

ASSEMBLY BILL NO. 614—COMMITTEE ON ELECTIONS,
PROCEDURES, AND ETHICS

MARCH 18, 1999

Referred to Committee on Elections, Procedures, and Ethics

SUMMARY—Makes various changes to provisions regarding elections. (BDR 24-281)

FISCAL NOTE: Effect on Local Government: Yes.
Effect on the State or on Industrial Insurance: Yes.

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EXPLANATION – Matter in ***bolded italics*** is new; matter between brackets ~~omitted material~~ is material to be omitted.

AN ACT relating to elections; making various provisions for access to and use of polling places and absent ballots by voters who are disabled, elderly or unable to go to polling places; requiring a candidate to be an actual, as opposed to constructive, resident of his claimed residence; changing the period that unused ballots must be held by the county clerk; revising the requirements for recounting ballots by hand; specifying the time within which a public officer who is subject to a recall may resign without a special election being conducted; making various changes to election deadlines and procedures; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEVADA, REPRESENTED IN SENATE
AND ASSEMBLY, DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:

- 1 **Section 1.** Chapter 293 of NRS is hereby amended by adding thereto
2 the provisions set forth as sections 2 and 3 of this act.
3 **Sec. 2. 1. *A registered voter who, because of a physical disability,***
4 ***is unable to mark or sign a ballot or use a voting device without***
5 ***assistance may submit a written statement to the appropriate county clerk***
6 ***requesting that he receive an absent ballot for each election conducted***
7 ***during the period specified in subsection 3.***
8 **2. *A written statement submitted pursuant to subsection 1 must:***
9 ***(a) Include a statement from a physician licensed in this state***
10 ***certifying that the registered voter is a person with a physical disability***
11 ***and, because of the physical disability, he is unable to mark or sign a***
12 ***ballot or use a voting device without assistance;***

1 (b) Designate the person who will assist the registered voter in
2 marking and signing the absent ballot on behalf of the registered voter;
3 and

4 (c) Include the name, address and signature of the person designated
5 pursuant to paragraph (b).

6 3. Upon receipt of a written statement submitted by a registered voter
7 pursuant to subsection 1, the county clerk shall, if the statement includes
8 the information required pursuant to subsection 2, issue an absent ballot
9 to the registered voter for each election that is conducted during the year
10 immediately succeeding the date the written statement is submitted to the
11 county clerk.

12 4. To determine whether a registered voter is entitled to receive an
13 absent ballot pursuant to this section, the county clerk may, every year
14 after an absent ballot is issued to a registered voter pursuant to
15 subsection 3, require the registered voter to submit a statement from a
16 licensed physician as specified in paragraph (a) of subsection 2. If a
17 statement from a physician licensed in this state submitted pursuant to
18 this subsection indicates that the registered voter is no longer physically
19 disabled, the county clerk shall not issue an absent ballot to the
20 registered voter pursuant to this section.

21 5. A person designated pursuant to paragraph (b) of subsection 2
22 may, on behalf of and at the direction of the registered voter, mark and
23 sign an absent ballot issued to the registered voter pursuant to the
24 provisions of this section. If the person marks and signs the ballot, the
25 person shall indicate next to his signature that the ballot has been
26 marked and signed on behalf of the registered voter.

27 6. The procedure authorized pursuant to this section is subject to all
28 other provisions of this chapter relating to voting by absent ballot to the
29 extent that those provisions are not inconsistent with the provisions of
30 this section.

31 **Sec. 3. 1.** A person who, during the 6 months immediately
32 preceding an election, mails to more than a total of 500 registered voters
33 a form to request an absent ballot for the election shall:

34 (a) Mail the form prescribed by the secretary of state, which must, in
35 14-point type or larger:

36 (1) Identify the person who is mailing the form;

37 (2) Include a notice stating, "This is a request for an absent
38 ballot."; and

39 (3) State that by returning the form the form will be submitted to
40 the county clerk;

41 (b) Not later than 14 days before mailing such a form, notify the
42 county clerk of each county to which a form will be mailed of the number

1 *of forms to be mailed to voters in the county and the date of the mailing*
2 *of the forms; and*

3 *(c) Not mail such a form later than 21 days before the election.*

4 *2. The provisions of this section do not authorize a person to vote by*
5 *absent ballot if he is not otherwise eligible to vote by absent ballot.*

6 **Sec. 4.** NRS 293.1276 is hereby amended to read as follows:

7 293.1276 1. Within 4 days excluding Saturdays, Sundays and
8 holidays, after the submission of a petition containing signatures which are
9 required to be verified pursuant to NRS 293.128, **293.165**, 293.172,
10 293.200, 295.056, 298.109 ~~for 306.035,~~ **306.035 or 306.110**, the county
11 clerk shall determine the total number of signatures affixed to the
12 documents and forward that information to the secretary of state.

13 2. If the secretary of state finds that the total number of signatures filed
14 with all the county clerks is less than 100 percent of the required number of
15 registered voters, he shall so notify the person who submitted the petition
16 and the county clerks and no further action may be taken in regard to the
17 petition. If the petition is a petition to recall a county, district or municipal
18 officer, the secretary of state shall also notify the officer with whom the
19 petition is to be filed.

20 3. After the petition is submitted to the county clerk it must not be
21 handled by any other person except by an employee of the county clerk's
22 office until it is filed with the secretary of state.

