide voter registration system.

(b) The supervisors shall coordinate with their respective clerks of the court to obtain information pursuant to s. 98.093 to identify registered voters within their respective jurisdictions who have been convicted of a felony during the preceding week and whose voting rights have not been restored. The supervisor shall adhere to the procedures set forth in subsection (8) ~~(7)~~ before the removal of a registered voter's name from the statewide voter registration system. For purposes of this paragraph, a supervisor's duties under subsection (8) ~~(7)~~ begin upon his or her determination that the information received from the clerk is credible and reliable.

(6) CITIZENSHIP.—

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

(b) The department shall review the information received from the Department of Highway Safety under s. 98.093(8) and make an initial determination as to whether the information and any other information regarding citizenship is credible and

526 reliable. If the department determines that the information is
527 credible and reliable, the department must notify the supervisor
528 and provide a copy of the supporting documentation indicating
529 the potential ineligibility of the voter.

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

- 538 1. A current and valid United States passport.
539 2. A United States birth certificate.
540 3. A Consular Report of Birth Abroad provided by the
541 United States Department of State.
542 4. A current and valid Florida driver license or Florida
543 identification card issued by the Department of Highway Safety
544 and Motor Vehicles if such driver license or identification card
545 indicates United States citizenship.
546 5. A naturalization certificate, a certificate of
547 citizenship, a certificate number, or an alien registration
548 number issued by the United States Department of Homeland
549 Security.
550 6. A current and valid photo identification issued by the

Federal Government or the government of this state which indicates United States citizenship.

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

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

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

(7)~~(6)~~ OTHER BASES FOR INELIGIBILITY.—Subsections (2)–(6)~~(2)–(5)~~ do not limit or restrict the department or the supervisor in his or her duty to act upon direct receipt of, access to, or knowledge of information from any governmental entity that identifies a registered voter as potentially ineligible. If the department or supervisor receives information from any governmental entity other than those identified in subsections (2)–(6) ~~(2)–(5)~~ that a registered voter is ineligible because the voter is deceased, adjudicated a convicted felon without having had his or her voting rights restored, adjudicated mentally incapacitated without having had his or her voting rights restored, does not meet the age requirement pursuant to s. 97.041, is not a United States citizen, is a fictitious person, or has listed an address that

is not his or her address of legal residence, the supervisor must adhere to the procedures set forth in subsection (8) ~~(7)~~ before the removal of the name of a registered voter who is determined to be ineligible from the statewide voter registration system.

(8) ~~(7)~~ PROCEDURES FOR REMOVAL.—

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

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

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

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

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

the supervisor.

d. A statement that, if the voter is denying the accuracy of the information underlying the potential ineligibility, the voter has a right to request a hearing for the purpose of determining eligibility.

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

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

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

2. If the mailed notice is returned as undeliverable, the supervisor must, within 14 days after receiving the returned notice, either publish notice once in a newspaper of general

626 circulation in the county in which the voter was last registered
627 or publish notice on the county's website as provided in s.
628 50.0311 or on the supervisor's website, as deemed appropriate by
629 the supervisor. The notice must contain the following:

630 a. The voter's name and address.

631 b. A statement that the voter is potentially ineligible to
632 be registered to vote.

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

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

641 e. An instruction to the voter that, if further assistance
642 is needed, the voter should contact the supervisor of elections
643 of the county in which the voter is registered.

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

648 g. The following statement: "If you attempt to vote at an
649 early voting site or your normal election day polling place, you
650 will be required to vote a provisional ballot. If you vote by

mail, your ballot will be treated as a provisional ballot. In either case, your ballot may not be counted until a final determination of eligibility is made. If you wish for your ballot to be counted, you must contact the supervisor of elections office within 2 days after the election and present evidence that you are eligible to vote."

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

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

5. If a registered voter responds to the notice issued pursuant to subparagraph 1. or subparagraph 2. and denies the

676 accuracy of the information underlying the potential
677 ineligibility but does not request a hearing, the supervisor
678 must review the evidence and make a determination of eligibility
679 no later than 30 days after receiving the response from the
680 voter. If the supervisor determines that the registered voter is
681 ineligible, the supervisor must remove the voter's name from the
682 statewide voter registration system upon such determination and
683 notify the registered voter of the supervisor's determination
684 and action and that the removed voter has a right to appeal a
685 determination of ineligibility pursuant to s. 98.0755. If such
686 registered voter requests a hearing, the supervisor must send
687 notice to the registered voter to attend a hearing at a time and
688 place specified in the notice. The supervisor shall schedule and
689 issue notice for the hearing within 7 days after receiving the
690 voter's request for a hearing and shall hold the hearing no
691 later than 30 days after issuing the notice of the hearing. A
692 voter may request an extension upon showing good cause by
693 submitting an affidavit to the supervisor as to why he or she is
694 unable to attend the scheduled hearing. Upon hearing all
695 evidence presented at the hearing, the supervisor shall make a
696 determination of eligibility within 7 days. If the supervisor
697 determines that the registered voter is ineligible, the
698 supervisor must remove the voter's name from the statewide voter
699 registration system and notify the registered voter of the
700 supervisor's determination and action and that the removed voter

has a right to appeal a determination of ineligibility pursuant to s. 98.0755.

(9)~~(8)~~ CERTIFICATION.—

(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. Effective July 1, 2026, 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.—

(8) DEPARTMENT OF HIGHWAY SAFETY AND MOTOR VEHICLES.—The Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles shall furnish

726 weekly to the department the following information:

727 (d) Information identifying those persons who during the
728 preceding week presented evidence of United States citizenship
729 upon being issued a new, renewed, or replacement Florida driver
730 license or Florida identification card. The information must
731 contain the person's name; address; date of birth; last four
732 digits of his or her social security number, if applicable;
733 Florida driver license number or Florida identification card
734 number, if available; the type of documentary proof the person
735 provided in support of his or her citizenship; and, if
736 applicable, the person's alien registration number or other
737 legal status identifier.

