



FLORIDA VOTE-BY-MAIL

Recent state legislation [1] makes voting by mail more difficult with stricter ID and signature checks, tighter limits on ballot return, and renewal every two years. These changes could make it harder for union members and working families to make their vote count.



IMPACT ON UNION MEMBERS

- **Shift-based workers** face hurdles with faster-expiring vote-by-mail requests
- **Stricter ID and signature rules** may increase risk of ballot rejection
- **Ballot handling** limits make it harder for unions to help members
- **Union outreach** ensures every member's vote counts



MAILING IT IN

- **Renew every 2 years:** Since requests now expire at the end of each general election year, voters must submit a new request to vote by mail every 2 years
- **ID required:** Voters must provide a Florida driver's license number, state ID number, or the last four digits of their Social Security number
- **No unsolicited mailings:** Most voters must actively request each cycle
- **Mass-mailing limits:** Supervisors **cannot** mass-mail ballots without a request



BALLOT COLLECTION RULES

- **Handling restrictions:** Voters may return only their own ballot, those of immediate family members, and no more than two other ballots
- **Misdemeanor penalties apply** for exceeding this limit



DROP BOX RULES

- **Limited hours:** Ballot drop boxes not at a county supervisor's office are only open during early voting hours
- **Drop boxes must be staffed** and monitored by an election official



ENHANCED STATE MONITORING

- **Mandatory training** for staff verifying signatures on ballots
- **Standardized checks** may increase risk of rejection for minor errors and mismatches



THIRD-PARTY REGISTRATION & VOTER REGISTRATION APPLICATIONS

- **Harsher fines and shorter deadlines** for third-party voter registration groups
- **Voter registration applications must warn** voters that third-party voter registration groups (like unions collecting voter registration forms) might not promptly deliver voters' registration forms
- **More restrictions** on who can collect or return voter registration forms

[1] "Senate Bill 90 (2021)," The Florida Senate, accessed October 1, 2025, <https://www.flsenate.gov/Session/Bill/2021/90>; and "Senate Bill 7050 (2023)," The Florida Senate, accessed October 1, 2025, <https://www.flsenate.gov/Session/Bill/2023/7050>.

2026 PRIMARY ELECTION

- **Deadline to register to vote or change party affiliation:** July 20
- **Deadline to request mail-in ballot:** August 6
- **Early voting:** August 8-15
- **Election Day:** Tuesday, August 18

2026 GENERAL ELECTION

- **Deadline to register to vote or change party affiliation:** October 5
- **Deadline to request mail-in ballot:** October 22
- **Early voting:** October 24-31
- **Election Day:** Tuesday, November 3

Produced by OPEIU Local 2



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