23 **Sec. 5.** NRS 293.1277 is hereby amended to read as follows:

24 293.1277 1. If the secretary of state finds that the total number of
25 signatures submitted to all the county clerks is 100 percent or more of the
26 number of registered voters needed to declare the petition sufficient, he
27 shall immediately so notify the county clerks. Within 9 days excluding
28 Saturdays, Sundays and holidays after notification, each of the county
29 clerks shall determine the number of registered voters who have signed the
30 documents submitted in his county.

31 2. If more than 500 names have been signed on the documents
32 submitted to him, a county clerk shall examine the signatures by sampling
33 them at random for verification. The random sample of signatures to be
34 verified must be drawn in such a manner that every signature which has
35 been submitted to the county clerk is given an equal opportunity to be
36 included in the sample. The sample must include an examination of at least
37 500 or 5 percent of the signatures, whichever is greater.

38 3. In determining from the records of registration the number of
39 registered voters who signed the documents, the county clerk may use the
40 signatures contained in the file of applications to register to vote. If the
41 county clerk uses that file, he shall ensure that every application in the file
42 is examined, including any application in his possession which may not yet
43 be entered into his records. The county clerk shall rely only on the

1 appearance of the signature and the address and date included with each
2 signature in making his determination.

3 4. Except as otherwise provided in subsection 6, upon completing the
4 examination, the county clerk shall immediately attach to the documents a
5 certificate properly dated, showing the result of his examination and
6 transmit the documents with the certificate to the secretary of state. A copy
7 of this certificate must be filed in the clerk's office.

8 5. A person who submits a petition to the county clerk which is
9 required to be verified pursuant to NRS 293.128, ~~293.165~~, 293.172,
10 293.200, 295.056, 298.109, ~~306.035~~ **or 306.110** must be allowed to
11 witness the verification of the signatures. A public officer who is the
12 subject of a recall petition must also be allowed to witness the verification
13 of the signatures on the petition.

14 6. For any petition containing signatures which are required to be
15 verified pursuant to the provisions of NRS ~~293.165~~, 293.200, ~~306.035~~
16 **or 306.110** for any county, district or municipal office within one county,
17 the county clerk shall not transmit to the secretary of state the documents
18 containing the signatures of the registered voters.

19 7. The secretary of state may by regulation establish further procedures
20 for carrying out the provisions of this section.

21 **Sec. 6.** NRS 293.1279 is hereby amended to read as follows:

22 293.1279 1. If the statistical sampling shows that the number of valid
23 signatures filed is 90 percent or more but less than 100 percent of the
24 number of signatures of registered voters needed to declare the petition
25 sufficient, the secretary of state shall order the county clerks to examine the
26 signatures for verification. The county clerks ~~must~~ **shall** examine the
27 signatures for verification until they determine that 100 percent of the
28 number of signatures of registered voters needed to declare the petition
29 sufficient are valid.

30 2. If the statistical sampling shows that the number of valid signatures
31 filed in any county is 90 percent or more but less than 100 percent of the
32 number of signatures of registered voters needed to constitute 10 percent of
33 the number of voters who voted at the last preceding general election in that
34 county, the secretary of state may order the county clerk in that county to
35 examine every signature for verification.

36 3. Within 12 days excluding Saturdays, Sundays and holidays after
37 receipt of such an order, the clerk shall determine from the records of
38 registration what number of registered voters have signed the petition. If
39 necessary, the board of county commissioners shall allow the county clerk
40 additional assistants for examining the signatures and provide for their
41 compensation. In determining from the records of registration what number
42 of registered voters have signed the petition, the clerk may use any file or
43 list of registered voters maintained by his office or facsimiles of voters'

1 signatures. The county clerk may rely on the appearance of the signature
2 and the address and date included with each signature in determining the
3 number of registered voters that signed the petition.

4 4. Except as otherwise provided in subsection 5, upon completing the
5 examination, the county clerk shall immediately attach to the documents of
6 the petition an amended certificate properly dated, showing the result of the
7 examination and shall immediately forward the documents with the
8 amended certificate to the secretary of state. A copy of the amended
9 certificate must be filed in the county clerk's office.

10 5. For any petition containing signatures which are required to be
11 verified pursuant to the provisions of NRS **293.165**, 293.200 , ~~for~~ 306.035
12 **or 306.110** for any county, district or municipal office within one county,
13 the county clerk shall not forward to the secretary of state the documents
14 containing the signatures of the registered voters.

15 6. Except for a petition to recall a county, district or municipal officer,
16 the petition shall be deemed filed with the secretary of state as of the date
17 on which he receives certificates from the county clerks showing the
18 petition to be signed by the requisite number of voters of the state.

19 7. If the amended certificates received from all county clerks by the
20 secretary of state establish that the petition is still insufficient, he shall
21 immediately so notify the petitioners and the county clerks. If the petition is
22 a petition to recall a county, district or municipal officer, the secretary of
23 state shall also notify the officer with whom the petition is to be filed.

24 **Sec. 7.** NRS 293.165 is hereby amended to read as follows:

25 293.165 1. Except as otherwise provided in NRS 293.166, a vacancy
26 occurring in a major or minor political party nomination for office may be
27 filled by a candidate designated by the party central committee of the
28 county or state, as the case may be, subject to the provisions of subsections
29 4 and 5.