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

749 (f) Information identifying new, renewed, or replacement
750 Florida driver license or Florida identification card numbers

751 issued to persons who declined to register or update his or her
752 voter's registration record under s. 97.057(2)(b)2. The
753 information must contain the person's name; date of birth; last
754 four digits of his or her social security number, if available;
755 and the person's prior and current Florida driver license or
756 Florida identification card number in order to identify a
757 voter's registration record. The Department of State must report
758 the prior and current Florida driver license or Florida
759 identification card numbers to the appropriate supervisor of
760 elections who must update the voter's registration records and
761 provide notice of the change to the registered voter in the same
762 manner as a change of address made in accordance with s.
763 98.065(4).

764 (9) CONSTRUCTION.—This section does not limit or restrict
765 the supervisor in his or her duty to act upon direct receipt of,
766 access to, or knowledge of official information from these and
767 other governmental entities that identify a registered voter as
768 potentially ineligible and to initiate removal of the name of
769 the registered voter who is determined to be ineligible from the
770 statewide voter registration system pursuant to s. 98.075(8) ~~s.~~
771 ~~98.075(7).~~

772 **Section 11. Section 98.094, Florida Statutes, is created**
773 **to read:**

774 98.094 Federal jury notice.—

775 (1) The Division of Elections shall provide a list,

776 monthly, of registered voters to federal courts for purposes of
777 selecting jurors and the jury coordinator must provide the
778 division notice regarding any ineligible or potentially
779 ineligible voters.

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

791 (3) The jury coordinator shall provide the division with
792 all of the following information about each disqualified or
793 potentially disqualified juror:

794 (a) The full name of the juror.

795 (b) Current and prior addresses, if any.

796 (c) Telephone number, if available.

797 (d) Date of birth.

798 (e) The reason the prospective juror is disqualified.

799 (4) The division shall provide the information received
800 under subsection (3) to the appropriate supervisor of elections

in the county of residence of the disqualified juror in order
for the supervisor to initiate address list maintenance under s.
98.065 or eligibility maintenance under s. 98.075(8), as
applicable.

**Section 12. Subsection (1) of section 101.043, Florida
Statutes, is amended to read:**

101.043 Identification required at polls.—

(1)(a) The precinct register, as prescribed in s. 98.461,
must ~~shall~~ be used at the polls for the purpose of identifying
the elector at the polls before allowing him or her to vote. The
clerk or inspector shall require each elector, upon entering the
polling place, to present one of the following current and valid
picture identifications:

1. Florida driver license.
2. Florida identification card issued by the Department of
Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles.
3. United States passport or passport card.
- ~~4. Debit or credit card.~~
- ~~4.5. United States uniformed services or Merchant Marine
Military~~ identification.
- ~~6. Student identification.~~
- ~~7. Retirement center identification.~~
- ~~8. Neighborhood association identification.~~
- ~~9. Public assistance identification.~~
- ~~5.10.~~ Veteran health identification card issued by the

United States Department of Veterans Affairs.

~~6.11.~~ A license to carry a concealed weapon or firearm issued pursuant to s. 790.06.

~~7.12.~~ Any other ~~Employee~~ identification card issued by any branch, department, agency, or entity of the Federal Government, the state, a county, or a municipality.

(b) If the picture identification does not contain the signature of the elector, an additional identification that provides the elector's signature is ~~shall be~~ required. The address appearing on the identification presented by the elector may not be used as the basis to challenge an elector's legal residence. The elector must ~~shall~~ sign his or her name in the space provided on the precinct register or on an electronic device provided for recording the elector's signature. The clerk or inspector shall compare the signature with that on the identification provided by the elector and enter his or her initials in the space provided on the precinct register or on an electronic device provided for that purpose and allow the elector to vote if the clerk or inspector is satisfied as to the identity of the elector.

Section 13. Subsection (1) and paragraph (d) of subsection (6) of section 101.048, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

101.048 Provisional ballots.—

(1) At all elections, a voter claiming to be properly registered in the state and eligible to vote at the precinct in

the election but whose eligibility cannot be determined, a person whom an election official asserts is not eligible, including, but not limited to, a person to whom notice has been sent pursuant to s. 98.075(8) ~~s. 98.075(7)~~, but for whom a final determination of eligibility has not been made, and other persons specified in the code shall be entitled to vote a provisional ballot. Once voted, the provisional ballot must be placed in a secrecy envelope and thereafter sealed in a provisional ballot envelope. The provisional ballot must be deposited in a ballot box. All provisional ballots must remain sealed in their envelopes for return to the supervisor of elections. The department shall prescribe the form of the provisional ballot envelope. A person casting a provisional ballot has the right to present written evidence supporting his or her eligibility to vote to the supervisor of elections by not later than 5 p.m. on the second day following the election.

(6)

(d) Instructions must accompany the cure affidavit in substantially the following form:

READ THESE INSTRUCTIONS CAREFULLY BEFORE COMPLETING THE AFFIDAVIT. FAILURE TO FOLLOW THESE INSTRUCTIONS MAY CAUSE YOUR BALLOT NOT TO COUNT.

1. In order to cure the missing signature or the signature discrepancy on your Provisional Ballot Voter's Certificate and Affirmation, your affidavit should be completed and returned as

876 soon as possible so that it can reach the supervisor of
877 elections of the county in which your precinct is located no
878 later than 5 p.m. on the 2nd day after the election.

879 2. You must sign your name on the line above (Voter's
880 Signature).

881 3. You must make a copy of one of the following forms of
882 identification:

883 a. Tier 1 identification.—Current and valid identification
884 that includes your name and photograph: Florida driver license;
885 Florida identification card issued by the Department of Highway
886 Safety and Motor Vehicles; United States passport or passport
887 card; United States uniformed services or Merchant Marine; ~~debit~~
888 ~~or credit card~~; ~~military identification~~; ~~student identification~~;
889 ~~retirement center identification~~; ~~neighborhood association~~
890 ~~identification~~; ~~public assistance~~ identification; veteran health
891 identification card issued by the United States Department of
892 Veterans Affairs; Florida license to carry a concealed weapon or
893 firearm; or any other ~~employee~~ identification card issued by any
894 branch, department, agency, or entity of the Federal Government,
895 the state, a county, or a municipality; or

896 b. Tier 2 identification.—ONLY IF YOU DO NOT HAVE A TIER 1
897 FORM OF IDENTIFICATION, identification that shows your name and
898 current residence address: current utility bill; bank statement;
899 government check; paycheck; or government document (excluding
900 voter information card).

