

**ORDINANCE NO. \_\_\_\_\_**  
**AN ORDINANCE OF THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF**  
**\_\_\_\_\_ COUNTY, \_\_\_\_\_, ESTABLISHING THE**  
**\_\_\_\_\_ COUNTY PROTECT ELDERLY and VULNERABLE**  
**VOTERS ORDINANCE; PROVIDING FOR CONFLICT AND**  
**SEVERABILITY; PROVIDING FOR INCLUSION IN THE CODE OF**  
**LAWS AND ORDINANCES; AND PROVIDING FOR AN EFFECTIVE**  
**DATE.**

**WHEREAS,** \_\_\_\_\_ County values all its citizens, and particularly cherishes senior citizens, who have spent a lifetime contributing to the success of our community, state and nation and the disabled who are vulnerable; and

**WHEREAS,** the Board recognizes that free and fair elections are the bedrock of democracy and that preserving the integrity of the voting process is essential to maintaining our Republic; and

**WHEREAS,** the Board wishes to address the concerns of \_\_\_\_\_ County residents that some senior citizens and disabled residents in long term care facilities in \_\_\_\_\_ County could be considered vulnerable voters, as they live in environments in which they could easily be deprived of their right to cast ballots free from interference by third parties.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS OF \_\_\_\_\_ COUNTY, \_\_\_\_\_:**

**SECTION ONE: Title**

This Ordinance shall be known and cited as the “\_\_\_\_\_ County Protect Vulnerable Voters Ordinance”.

**SECTION TWO: Purpose and Intent**

The purpose of this Ordinance is to safeguard the voting process for all \_\_\_\_\_ County residents, particularly the aged and other persons confined to residential care facilities at the time of election.

**SECTION THREE: Applicability.**

This Ordinance is applicable and limited to \_\_\_\_\_ County.

**SECTION FOUR: Election Integrity Education Requirement**

(A) Any health or residential care facility within \_\_\_\_\_ County that retains patients for overnight stays or longer such as a hospital, nursing home, rehabilitation facility, group home or other residential care facility must provide training to each of its staff members who have contact with patients, about state election law as it pertains to independence and confidentiality in voting,

prohibitions against undue influence by staff or outside activists, proper adherence to state and federal laws, and criminal penalties for any person who violates such provisions of law. This training must occur within the 30 days before the early voting start date for any municipal, state, or federal election.

(B) Any healthcare or residential care facility within \_\_\_\_\_ County that retains patients for overnight stays or longer such as a hospital, nursing home, rehabilitation facility, group home or other residential care facility must provide educational information to all of its patients/residents about state election law as it pertains to independence and confidentiality in voting, prohibitions against undue influence by staff or outside activists, and methods of reporting of these violations of law. This education information must be provided within 30 days before the early voting start date for any municipal, state, or federal election.

(C) The above requirements can be met by utilizing information and training provided by an independent, nonpartisan organization such as the American Constitutional Rights Union’s Center for Vulnerable Voters, or such training can be provided in-house so long as staff providing the training has taken the necessary steps to become educated on the relevant state and federal law requirements, prohibitions, and penalties prior to providing the training. It is strongly recommended that each facility rely on their general counsel or outside counsel to determine the pertinent state and federal laws. More information can be found at [www.centerforvulnerablevoters.org](http://www.centerforvulnerablevoters.org).

(D) Proof of provision of the training must be retained by the facility for four (4) years following the date of the training and must be provided to the County upon request.

**SECTION FIVE: Penalties**

Violations of this Ordinance shall be punishable as provided by law for the violation of County ordinances. In addition, violation of this Ordinance shall give rise to a private right of action for civil suit in a court of competent jurisdiction.

**SECTION SIX: Conflict of Laws**

Nothing in this Ordinance is intended to be in conflict with State law. If any provision of this Ordinance is in conflict with State law, State law is controlling. The intent of this Ordinance is to supplement State law to protect elderly and vulnerable voters from election fraud and malfeasance.

**SECTION SEVEN: Severability**

If any phrase or portion of the Ordinance is held invalid or unconstitutional by any court of competent jurisdiction, such portion shall be deemed a separate, distinct and independent provision and such holding shall not affect the validity of the remaining portion.

**SECTION EIGHT: Inclusion in the Code of Laws and Ordinances**

The provisions of this Ordinance shall become and be made part of the Code of Laws and Ordinances of \_\_\_\_\_ County, \_\_\_\_\_. The sections of the Ordinance may be renumbered or

relettered to accomplish such, and the word “ordinance” may be changed to “section,” “article,” or any other appropriate word.

**SECTION FIFTEEN: Effective Date**

This Ordinance shall become effective upon filing with the Secretary of State.

**PASSED AND DULY ADOPTED** by the Board of County Commissioners of \_\_\_\_\_  
County, \_\_\_\_\_, this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, \_\_\_\_\_.

ATTEST:

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

\_\_\_\_\_, CLERK

\_\_\_\_\_ COUNTY, \_\_\_\_\_

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_, Deputy Clerk

By: \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_, Chairman