30 2. A vacancy occurring in a nonpartisan nomination after the close of
31 filing and **on or** before the ~~{first}~~ **second** Tuesday in ~~{September}~~ **August**
32 must be filled by filing a nominating petition that is signed by ~~{at least}~~
33 **registered voters of the state, county, district or municipality who may**
34 **vote for the office in question. The number of registered voters who sign**
35 **the petition must not be less than** 1 percent of the **number of** persons ~~{who~~
36 ~~are registered to vote and}~~ who voted for the office in question in the state,
37 county, district or municipality at the last preceding general election. The
38 petition must be filed not earlier than the first Tuesday in June and not later
39 than the ~~{third}~~ **fourth** Tuesday in ~~{September.}~~ **August. The petition may**
40 **consist of more than one document. Each document must bear the name**
41 **of one county and must not be signed by a person who is not a registered**
42 **voter of that county. Each document of the petition must be submitted for**
43 **verification pursuant to NRS 293.1276 to 293.1279, inclusive, to the**

1 *county clerk of the county named on the document.* A candidate
2 nominated pursuant to the provisions of this subsection ~~{may}~~ :

3 *(a) Must file a declaration of candidacy or acceptance of candidacy*
4 *and pay the statutory filing fee on or before the date the petition is filed;*
5 *and*

6 *(b) May* be elected only at a general election and his name must not
7 appear on the ballot for a primary election.

8 3. A vacancy occurring in a nonpartisan nomination after ~~{a primary~~
9 ~~election}~~ *the second Tuesday in August* and *on or* before the second
10 Tuesday in September must be filled by the person who ~~{received}~~ *receives*
11 the next highest vote for the nomination in the primary.

12 4. ~~{Except to place a candidate nominated pursuant to subsection 2 on~~
13 ~~the ballot, no}~~ *No* change may be made on the ballot after the second
14 Tuesday in September of the year in which the general election is held. If a
15 nominee dies after that date, his name must remain on the ballot and, if
16 elected, a vacancy exists.

17 5. All designations provided for in this section must be filed before 5
18 p.m. on the second Tuesday in September. In each case, the statutory filing
19 fee must be paid and an acceptance of the designation must be filed before
20 5 p.m. on ~~{that date.}~~ *the date the designation is filed.*

21 **Sec. 8.** NRS 293.166 is hereby amended to read as follows:

22 293.166 1. A vacancy occurring in a party nomination for the office
23 of state senator or assemblyman from a legislative district comprising more
24 than one county may be filled as follows, subject to the provisions of
25 subsections 2 and 3. The county commissioners of each county , all or part
26 of which is included within the legislative district, shall meet to appoint a
27 person *who is* of the same political party as the former nominee *and who*
28 *actually, as opposed to constructively, resides in the district* to fill the
29 vacancy, under the chairmanship of the chairman of the board of county
30 commissioners of the county whose population residing within the district
31 is the greatest. Each board of county commissioners shall first meet
32 separately and determine the single candidate it will nominate to fill the
33 vacancy. Then , the boards shall meet jointly and the chairmen on behalf of
34 the boards shall cast a proportionate number of votes according to the
35 percent, rounded to the nearest whole percent, which the population of its
36 county is of the population of the entire district. Populations must be
37 determined by the last decennial census or special census conducted by the
38 Bureau of the Census of the United States Department of Commerce. The
39 person who receives a plurality of these votes is appointed to fill the
40 vacancy. If no person receives a plurality of the votes, the boards of county
41 commissioners of the respective counties shall each as a group select one
42 candidate, and the nominee must be chosen by drawing lots among the
43 persons so selected.

2. No change may be made on the ballot after the second Tuesday in September of the year in which the general election is held. If a nominee dies after that date, his name must remain on the ballot and, if elected, a vacancy exists.

3. The designation of a nominee pursuant to this section must be filed with the secretary of state before 5 p.m. of the second Tuesday in September, and the statutory filing fee must be paid with the designation.

Sec. 9. NRS 293.1755 is hereby amended to read as follows:

293.1755 1. In addition to any other requirement provided by law, no person may be a candidate for any office unless, for at least *the* 30 days ~~before~~ *immediately preceding the date of* the close of filing of declarations of candidacy or acceptances of candidacy for the office which he seeks, he has ~~been a legal resident of~~, *in accordance with NRS 281.050, actually, as opposed to constructively, resided in* the state, district, county, township or other area prescribed by law to which the office pertains and, if elected, over which he will have jurisdiction or which he will represent.

2. Any person who knowingly and willfully files an acceptance of candidacy or declaration of candidacy which contains a false statement in this respect is guilty of a gross misdemeanor.

3. Any person convicted pursuant to the provisions of this section is disqualified from entering upon the duties of the office for which he was a candidate.

4. The provisions of this section do not apply to candidates for the office of district attorney.

Sec. 10. NRS 293.177 is hereby amended to read as follows:

293.177 1. Except as otherwise provided in NRS 293.165, a name may not be printed on a ballot to be used at a primary election unless the person named has filed a declaration of candidacy or an acceptance of candidacy, and paid the fee required by NRS 293.193 not earlier than the first Monday in May of the year in which the election is to be held nor later than 5 p.m. on the third Monday in May.