901 4. Place the envelope bearing the affidavit into a mailing
902 envelope addressed to the supervisor. Insert a copy of your
903 identification in the mailing envelope. Mail (if time permits),
904 deliver, or have delivered the completed affidavit along with
905 the copy of your identification to your county supervisor of
906 elections. Be sure there is sufficient postage if mailed and
907 that the supervisor's address is correct. Remember, your
908 information MUST reach your county supervisor of elections no
909 later than 5 p.m. on the 2nd day following the election or your
910 ballot will not count.

911 5. Alternatively, you may fax or e-mail your completed
912 affidavit and a copy of your identification to the supervisor of
913 elections. If e-mailing, please provide these documents as
914 attachments.

915 6. Submitting a provisional ballot affidavit does not
916 establish your eligibility to vote in this election or guarantee
917 that your ballot will be counted. The county canvassing board
918 determines your eligibility to vote through information provided
919 on the Provisional Ballot Voter's Certificate and Affirmation,
920 written evidence provided by you, including information in your
921 cure affidavit along with any supporting identification, and any
922 other evidence presented by the supervisor of elections or a
923 challenger. You may still be required to present additional
924 written evidence to support your eligibility to vote.

925 **Section 14. Subsection (1) of section 101.151, Florida**

Statutes, is amended to read:

101.151 Specifications for ballots.—

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

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

Section 15. Subsection (4) of section 101.5606, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

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

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

Section 16. Section 101.56075, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

101.56075 Voting methods.—For the purpose of designating ballot selections, all voting must be by official ~~marksense~~ ballot, using a pen or marker recommended by the voting system

951 vendor. Persons with disabilities may vote using ~~marking device~~
952 ~~or~~ a voter interface device that produces a voter-verifiable
953 paper output and meets the voter accessibility requirements for
954 individuals with disabilities under s. 301 of the federal Help
955 America Vote Act of 2002 and s. 101.56062.

956 **Section 17. Subsections (1), (2), and (3) of section**
957 **101.5608, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:**

958 101.5608 Voting at the polls ~~by electronic or~~
959 ~~electromechanical method~~; procedures.—

960 (1) Each voter ~~elector~~ desiring to vote shall be
961 identified to the clerk or inspector of the election as a duly
962 qualified voter ~~elector~~ of such election and shall sign his or
963 her name on the precinct register or other form or device
964 provided by the supervisor. The inspector shall compare the
965 signature with the signature on the identification provided by
966 the voter ~~elector~~. If the inspector is reasonably sure that the
967 person is entitled to vote, the inspector shall provide the
968 person with a ballot.

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

972 (a) After receiving a ballot from an inspector, the voter
973 ~~elector~~ shall, without leaving the polling place, retire to a
974 booth or compartment and mark the ballot. After marking his or
975 her ballot, the voter ~~elector~~ shall place the ballot in a

976 secrecy envelope so that the ballot will be deposited in the
977 tabulator without exposing the voter's choices.

978 (b) Any voter who spoils his or her ballot or makes an
979 error may return the ballot to the election official and secure
980 another ballot, except that in no case shall a voter be
981 furnished more than three ballots. If the vote tabulation device
982 has rejected a ballot, the ballot must ~~shall~~ be considered
983 spoiled and a new ballot must ~~shall~~ be provided to the voter
984 unless the voter chooses to cast the rejected ballot. The
985 election official, without examining the original ballot, shall
986 state the possible reasons for the rejection and ~~shall~~ provide
987 instruction to the voter pursuant to s. 101.5611. A spoiled
988 ballot must ~~shall~~ be preserved, without examination, in an
989 envelope provided for that purpose. The stub must ~~shall~~ be
990 removed from the ballot and placed in an envelope.

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

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

999 **Section 18. Subsection (5) of section 101.5612, Florida**
1000 **Statutes, is amended to read:**

1001 101.5612 Testing of tabulating equipment.—

1002 (5) Any tests involving ~~marksense~~ ballots pursuant to this
1003 section shall employ test ballots created by the supervisor of
1004 elections using actual ballots that have been printed for the
1005 election. If ballot-on-demand ballots will be used in the
1006 election, the supervisor shall also create test ballots using
1007 the ballot-on-demand technology that will be used to produce
1008 ballots in the election, using the same paper stock as will be
1009 used for ballots in the election.

1010 **Section 19. Section 101.591, Florida Statutes, is amended**
1011 **to read:**

1012 101.591 Voting system automated independent vote
1013 validation process; system approval; procedures audit.—

1014 (1) Before ~~Immediately following~~ the certification of each
1015 election, the county canvassing board or the local board
1016 responsible for certifying the election shall conduct ~~a manual~~
1017 ~~audit or~~ an automated, independent vote validation ~~audit~~ of the
1018 voting systems used in all ~~randomly selected~~ precincts.

1019 ~~(2)(a) A manual audit shall consist of a public manual~~
1020 ~~tally of the votes cast in one randomly selected race that~~
1021 ~~appears on the ballot. The tally sheet shall include election-~~
1022 ~~day, vote-by-mail, early voting, provisional, and overseas~~
1023 ~~ballots, in at least 1 percent but no more than 2 percent of the~~
1024 ~~precincts chosen at random by the county canvassing board or the~~
1025 ~~local board responsible for certifying the election. If 1~~

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

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

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

1. Completely independent of the primary voting system.
2. Fast enough to produce final vote validation ~~audit~~ results within the timeframe prescribed in subsection (4).
3. Capable of demonstrating that the ballots of record have been accurately adjudicated by the automated independent vote validation process in agreement with the vote tabulation system and is capable of allowing the canvassing board to

1051 manually adjudicate ballots needing review. A canvassing board
1052 is not precluded from reviewing a digital image of a ballot
1053 corresponding to a physical paper ballot in conducting its
1054 review ~~audit system~~.

