

# ***Top Five Reasons Florida Needs the “Vote-by-Mail Security” Bill***

Vote-by-mail (VBM) is the least secure and most costly method of voting. Senator Garcia and Representative Barnaby's 2025 session VBM Security Bills (SB396/HB1203) put controls in place to protect vote-by-mail ballots and create a qualified vote-by-mail program for voters who cannot go to the polls - military, out-of-state civilians, and people with disabilities.

## **1) Election results for all levels of government can be compromised because tens of thousands of illegal vote-by-mail ballots can be inserted and /or legal ballots deleted without detection**

- No statewide standard for vote-by-mail ballot chain of custody forms or procedures.
- VBM ballots are counted with chain of custody records that are missing, incomplete, or indicate broken chain of custody. Many voted VBM ballots are transported in open bins with no chain of custody forms.
- No state oversight or public observation of ballot chain of custody records and procedures.

## **2) Current processes are insufficient to prevent impersonators from obtaining or intercepting a legal ballot, completing, returning it, and having it counted**

- In the 2024 General Election, over 500,000 ballots were recorded as being sent to a voter who did *not* provide the legally required driver's license or the last 4 digits of their social security number.
- No ID or verification that a ballot was properly requested is required to accept a returned ballot.
- The signature on file for many voters is insufficient to do proper signature verification.

## **3) Two-thirds of Florida’s vote-by-mail ballots in 2024 were processed by 12 large counties in warehouse-type environments with temporary workers, limited oversight, and limited public observation**

- Current interpretation of statutory controls on polling places is they do not apply to vote-by-mail counting centers which means that by law vote-by-mail counting center staff do not have to be an elector in the county, a Florida resident, or even be a U. S. citizen.
- There is no statutory requirement for bi-partisan staffing in vote-by-mail counting centers.
- There are no state or independent procedural audits of vote-by-mail counting centers.

## **4) Florida’s military and overseas vote-by-mail ballots are at risk and deserve stronger protection**

## **5) Not every vote-by-mail risk can be mitigated, e.g. postal service, caregivers, fax services . . .**

### **Why the Vote-by-Mail Security Bill is the Only Real Solution**

<b>Goal</b>	<b>VBM Security Bill</b>	<b>President Trump’s EO &amp; Directives</b>
Rigorous ballot chain of custody standards with daily reconciliation and candidate/observer viewing of forms before counting ballots	✓	TBD
Stronger ballot request and receipt policies with procedural audits	✓	TBD
Bi-partisan staffing with full transparency/observation/audits	✓	✓
Stronger controls for military ballot processing	✓	TBD
Qualified vote-by-mail – limit VBM to those unable to vote in-person	✓	✓

For More Info: [Vote-by-Mail Security Bill](#) Rev 9-24 6am