2. A declaration of candidacy or an acceptance of candidacy required to be filed by this section must be in substantially the following form:

(a) For partisan office:

DECLARATION OF CANDIDACY OF FOR THE
OFFICE OF

State of Nevada

County of

1 For the purpose of having my name placed on the official ballot as a
2 candidate for the Party nomination for the office of, I,
3 the undersigned, do swear or affirm under penalty of perjury that I
4 *actually, as opposed to constructively*, reside at, in the City or
5 Town of, County of, State of Nevada; that my actual , *as*
6 *opposed to constructive*, residence in the state, district, county, township,
7 city or other area prescribed by law to which the office pertains began on a
8 date *at least* 30 days ~~for more before~~ *immediately preceding* the date of
9 the close of filing of declarations of candidacy for this office; that I am
10 registered as a member of the Party; that I have not, in violation
11 of the provisions of NRS 293.176, changed the designation of my political
12 party or political party affiliation on an official application to register to
13 vote in any state since September 1 before the closing filing date for this
14 election; that I generally believe in and intend to support the concepts
15 found in the principles and policies of that political party in the coming
16 election; that if nominated as a candidate of the Party at the
17 ensuing election I will accept that nomination and not withdraw; that I will
18 not knowingly violate any election law or any law defining and prohibiting
19 corrupt and fraudulent practices in campaigns and elections in this state;
20 that I will qualify for the office if elected thereto, including, but not limited
21 to, complying with any limitation prescribed by the constitution and laws of
22 this state concerning the number of years or terms for which a person may
23 hold the office; and that I understand that my name will appear on all
24 ballots as designated in this declaration.

25

26

27 (Designation of name)

28

29 (Signature of candidate for office)

30

31 Subscribed and sworn to before
32 me this day of, 19...

33

34

35 Notary Public or other person
36 authorized to administer an oath

37

38 (b) For nonpartisan office:

1 DECLARATION OF CANDIDACY OF FOR THE
2 OFFICE OF

3
4 State of Nevada

5
6 County of

7
8 For the purpose of having my name placed on the official ballot as a
9 candidate for the office of, I, the undersigned, do
10 swear or affirm under penalty of perjury that I *actually, as opposed to*
11 *constructively*, reside at, in the City or Town of, County of
12, State of Nevada; that my actual , *as opposed to constructive*,
13 residence in the state, district, county, township, city or other area
14 prescribed by law to which the office pertains began on a date *at least* 30
15 days ~~for more before~~ *immediately preceding* the date of the close of filing
16 of declarations of candidacy for this office; that if nominated as a
17 nonpartisan candidate at the ensuing election I will accept the nomination
18 and not withdraw; that I will not knowingly violate any election law or any
19 law defining and prohibiting corrupt and fraudulent practices in campaigns
20 and elections in this state; that I will qualify for the office if elected thereto,
21 including, but not limited to, complying with any limitation prescribed by
22 the constitution and laws of this state concerning the number of years or
23 terms for which a person may hold the office; and my name will appear on
24 all ballots as designated in this declaration.

25
26
27 (Designation of name)

28
29 (Signature of candidate for office)

30
31 Subscribed and sworn to before
32 me this day of, 19...

33
34
35 Notary Public or other person
36 authorized to administer an oath

37
38 3. A person may be a candidate under his given name and surname, a
39 contraction or familiar form of his given name followed by his surname or
40 the initial of his given name followed by his surname. A nickname of not
41 more than 10 letters may be incorporated into a candidate's name. The
42 nickname must be in quotation marks and appear immediately before the
43 candidate's surname. A nickname must not indicate any political,

economic, social or religious view or affiliation and must not be the name of any person, living or dead, whose reputation is known on a statewide, nationwide or worldwide basis, or in any other manner deceive a voter regarding the person or principles for which he is voting.

4. The address of a candidate which must be included in the declaration of candidacy or acceptance of candidacy pursuant to subsection 2 must be the street address of the residence where he actually, *as opposed to constructively*, resides ~~in accordance with NRS 281.050~~, if one has been assigned. The declaration or acceptance of candidacy must not be accepted for filing if the candidate's address is listed as a post office box unless a street address has not been assigned to his residence.

Sec. 11. NRS 293.181 is hereby amended to read as follows:

293.181 1. A candidate for the office of state senator or assemblyman must execute and file with his declaration of candidacy or acceptance of candidacy a declaration of residency which must be in substantially the following form:

I, the undersigned, do swear or affirm under penalty of perjury that I have been a citizen resident of this state as required by NRS 218.010 and have *actually, as opposed to constructively*, resided ~~for intend to reside~~ at the following residence or residences ~~during the 12 months immediately preceding the date of the general election for the office for which I have filed.~~ *since November 1 of the preceding year:*

.....	
Street Address	Street Address
.....	
City or Town	City or Town
.....	
State	State
From.....To.....	From.....To.....
Dates of Residency	Dates of Residency
.....	
Street Address	Street Address
.....	
City or Town	City or Town
.....	
State	State
From.....To.....	From.....To.....
Dates of Residency	Dates of Residency
(Attach additional sheet or sheets of residences as necessary)	

2. Each address of a candidate which must be included in the declaration of residency pursuant to subsection 1 must be the street address of the residence where he actually, *as opposed to constructively*, resided or resides ~~in accordance with NRS 281.050~~, if one has been assigned. The declaration of residency must not be accepted for filing if any of the candidate's addresses are listed as a post office box, unless a street address has not been assigned to the residence.

Sec. 12. NRS 293.200 is hereby amended to read as follows:

293.200 1. An independent candidate for partisan office must file with the proper filing officer:

(a) A copy of the petition of candidacy that he intends to circulate for signatures. The copy must be filed before the petition may be circulated.