1055 (3) The canvassing board shall publish ~~post a~~ notice of
1056 the automated independent vote validation process ~~audit~~,
1057 including the date, time, and place such process will occur, on
1058 the county website as provided in s. 50.0311, on the supervisor
1059 of election's website, or once in one or more newspapers of
1060 general circulation in the county in which the process will
1061 occur. Such process must be open to the public, ~~in four~~
1062 ~~conspicuous places in the county and on the home page of the~~
1063 ~~county supervisor of elections website.~~

1064 (4) The automated independent vote validation process
1065 ~~audit~~ must be completed and the results made public before the
1066 certification of the election by each county canvassing board
1067 and in accordance with s. 102.141 ~~no later than 11:59 p.m. on~~
1068 ~~the 7th day following certification of the election by the~~
1069 ~~county canvassing board or the local board responsible for~~
1070 ~~certifying the election.~~

1071 (5) By December 15 of each general election year, the
1072 county canvassing board or the board responsible for certifying
1073 the election shall provide a report with the results of the
1074 automated independent vote validation process ~~audit~~ to the
1075 Department of State in a standard format as prescribed by the

department under s. 101.5911. Each county's ~~The~~ report must be consolidated into one report and included with the overvote and undervote report required under s. 101.595(1). The report must, at a minimum, shall contain all of, ~~but is not limited to,~~ the following items:

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

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

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

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

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

Section 20. Section 101.5911, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

1101 101.5911 Rulemaking authority for automated independent
1102 vote validation process approval; voting system audit
1103 procedures. ~~Effective upon this act becoming a law,~~ The
1104 department ~~of State~~ shall adopt rules to implement ~~the~~
1105 ~~provisions of s. 101.591, as amended by s. 8, chapter 2007-30,~~
1106 ~~Laws of Florida,~~ which provides for the testing and approval of
1107 an automated independent vote validation process, and prescribes
1108 ~~prescribe~~ detailed automated independent vote validation audit
1109 procedures for each voting system, which must shall be uniform
1110 to the extent practicable, along with the standard form for
1111 automated independent vote validation process audit reports.

1112 **Section 21. Subsections (1) and (3) of section 101.595,**
1113 **Florida Statutes, are amended to read:**

1114 101.595 Analysis of overvotes and undervotes ~~reports of~~
1115 ~~voting problems.~~

1116 (1) No later than December 15 of each general election
1117 year, the supervisor of elections in each county shall report to
1118 the Department of State the total number of overvotes and
1119 undervotes in the "President and Vice President" or "Governor
1120 and Lieutenant Governor" race that appears first on the ballot
1121 or, if neither appears, the first race appearing on the ballot
1122 pursuant to s. 101.151(2), along with the likely reasons for
1123 such overvotes and undervotes and other information as may be
1124 useful in evaluating the performance of the voting system and
1125 identifying problems with ballot design and instructions which

may have contributed to voter confusion. This report must be consolidated into one report with the automated independent vote validation ~~audit~~ report required under s. 101.591(6) ~~s. 101.591(5)~~.

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

Section 22. Paragraph (d) of subsection (4) of section 101.68, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

101.68 Canvassing of vote-by-mail ballot.—

(4)

(d) Instructions must accompany the cure affidavit in substantially the following form:

READ THESE INSTRUCTIONS CAREFULLY BEFORE COMPLETING THE AFFIDAVIT. FAILURE TO FOLLOW THESE INSTRUCTIONS MAY CAUSE YOUR BALLOT NOT TO COUNT.

1. In order to ensure that your vote-by-mail ballot will be counted, your affidavit should be completed and returned as soon as possible so that it can reach the supervisor of elections of the county in which your precinct is located no later than 5 p.m. on the 2nd day after the election.

2. You must sign your name on the line above (Voter's

Signature).

3. You must make a copy of one of the following forms of identification:

a. Tier 1 identification.—Current and valid identification that includes your name and photograph: Florida driver license; Florida identification card issued by the Department of Highway Safety and Motor Vehicles; United States passport or passport card; United States uniformed services or Merchant Marine; ~~debit or credit card~~; ~~military identification~~; ~~student identification~~; ~~retirement center identification~~; ~~neighborhood association identification~~; ~~public assistance~~ identification; veteran health identification card issued by the United States Department of Veterans Affairs; a Florida license to carry a concealed weapon or firearm; or any ~~an employee~~ identification card issued by any branch, department, agency, or entity of the Federal Government, the state, a county, or a municipality; or

b. Tier 2 identification.—ONLY IF YOU DO NOT HAVE A TIER 1 FORM OF IDENTIFICATION, identification that shows your name and current residence address: current utility bill, bank statement, government check, paycheck, or government document (excluding voter information card).

4. Place the envelope bearing the affidavit into a mailing envelope addressed to the supervisor. Insert a copy of your identification in the mailing envelope. Mail (if time permits), deliver, or have delivered the completed affidavit along with

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the copy of your identification to your county supervisor of elections. Be sure there is sufficient postage if mailed and that the supervisor's address is correct. Remember, your information MUST reach your county supervisor of elections no later than 5 p.m. on the 2nd day after the election, or your ballot will not count.

5. Alternatively, you may fax or e-mail your completed affidavit and a copy of your identification to the supervisor of elections. If e-mailing, please provide these documents as attachments.

Section 23. Subsection (2) of section 101.6923, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

101.6923 Special vote-by-mail ballot instructions for certain first-time voters.—

(2) A voter covered by this section must be provided with printed instructions with his or her vote-by-mail ballot in substantially the following form:

READ THESE INSTRUCTIONS CAREFULLY BEFORE MARKING YOUR BALLOT.
FAILURE TO FOLLOW THESE INSTRUCTIONS MAY CAUSE YOUR BALLOT NOT TO COUNT.

1. In order to ensure that your vote-by-mail ballot will be counted, it should be completed and returned as soon as possible so that it can reach the supervisor of elections of the county in which your precinct is located no later than 7 p.m. on the date of the election. However, if you are an overseas voter

1201 casting a ballot in a presidential preference primary or general
1202 election, your vote-by-mail ballot must be postmarked or dated
1203 no later than the date of the election and received by the
1204 supervisor of elections of the county in which you are
1205 registered to vote no later than 10 days after the date of the
1206 election. Note that the later you return your ballot, the less
1207 time you will have to cure signature deficiencies, which is
1208 authorized until 5 p.m. local time on the 2nd day after the
1209 election.

1210 2. Mark your ballot in secret as instructed on the ballot.
1211 You must mark your own ballot unless you are unable to do so
1212 because of blindness, disability, or inability to read or write.

1213 3. Mark only the number of candidates or issue choices for
1214 a race as indicated on the ballot. If you are allowed to "Vote
1215 for One" candidate and you vote for more than one, your vote in
1216 that race will not be counted.

1217 4. Place your marked ballot in the enclosed secrecy
1218 envelope and seal the envelope.

1219 5. Insert the secrecy envelope into the enclosed envelope
1220 bearing the Voter's Certificate. Seal the envelope and
1221 completely fill out the Voter's Certificate on the back of the
1222 envelope.

1223 a. You must sign your name on the line above (Voter's
1224 Signature).

1225 b. If you are an overseas voter, you must include the date

you signed the Voter's Certificate on the line above (Date) or your ballot may not be counted.

c. A vote-by-mail ballot will be considered illegal and will not be counted if the signature on the Voter's Certificate does not match the signature on record. The signature on file at the start of the canvass of the vote-by-mail ballots is the signature that will be used to verify your signature on the Voter's Certificate. If you need to update your signature for this election, send your signature update on a voter registration application to your supervisor of elections so that it is received before your vote-by-mail ballot is received.

6. Unless you meet one of the exemptions in Item 7., you must make a copy of one of the following forms of identification:

a. Identification which must include your name and photograph: United States passport or passport card; United States uniformed services or Merchant Marine; ~~debit or credit card; military identification; student identification; retirement center identification; neighborhood association identification; public assistance identification;~~ veteran health identification card issued by the United States Department of Veterans Affairs; a Florida license to carry a concealed weapon or firearm; or any ~~an employee~~ identification card issued by any branch, department, agency, or entity of the Federal Government, the state, a county, or a municipality; or

1251 b. Identification which shows your name and current
1252 residence address: current utility bill, bank statement,
1253 government check, paycheck, or government document (excluding
1254 voter information card).

1255 7. The identification requirements of Item 6. do not apply
1256 if you meet one of the following requirements:

1257 a. You are 65 years of age or older.

1258 b. You have a temporary or permanent physical disability.

1259 c. You are a member of a uniformed service on active duty
1260 who, by reason of such active duty, will be absent from the
1261 county on election day.

1262 d. You are a member of the Merchant Marine who, by reason
1263 of service in the Merchant Marine, will be absent from the
1264 county on election day.

1265 e. You are the spouse or dependent of a member referred to
1266 in paragraph c. or paragraph d. who, by reason of the active
1267 duty or service of the member, will be absent from the county on
1268 election day.

1269 f. You are currently residing outside the United States.

1270 8. Place the envelope bearing the Voter's Certificate into
1271 the mailing envelope addressed to the supervisor. Insert a copy
1272 of your identification in the mailing envelope. DO NOT PUT YOUR
1273 IDENTIFICATION INSIDE THE SECRECY ENVELOPE WITH THE BALLOT OR
1274 INSIDE THE ENVELOPE WHICH BEARS THE VOTER'S CERTIFICATE OR YOUR
1275 BALLOT WILL NOT COUNT.

1276 9. Mail, deliver, or have delivered the completed mailing
1277 envelope. Be sure there is sufficient postage if mailed.

1278 10. FELONY NOTICE. It is a felony under Florida law to
1279 accept any gift, payment, or gratuity in exchange for your vote
1280 for a candidate. It is also a felony under Florida law to vote
1281 in an election using a false identity or false address, or under
1282 any other circumstances making your ballot false or fraudulent.

1283 **Section 24. Subsection (2) of section 102.111, Florida**
1284 **Statutes, is amended to read:**

1285 102.111 Elections Canvassing Commission.—

1286 (2) The Elections Canvassing Commission shall meet at 9 &
1287 a.m. on the 9th day after a primary election and at 9 & a.m. on
1288 the 14th day after a general election to certify the returns of
1289 the election for each federal, state, and multicounty office and
1290 for each constitutional amendment. On days the Legislature
1291 convenes for organizational session pursuant to s. 3(a), Art.
1292 III of the State Constitution, such meeting will begin at 8 a.m.
1293 If a member of a county canvassing board that was constituted
1294 pursuant to s. 102.141 determines, within 5 days after the
1295 certification by the Elections Canvassing Commission, that a
1296 typographical error occurred in the official returns of the
1297 county, the correction of which could result in a change in the
1298 outcome of an election, the county canvassing board must certify
1299 corrected returns to the Department of State within 24 hours,
1300 and the Elections Canvassing Commission must correct and

recertify the election returns as soon as practicable.

Section 25. Subsections (3) through (11) of section 102.141, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

102.141 County canvassing board; duties.—

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

1326 (4) (a) The supervisor of elections shall upload into the
1327 county's election management system by 7 p.m. local time on the
1328 day before the election the results of all early voting and
1329 vote-by-mail ballots that have been canvassed and tabulated by
1330 the end of the early voting period. Pursuant to ss. 101.5614(8),
1331 101.657, and 101.68(2), the tabulation of votes cast or the
1332 results of such uploads may not be made public before the close
1333 of the polls on election day.

1334 (b) The supervisor of elections, on behalf of the
1335 canvassing board, shall report all early voting and all
1336 tabulated vote-by-mail results to the Department of State within
1337 30 minutes after the polls close. Thereafter, the canvassing
1338 board shall report, with the exception of provisional ballot
1339 results, updated precinct election results, which must be
1340 uploaded to the department at least every 45 minutes until all
1341 results are completely reported. The supervisor of elections
1342 shall notify the department immediately of any circumstances
1343 that do not permit periodic updates as required. Results must
1344 ~~shall~~ be submitted in a format prescribed by the department.