(b) ~~IA~~ *If the office is a statewide office, a* petition of candidacy signed by a number of registered voters equal to at least 1 percent of the total number of ballots cast in the state ~~for in the county or district electing that officer~~ *for that office* at the last preceding general election in which a person was elected to that office.

(c) If the office is a county office, a petition of candidacy signed by a number of registered voters equal to at least 1 percent of the total number of ballots cast in the county for that office at the last preceding general election in which a person was elected to that office.

(d) If the office is a district office, a petition of candidacy signed by a number of registered voters equal to at least 1 percent of the total number of ballots cast in the district for that office at the last preceding general election in which a person was elected to that office.

2. The petition may consist of more than one document. Each document must bear the name of the county in which it was circulated and only registered voters of that county may sign the document. The person who circulates the document must be a registered voter of that county. If the office is a district office, only the registered voters of that district may sign the document. The documents which are circulated for signature in a county must be submitted to that county clerk for verification in the manner prescribed in NRS 293.1276 to 293.1279, inclusive, not later than 40 days before filing the petition of candidacy with the proper filing officer. Each signer shall add to his signature the address of the place at which he actually resides, the date that he signs the petition and the name of the county where he is registered to vote for the purpose of determining whether he is a registered voter. The person who circulates each document of the petition shall sign an affidavit attesting that the signatures on the document are genuine to the best of his knowledge and belief and were signed in his presence by persons registered to vote in that county.

3. The petition of candidacy may state the principle, if any, which the person qualified represents.

1 4. Petitions of candidacy must be filed not earlier than the first Monday
2 in May preceding the general election and not later than 5 p.m. on the third
3 Tuesday in August.

4 5. No petition of candidacy may contain the name of more than one
5 candidate for each office to be filled.

6 6. A person may not file as an independent candidate if he is proposing
7 to run as the candidate of a political party.

8 7. The names of independent candidates must be placed on the general
9 election ballot and must not appear on the primary election ballot.

10 8. If the candidacy of any person seeking to qualify pursuant to this
11 section is challenged, all affidavits and documents in support of the
12 challenge must be filed not later than 5 p.m. on the fourth Tuesday in
13 August. Any judicial proceeding resulting from the challenge must be set
14 for hearing not more than 5 days after the fourth Tuesday in August.

15 9. Any challenge pursuant to subsection 8 must be filed with:

16 (a) The first judicial district court if the petition of candidacy was filed
17 with the secretary of state.

18 (b) The district court for the county where the petition of candidacy was
19 filed if the petition was filed with a county clerk.

20 10. An independent candidate for partisan office must file a declaration
21 of candidacy with the proper filing officer and pay the fee required by NRS
22 293.193 not earlier than the first Monday in May of the year in which the
23 election is held nor later than 5 p.m. of the first Wednesday in July.

24 **Sec. 13.** NRS 293.272 is hereby amended to read as follows:

25 293.272 1. Except as otherwise provided in subsection 2, a person
26 who registered to vote pursuant to the provisions of NRS 293.5235, shall,
27 for the first election in which he votes at which that registration is valid,
28 vote in person unless he has previously voted in the county in which he is
29 registered to vote.

30 2. The provisions of subsection 1 do not apply to a person who:

31 (a) Is entitled to vote in the manner prescribed in NRS 293.343 to
32 293.355, inclusive;

33 (b) Is entitled to vote an absent ballot pursuant to federal law or **section**
34 **2 of this act or** NRS 293.316;

35 (c) Submits or has previously submitted a written request for an absent
36 ballot that is signed by the registered voter before a notary public or other
37 person authorized to administer an oath; or

38 (d) Requests an absent ballot in person at the office of the county clerk.

39 **Sec. 14.** NRS 293.296 is hereby amended to read as follows:

40 293.296 1. Any registered voter who by reason of a physical
41 disability or an inability to read or write English is unable to mark a ballot
42 or use any voting device without assistance is entitled to assistance from a
43 consenting person of his own choice, except:

- 1 (a) The voter's employer or his agent; or
- 2 (b) An officer or agent of the voter's labor organization.

3 2. A person providing assistance *pursuant to this section* to a
4 ~~{disabled}~~ voter in casting his vote shall not disclose any information with
5 respect to the casting of that ballot.

6 3. The right to assistance in casting a ballot may not be denied or
7 impaired when the need for assistance is apparent or is known to the
8 election board or any member thereof, but the election board may require a
9 registered voter to sign a statement that he requires assistance in casting his
10 vote by reason of a physical disability or an inability to read or write
11 English when the need for assistance is not apparent or no member of the
12 election board has knowledge thereof. The statement must be executed
13 under penalty of perjury.

14 *4. In addition to complying with the requirements of this section, the*
15 *county clerk and election board officer shall, upon the request of a*
16 *registered voter with a physical disability, make reasonable*
17 *accommodations to allow the voter to vote at his polling place.*

18 **Sec. 15.** NRS 293.309 is hereby amended to read as follows:

19 293.309 1. The county clerk of each county shall prepare an absent
20 ballot for the use of registered voters who have requested absent ballots.
21 *The county clerk shall make reasonable accommodations for the use of*
22 *the absent ballot by an elderly or disabled person.*

23 2. The ballot must be prepared and ready for distribution to a
24 registered voter who:

- 25 (a) Resides within the state, not later than 20 days before the election in
26 which it is to be used; or
- 27 (b) Resides outside the state, not later than 40 days before a primary or
28 general election, if possible.