1345 (5) (a) The canvassing board shall submit on forms or in
1346 formats provided by the division unofficial returns to the
1347 Department of State for each federal, statewide, state, or
1348 multicounty office or ballot measure no later than noon on the
1349 third day after any primary election and no later than noon on
1350 the fourth day after any general or other election. Such returns

1351 must ~~shall~~ include the canvass of all ballots, including write-
1352 in votes, as required by subsection (2).

1353 (b) After unofficial results are reported, each county
1354 must conduct an automated independent vote validation process,
1355 in accordance with s. 101.591, to validate that the votes
1356 processed through the vote tabulation system for a candidate for
1357 any office, candidate for retention to a judicial office, or a
1358 measure appearing on the ballot do not:

1359 1. Have a discrepancy of more than one-half of a percent
1360 when compared to the results of the automated independent vote
1361 validation process; or

1362 2. Result in a change in the outcome of the election.

1363
1364 The automated independent vote validation process must be
1365 completed no later than noon on the 6th day after any primary
1366 election and no later than noon on the 7th day after any general
1367 or other election.

1368 (c)(6) If the county canvassing board determines, after
1369 the county conducts the automated independent vote validation
1370 process in accordance with s. 101.591, and the comparison of the
1371 results of the vote tabulation and the automated independent
1372 vote validation process indicates that the unofficial returns
1373 may contain a counting error in which the vote tabulation system
1374 or the automated independent vote validation process failed to
1375 count votes that were properly marked in accordance with the

instructions on the ballot, the county canvassing board shall:

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

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

(6) (a)~~(7)~~ If the comparison of the results of the vote tabulation system and the automated independent vote validation process reflects a difference as described in paragraph (5) (b), the proper county election official under the oversight of the county canvassing board must conduct a system validation review using the images in the automated independent vote validation process of the ballots in disagreement, which must include, but is not limited to, a review of any clear overvotes or undervotes that appear in the automated independent vote validation process to adjudicate the voter's intent of such ballots before certification of the county's official results. If the unofficial returns reflect that a candidate for any office was defeated or eliminated by one-half of a percent or less of the votes cast for such office, that a candidate for retention to a judicial office was retained or not retained by one-half of a

1401 percent or less of the votes cast on the question of retention,
1402 or that a measure appearing on the ballot was approved or
1403 rejected by one-half of a percent or less of the votes cast on
1404 such measure, a system validation review must ~~recount shall~~ be
1405 ordered of the votes cast with respect to such office or
1406 measure. The Secretary of State is responsible for ordering such
1407 system validation reviews ~~recounts~~ in all federal, state, and
1408 multicounty races. The county canvassing board or the local
1409 board responsible for certifying the election is responsible for
1410 ordering a system validation review under this subsection
1411 ~~recounts~~ in all other races. A system validation review ~~recount~~
1412 need not be ordered with respect to the returns for any office,
1413 however, if the candidate or candidates defeated or eliminated
1414 from contention for such office by one-half of a percent or less
1415 of the votes cast for such office request in writing that a
1416 system validation review ~~recount~~ not be made.

1417 ~~(a) Each canvassing board responsible for conducting a~~
1418 ~~recount shall put each marksense ballot through automatic~~
1419 ~~tabulating equipment and determine whether the returns correctly~~
1420 ~~reflect the votes cast. If any marksense ballot is physically~~
1421 ~~damaged so that it cannot be properly counted by the automatic~~
1422 ~~tabulating equipment during the recount, a true duplicate shall~~
1423 ~~be made of the damaged ballot pursuant to the procedures in s.~~
1424 ~~101.5614(4). Immediately before the start of the recount, a test~~
1425 ~~of the tabulating equipment shall be conducted as provided in s.~~

1426 ~~101.5612. If the test indicates no error, the recount tabulation~~
1427 ~~of the ballots cast shall be presumed correct and such votes~~
1428 ~~shall be canvassed accordingly. If an error is detected, the~~
1429 ~~cause therefor shall be ascertained and corrected and the~~
1430 ~~recount repeated, as necessary. The canvassing board shall~~
1431 ~~immediately report the error, along with the cause of the error~~
1432 ~~and the corrective measures being taken, to the Department of~~
1433 ~~State. No later than 11 days after the election, the canvassing~~
1434 ~~board shall file a separate incident report with the Department~~
1435 ~~of State, detailing the resolution of the matter and identifying~~
1436 ~~any measures that will avoid a future recurrence of the error.~~
1437 ~~If the automatic tabulating equipment used in a recount is not~~
1438 ~~part of the voting system and the ballots have already been~~
1439 ~~processed through such equipment, the canvassing board is not~~
1440 ~~required to put each ballot through any automatic tabulating~~
1441 ~~equipment again.~~

1442 ~~(b) Each canvassing board responsible for conducting a~~
1443 ~~recount where touchscreen ballots were used shall examine the~~
1444 ~~counters on the precinct tabulators to ensure that the total of~~
1445 ~~the returns on the precinct tabulators equals the overall~~
1446 ~~election return. If there is a discrepancy between the overall~~
1447 ~~election return and the counters of the precinct tabulators, the~~
1448 ~~counters of the precinct tabulators shall be presumed correct~~
1449 ~~and such votes shall be canvassed accordingly.~~

1450 ~~(c) The canvassing board shall submit on forms or in~~

1451 ~~formats provided by the division a second set of unofficial~~
1452 ~~returns to the Department of State for each federal, statewide,~~
1453 ~~state, or multicounty office or ballot measure. The returns~~
1454 ~~shall be filed no later than 3 p.m. on the 5th day after any~~
1455 ~~primary election and no later than 3 p.m. on the 9th day after~~
1456 ~~any general election in which a recount was ordered by the~~
1457 ~~Secretary of State. If the canvassing board is unable to~~
1458 ~~complete the recount prescribed in this subsection by the~~
1459 ~~deadline, the second set of unofficial returns submitted by the~~
1460 ~~canvassing board shall be identical to the initial unofficial~~
1461 ~~returns and the submission shall also include a detailed~~
1462 ~~explanation of why it was unable to timely complete the recount.~~
1463 ~~However, the canvassing board shall complete the recount~~
1464 ~~prescribed in this subsection, along with any manual recount~~
1465 ~~prescribed in s. 102.166, and certify election returns in~~
1466 ~~accordance with the requirements of this chapter.~~

1467 ~~(d) The Department of State shall adopt detailed rules~~
1468 ~~prescribing additional recount procedures for each certified~~
1469 ~~voting system, which shall be uniform to the extent practicable.~~

1470 (b)(8) The canvassing board may employ such clerical help
1471 to assist with the work of the board as it deems necessary, with
1472 at least one member of the board present at all times, until the
1473 canvass of the returns is completed. The clerical help must
1474 ~~shall~~ be paid from the same fund as inspectors and other
1475 necessary election officials.

1476 (c) The canvassing board shall publish notice of the
1477 system validation review, including the date, time, and place
1478 such review will occur, on the county website as provided in s.
1479 50.0311, on the supervisor of elections' website, or once in one
1480 or more newspapers of general circulation in the county in which
1481 the review will occur. Such review is open to the public.

1482 (d) The canvassing board shall submit on forms or in
1483 formats provided by the division a vote validation report to the
1484 department for each federal, state, or multicounty office or
1485 ballot measure in accordance with paragraph (5)(b). If the
1486 canvassing board is unable to complete the system validation
1487 review by the deadline, the vote validation report submitted by
1488 the canvassing board must be identical to the initial unofficial
1489 returns and the submission must also include a detailed
1490 explanation of the reason the board was unable to timely
1491 complete the system validation review. However, the canvassing
1492 board shall complete the system validation review prescribed in
1493 this subsection, and certify official election returns, in
1494 accordance with the requirements of this chapter.

1495 (e) The department shall adopt detailed rules prescribing
1496 additional system validation review procedures for each
1497 certified voting system, which must be uniform to the extent
1498 practicable.

1499 (7)(9) Each member, substitute member, and alternate
1500 member of the county canvassing board and all clerical help must

1501 wear identification badges during any period in which the county
1502 canvassing board is canvassing votes or engaging in other
1503 official duties. The identification badges must ~~should~~ be worn
1504 in a conspicuous and unobstructed area, and include the name of
1505 the individual and his or her official position.

1506 (8) ~~(10)~~ (a) The supervisor shall file a report with the
1507 Division of Elections on the conduct of the election no later
1508 than 20 business days after the Elections Canvassing Commission
1509 certifies the election. The report must, at a minimum, describe
1510 all of the following:

1511 1. All equipment or software malfunctions at the precinct
1512 level, at a counting location, or within computer and
1513 telecommunications networks supporting a county location, or
1514 issues encountered with any state approved election system,
1515 including, but not limited to, vote tabulation systems and
1516 automated independent vote validation processes, and the steps
1517 that were taken to address the malfunctions.

1518 2. All election definition errors that were discovered
1519 after the logic and accuracy test, and the steps that were taken
1520 to address the errors.

1521 3. All ballot printing errors, vote-by-mail ballot mailing
1522 errors, or ballot supply problems, and the steps that were taken
1523 to address the errors or problems.

1524 4. All staffing shortages or procedural violations by
1525 employees or precinct workers which were addressed by the

supervisor of elections or the county canvassing board during the conduct of the election, and the steps that were taken to correct such issues.

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

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

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

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

(d) The division shall review the conduct of election reports to determine what problems may be likely to occur in other elections and disseminate such information, along with possible solutions and training, to the supervisors of elections.

(e) For the general election, the department shall submit the analysis of these reports for the post-general ~~general~~

election report ~~as part of the consolidated reports~~ required under ss. 101.591 and 101.595 to the Governor, the President of the Senate, and the Speaker of the House of Representatives by February 15 of each year following a general election.

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

Section 26. Section 102.166, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

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

(1) If the vote tabulation system indicates and automated independent vote validation process conducted under ss. 101.591 and 102.141 confirms ~~second set of unofficial returns pursuant to s. 102.141 indicates~~ that a candidate for any office was defeated or eliminated by one-quarter of a percent or less of the votes cast for such office, that a candidate for retention to a judicial office was retained or not retained by one-quarter of a percent or less of the votes cast on the question of retention, or that a measure appearing on the ballot was approved or rejected by one-quarter of a percent or less of the

votes cast on such measure, a manual review ~~recount~~ of the overvotes and undervotes cast in the entire geographic jurisdiction of such office or ballot measure must ~~shall~~ be ordered and conducted in a manner consistent with s. 102.141(6) unless:

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

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

The Secretary of State is responsible for ordering manual reviews of all ~~a manual recount for~~ federal, state, and multicounty races. The county canvassing board or local board responsible for certifying the election is responsible for ordering a manual review ~~recount~~ for all other races. A manual review ~~recount~~ consists of a review by a designee of the canvassing board ~~recount~~ of paper ~~marksense~~ ballots or of digital images from an independent vote validation system, if applicable ~~of those ballots by a person~~.

(2) Any hardware or software used to identify and sort overvotes and undervotes for a given race or ballot measure must be certified by the Department of State. Any such hardware or

software must be capable of simultaneously identifying and sorting overvotes and undervotes in multiple races while simultaneously counting votes. Overvotes and undervotes must be identified and sorted while conducting the automated independent vote validation process ~~recounting ballots~~ pursuant to s. 102.141. Overvotes and undervotes must ~~may~~ be identified and sorted physically or digitally.

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

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

(b) The Department of State shall adopt specific rules for the federal write-in absentee ballot and for each certified voting system prescribing what constitutes a "clear indication on the ballot that the voter has made a definite choice." The rules must ~~shall~~ be consistent, to the extent practicable, and may not:

1. Authorize the use of any electronic or electromechanical reading device to review a hybrid voting system ballot that is produced using a voter interface device

and that contains both machine-readable fields and machine-printed text of the contest titles and voter selections, unless the printed text is illegible;

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

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

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

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

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

3. The sufficiency of designating a candidate's first or last name when an opposing candidate has the same or a similar name, notwithstanding generational suffixes and titles such as "Jr.," "Sr.," or "III." The rule should contemplate the sufficiency of additional first names and first initials, middle names and middle initials, generational suffixes and titles, nicknames, and, in general elections, the name or abbreviation of a political party.