29 3. Any legal action which would prevent the ballot from being issued
30 pursuant to subsection 2 is moot and of no effect.

31 **Sec. 16.** NRS 293.316 is hereby amended to read as follows:

32 293.316 1. Any registered voter *who is* unable to go to the polls
33 ~~{because}~~ :

34 *(a) Because of an illness or disability resulting in his confinement in a*
35 *hospital, sanatorium, dwelling or nursing home* ~~{may request in a written~~
36 ~~statement, signed by him, that the county clerk send him an absent ballot.~~
37 ~~The clerk shall deliver the ballot, at the office of the county clerk, to any~~
38 ~~authorized representative of the voter possessing a written statement signed~~
39 ~~by the voter stating that he is confined to a dwelling or is a patient in a~~
40 ~~hospital, sanatorium or nursing home, and that he will be confined therein~~
41 ~~on election day. If any registered voter is} ; or~~

1 (b) *Because he is* suddenly hospitalized , ~~{or}~~ becomes seriously ill or is
2 called away from home after the time has elapsed for requesting an absent
3 ballot as provided in NRS 293.315, ~~{and is unable to vote at the polling~~
4 ~~place, he may apply}~~
5 *may submit a written request* to the county clerk for an absent ballot . *The*
6 *request may be submitted* at any time before 5 p.m. on the day of the
7 election. ~~{The}~~

8 2. *If the county clerk determines that a request submitted pursuant to*
9 *subsection 1 includes the information required pursuant to subsection 3,*
10 *the county clerk shall {issue} , at the office of the county clerk, deliver* an
11 *absent ballot {upon satisfactory proof of the emergency.*
12 ~~—2.—After}~~ *to the person designated in the request to obtain the ballot*
13 *for the registered voter.*

14 3. *A written request submitted pursuant to subsection 1 must include:*

15 (a) *The name, address and signature of the registered voter requesting*
16 *the absent ballot;*

17 (b) *The name, address and signature of the person designated by the*
18 *registered voter to obtain, deliver and return the ballot for the registered*
19 *voter;*

20 (c) *A brief statement of the illness or disability of the registered voter*
21 *or of facts sufficient to establish that the registered voter was called away*
22 *from home after the time had elapsed for requesting an absent ballot;*

23 (d) *If the voter is confined in a hospital, sanatorium, dwelling or*
24 *nursing home, a statement that he will be confined therein on the day of*
25 *the election; and*

26 (e) *Unless the person designated pursuant to paragraph (b) will mark*
27 *and sign an absent ballot on behalf of the registered voter pursuant to*
28 *subsection 5, a statement signed under penalty of perjury that only the*
29 *registered voter will mark and sign the ballot.*

30 4. *Except as otherwise provided in subsection 5, after* marking his
31 *ballot the voter must {place} :*

32 (a) *Place* it in the identification envelope ~~{. He must affix}~~ ;

33 (b) *Affix* his signature on the back of the envelope ; and ~~{return}~~

34 (c) *Return* it to the office of the county clerk.

35 ~~{3.}~~ 5. *A person designated in a request submitted pursuant to*
36 *subsection 1 may, on behalf of and at the direction of the registered*
37 *voter, mark and sign the absent ballot. If the person marks and signs the*
38 *ballot, the person shall indicate next to his signature that the ballot has*
39 *been marked and signed on behalf of the registered voter.*

40 6. *A request for {a} an absent ballot submitted* pursuant to this section
41 *must be made, and the ballot delivered to the voter and returned to the*
42 *county clerk, not later than the time the polls close on election day.*

1 ~~[4.]~~ 7. The procedure authorized by this section is subject to all other
2 provisions of this chapter relating to **voting by** absent ballot ~~{voting insofar~~
3 ~~as}~~ **to the extent that** those provisions are not inconsistent with the
4 provisions of this section.

5 **Sec. 17.** NRS 293.330 is hereby amended to read as follows:

6 293.330 1. When an absent voter receives his ballot, he must mark
7 and fold it, if it is a paper ballot, or punch it, if the ballot is voted by
8 punching a card, in accordance with the instructions, deposit it in the return
9 envelope, seal the envelope, affix his signature on the back of the envelope
10 in the space provided therefor and mail the return envelope.

11 2. If the absent voter who has received a ballot by mail applies to vote
12 the ballot in person at:

13 (a) The county clerk's office, he must mark or punch the ballot, seal it in
14 the return envelope and affix his signature in the same manner as provided
15 in subsection 1, and deliver the envelope to the clerk.

16 (b) A polling place, he must surrender the absent ballot and provide
17 satisfactory identification before being issued a ballot to vote at the polling
18 place. A person who receives a surrendered absent ballot shall mark it
19 "Canceled."

20 3. Except as otherwise provided in NRS 293.316, it is unlawful for any
21 person **to return an absent ballot** other than the voter who requested ~~{an}~~
22 **the** absent ballot ~~{to return it.}~~ **or, at the request of the voter, a member of**
23 **his family. A person who returns an absent ballot and who is a member**
24 **of the family of the voter who requested the absent ballot shall, under**
25 **penalty of perjury, indicate on a form prescribed by the county clerk that**
26 **he is a member of the family of the voter who requested the absent ballot**
27 **and that the voter requested that he return the absent ballot.** A person
28 who violates the provisions of this subsection is guilty of a category E
29 felony and shall be punished as provided in NRS 193.130.

30 **Sec. 18.** NRS 293.359 is hereby amended to read as follows:

31 293.359 ~~[1.]~~ The ballot box for early voting in which voted ballots
32 which are paper ballots or ballots which are voted by punching a card are
33 deposited must have two ~~{locks, each with a different key}~~ **numbered seals,**
34 and must be designed and constructed so that the box can be sealed to
35 detect any unauthorized opening of the box and that the ballot slot can be
36 sealed to prevent any unauthorized deposit in the box. The seals for the
37 boxes must be serially numbered for each election.

38 ~~{2.—During the period for early voting by personal appearance, the~~
39 ~~county clerk shall keep the key to one of the locks to the ballot box for~~
40 ~~early voting and a designated custodian, not under the authority of the~~
41 ~~county clerk, shall keep the key to the second lock.~~

42 ~~—3.—Each custodian shall retain possession of the key entrusted to him~~
43 ~~until it is delivered to the ballot board for early voting.]~~

1 **Sec. 19.** NRS 293.3602 is hereby amended to read as follows:

2 293.3602 If paper ballots or ballots which are voted by punching a
3 card are used during the period for early voting by personal appearance:

4 1. The ballots voted at the permanent or temporary polling place must
5 be delivered by an election board officer to the county clerk's office at the
6 close of each voting day. The seal on the ballot box must indicate the
7 number of voted ballots contained in that box for that day.

8 2. When the ballot box is delivered pursuant to subsection 1, the
9 county clerk shall provide a new ballot box ~~locked~~ **sealed** in the manner
10 prescribed in NRS 293.359.

11 3. At the close of the fourth voting day before the last day to vote early
12 and at the close of each of the 3 days thereafter, the county clerk shall
13 deliver all ballots voted to the ballot board for early voting. At the close of
14 the last voting day, the county clerk shall deliver to the ballot board for
15 early voting:

16 (a) Each remaining ballot box containing the ballots voted early by
17 personal appearance ; ~~and his key to each box;~~

18 (b) A voting roster of all persons who voted early by personal
19 appearance; and

20 (c) Any list of registered voters used in conducting early voting.

21 4. ~~{Upon the call of the chairmen of the board, the custodian of the key~~
22 ~~to the second lock on the ballot boxes shall deliver his key for each box to~~
23 ~~the presiding officer.~~

24 ~~—5.~~ Upon the receipt of ballots, the board shall:

25 (a) Remove all ballots from the ballot boxes and sort the ballots by
26 precinct or voting district;

27 (b) Count the number of ballots by precinct or voting district;

28 (c) Account for all ballots on an official statement of ballots; and

29 (d) Place all official ballots in the container provided to transport those
30 items to a central counting place and seal the container with a numbered
31 seal. The official statement of ballots must accompany the voted ballots to
32 the central counting place.

33 ~~{6.}~~ 5. The county clerk shall allow members of the general public to
34 observe the handling of the ballots pursuant to subsection ~~{5}~~ 4 if those
35 members do not interfere with the handling of the ballots.

36 **Sec. 20.** NRS 293.391 is hereby amended to read as follows:

37 293.391 1. The voted ballots, rejected ballots, spoiled ballots,

38 ~~{unused ballots,}~~ tally lists, pollbooks, challenge lists, voting receipts,

39 records printed on paper of voted ballots collected pursuant to NRS

40 293B.400 and stubs of the ballots used, enclosed and sealed, must, after

41 canvass of the votes by the board of county commissioners, be deposited in

42 the vaults of the county clerk, and preserved for at least 22 months. All

43 **such** sealed materials must be destroyed immediately after the preservation

1 period. A notice of the destruction must be published by the clerk in at least
2 one newspaper of general circulation in the county not less than 2 weeks
3 before the destruction. *Unused ballots, enclosed and sealed, must, after*
4 *canvass of the votes by the board of county commissioners, be deposited*
5 *in the vaults of the county clerk and preserved for at least the period*
6 *during which the election may be contested and adjudicated, after which*
7 *the unused ballots may be destroyed.*

8 2. The pollbooks containing the signatures of those persons who voted
9 in the election and the tally lists deposited with the board of county
10 commissioners are subject to the inspection of any elector who may wish to
11 examine them at any time after their deposit with the county clerk.

12 3. A contestant of an election may inspect all of the material regarding
13 that election which is preserved pursuant to subsection 1, except the voted
14 ballots.

15 4. The voted ballots deposited with the county clerk are not subject to
16 the inspection of anyone, except in cases of contested election, and then
17 only by the judge, body or board before whom the election is being
18 contested, or by the parties to the contest, jointly, pursuant to an order of
19 such judge, body or board.

20 **Sec. 21.** NRS 293.404 is hereby amended to read as follows:

21 293.404 1. Where a recount is demanded pursuant to the provisions
22 of NRS 293.403, the:

23 (a) County clerk of each county affected by the recount shall employ a
24 recount board to conduct the recount in the county, and shall act as
25 chairman of the recount board unless the recount is for the office of county
26 clerk, in which case the chairman of the board of county commissioners
27 shall act as chairman of the recount board. At least one member of the
28 board of county commissioners must be present at the recount.

29 (b) City clerk shall employ a recount board to conduct the recount in the
30 city, and shall act as chairman of the recount board unless the recount is for
31 the office of city clerk, in which case the mayor of the city shall act as
32 chairman of the recount board. At least one member of the city council
33 must be present at the recount.