1651 4. Candidate designations containing both a qualified
1652 candidate's name and a political party, including those in which
1653 the party designated is the candidate's party, is not the
1654 candidate's party, has an opposing candidate in the race, or
1655 does not have an opposing candidate in the race.

1656 5. Situations where the abbreviation or name of a
1657 candidate is the same as the abbreviation or name of a political
1658 party to which the candidate does not belong, including those in
1659 which the party designated has another candidate in the race or
1660 does not have a candidate in the race.

1661 6. The use of marks, symbols, or language, such as arrows,
1662 quotation marks, or the word "same" or "ditto," to indicate that
1663 the same political party designation applies to all listed
1664 offices or the elector's approval or disapproval of all listed
1665 ballot measures.

1666 7. Situations in which an elector designates the name of a
1667 qualified candidate for an incorrect office.

1668 8. Situations in which an elector designates an otherwise
1669 correct office name that includes an incorrect district number.

1670 (5) Procedures for a manual review ~~recount~~ are as follows:

1671 (a) The county canvassing board shall appoint as many
1672 counting teams of at least two electors as is necessary to
1673 manually review ~~recount~~ the ballots. A counting team must have,
1674 when possible, members of at least two political parties. A
1675 candidate involved in the race may ~~shall~~ not be a member of the

counting team.

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

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

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

1. Security of ballots during the manual review ~~recount~~ process. ~~;~~

2. Time and place of manual reviews. ~~recounts;~~

3. Public observance of manual reviews. ~~recounts;~~

4. Objections to ballot determinations. ~~;~~

5. Record of manual review ~~recount~~ proceedings. ~~;~~

6. Procedures relating to candidate and petitioner representatives. ~~;~~ ~~and~~

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

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

Section 27. Effective July 1, 2026, section 104.042, Florida Statutes, is created to read:

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

Section 28. Effective July 1, 2026, paragraphs (c) through (f) are added to subsection (12) of section 106.08, Florida Statutes, and paragraph (b) of the subsection is reenacted, to read:

106.08 Contributions; limitations on.—

(12)

(b) A foreign national may not make or offer to make, directly or indirectly, a contribution or expenditure in connection with any election held in the state.

(c) A political party, a political committee, an electioneering communications organization, or a candidate may not knowingly and willfully accept or solicit, directly or indirectly, a contribution from a foreign national in connection with any election held in this state.

(d) A person, acting either alone or jointly with,

1726 through, or on behalf of another person, who has knowingly and
1727 willfully received a contribution from one or more foreign
1728 nationals in an aggregate amount exceeding \$100,000 over the
1729 preceding 4 years, may not make a contribution or independent
1730 expenditure:

1731 1. To a political committee supporting or opposing an
1732 issue in this state; or

1733 2. In support or opposition of an issue in this state.

1734 (e) A political committee supporting or opposing an issue
1735 in this state may not knowingly and willfully accept
1736 contributions from a person, acting either alone or jointly
1737 with, through, or on behalf of another person, who has received
1738 contributions from one or more foreign nationals in an aggregate
1739 amount exceeding \$100,000 over the preceding 4 years.

1740 (f) A person or entity who violates this subsection
1741 commits a felony of the third degree, punishable as provided in
1742 s. 775.082, s. 775.083, or s. 775.084, and shall also be subject
1743 to a civil penalty equal to three times the amount contributed.
1744 Such penalty shall be paid into the General Revenue Fund. Any
1745 penalty imposed against a person that is not an individual
1746 jointly and severally attaches to the chair of the entity if the
1747 entity does not pay the penalty within 30 days. The Florida
1748 Election Commission shall be responsible for determining
1749 violations, imposing civil penalties, and collecting any unpaid
1750 civil penalties. The Florida Election Commission shall report

any violations of this subsection to the Office of Election Crimes and Security to include in the department's report under s. 97.022.

Section 29. Section 322.034, Florida Statutes, is created to read:

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

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

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

Section 30. Effective July 1, 2026, paragraph (d) of subsection (8) of section 895.02, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

895.02 Definitions.—As used in ss. 895.01-895.08, the term:

(8) "Racketeering activity" means to commit, to attempt to commit, to conspire to commit, or to solicit, coerce, or intimidate another person to commit:

(d) Any ~~A~~ violation of chapter 104 ~~the Florida Election Code relating to irregularities or fraud involving issue petition activities.~~

Section 31. Subsections (5) and (6) of section 98.065, Florida Statutes, are amended to read:

98.065 Registration list maintenance programs.—

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

(6) The supervisor shall, at a minimum, conduct an annual review of voter registration records to identify registration records in which a voter is registered at an address that may not be an address of legal residence for the voter. For those registration records with such addresses that the supervisor has reasonable belief are not legal residential addresses, the supervisor shall initiate list maintenance activities pursuant to s. 98.075(7) ~~s. 98.075(6)~~ and (8) ~~(7)~~.

Section 32. Section 98.0755, Florida Statutes, is amended

to read:

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

Section 33. Paragraph (b) of subsection (1) of section 101.67, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

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

(1)

(b) To the extent practicable, the supervisor of elections shall segregate any vote-by-mail ballots received from a person to whom notice has been sent pursuant to s. 98.075(8) ~~s. 98.075(7)~~, but for whom a final determination of eligibility has not been made, and shall treat them as provisional ballots for individual review by the county canvassing board. The supervisor

shall attempt to contact each voter whose ballot has been set aside under this paragraph in the same manner as if the voter had voted a provisional ballot under s. 101.048.

Section 34. Subsection (2) of section 104.16, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

104.16 Voting fraudulent ballot.—

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

Section 35. Except as otherwise expressly provided in this act and except for this section, which shall take effect July 1, 2026, this act shall take effect January 1, 2027.