34 Each candidate for the office affected by the recount and the voter who
35 demanded the recount, if any, may be present in person or by an authorized
36 representative, but may not be a member of the recount board.

37 2. Except in counties or cities using a mechanical voting system, the
38 recount must include a count and inspection of all ballots, including
39 rejected ballots, and must determine whether those ballots are marked as
40 required by law.

41 3. If a recount is demanded in a county or city using a mechanical
42 voting system, the person who demanded the recount shall select the ballots
43 for the office or ballot question affected from 5 percent of the precincts, but

1 in no case fewer than three precincts, after consultation with each candidate
2 for the office or his authorized representative. The recount board shall
3 examine the selected ballots, including any duplicate or rejected ballots,
4 shall determine whether the ballots have been voted in accordance with this
5 Title and shall count the valid ballots by hand. ~~{A}~~ *In addition, a* recount
6 by computer must be made of all the selected ballots. If the count *by hand*
7 *or the recount by computer* of the selected ballots ~~{or the recount}~~ shows a
8 discrepancy ~~{of}~~ *equal to or greater than* 1 percent or ~~{more for either~~
9 ~~candidate,}~~ *5 votes, whichever is greater, for any candidate for the office,*
10 or in favor of or against a ballot question, from the original canvass of the
11 returns, the county or city clerk shall order a count by hand of all the ballots
12 for that office. ~~{If there is not a discrepancy of 1 percent or more,}~~
13 *Otherwise,* the county or city clerk ~~{shall not order such a count, but}~~ shall
14 order a recount by computer of all the ballots for the office.

15 4. The county or city clerk shall unseal and give to the recount board
16 all ballots to be counted.

17 5. In the case of a demand for a recount affecting more than one
18 county, the demand must be made to the secretary of state, who shall notify
19 the county clerks to proceed with the recount.

20 **Sec. 22.** NRS 293.525 is hereby amended to read as follows:

21 293.525 1. Any elector who is presently registered and has changed
22 his residence after the last preceding general election and who fails to
23 return or never receives a postcard mailed pursuant to NRS 293.5235,
24 293.530 ~~{}~~ or 293.535 who moved:

25 (a) From one precinct to another *or from one congressional district to*
26 *another* within the same county must be allowed to vote in the precinct
27 where he previously resided after he provides an oral or written affirmation
28 before an election board officer attesting to his new address.

29 (b) Within the same precinct must be allowed to vote after he provides
30 an oral or written affirmation before an election board officer attesting to
31 his new address.

32 2. If an elector alleges that the records in the registrar of voters'
33 register or the election board register incorrectly indicate that he has
34 changed his residence, he must be permitted to vote after he provides an
35 oral or written affirmation before an election board officer attesting that he
36 continues to reside at the same address.

37 3. If an elector refuses to provide an oral or written affirmation
38 attesting to his address as required by this section, he may only vote at the
39 special polling place in the county in the manner set forth in NRS 293.304.

40 4. The county clerk shall use any information regarding the current
41 address of an elector obtained pursuant to this section to correct
42 information in the registrar of voters' register and the election board
43 register.

1 **Sec. 23.** NRS 293.547 is hereby amended to read as follows:

2 293.547 1. After the 30th day but not later than the ~~15th~~ 25th day
3 before any election, a written challenge may be filed with the county clerk.

4 2. A registered voter may file a written challenge if:

5 (a) He is registered to vote in the same precinct or district as the person
6 whose right to vote is challenged; or

7 (b) The challenge is based on the personal knowledge of the registered
8 voter.

9 3. The challenge must be signed and verified by the registered voter
10 and name the person whose right to vote is challenged and the ground of
11 the challenge.

12 4. A challenge filed pursuant to this section must not contain the name
13 of more than one person whose right to vote is challenged. The county
14 clerk shall not accept for filing any challenge which contains more than one
15 such name.

16 5. The county clerk shall file the challenge in the registrar of voters'
17 register and:

18 (a) In counties where records of registration are not kept by computer,
19 he shall attach a copy of the challenge to the challenged registration in the
20 election board register.

21 (b) In counties where records of registration are kept by computer, he
22 shall have the challenge printed on the computer entry for the challenged
23 registration and add a copy of it to the election board register.

24 6. The county clerk shall, within 5 days after a challenge is filed, mail a
25 notice to the person whose right to vote has been challenged pursuant to
26 this section informing him of the challenge. A copy of the challenge must
27 accompany the notice.

28 **Sec. 24.** Chapter 293C of NRS is hereby amended by adding thereto
29 the provisions set forth as sections 25 and 26 of this act.

30 **Sec. 25. 1. *A registered voter who, because of a physical disability,***
31 ***is unable to mark or sign a ballot or use a voting device without***
32 ***assistance may submit a written statement to the appropriate city clerk***
33 ***requesting that he receive an absent ballot for each city election***
34 ***conducted during the period specified in subsection 3.***

35 **2. *A written statement submitted pursuant to subsection 1 must:***

36 ***(a) Include a statement from a physician licensed in this state***
37 ***certifying that the registered voter is a person with a physical disability***
38 ***and, because of the physical disability, he is unable to mark or sign a***
39 ***ballot or use a voting device without assistance;***

40 ***(b) Designate the person who will assist the registered voter in***
41 ***marking and signing the absent ballot on behalf of the registered voter;***
42 ***and***

1 (c) Include the name, address and signature of the person designated
2 pursuant to paragraph (b).

3 3. Upon receipt of a written statement submitted by a registered voter
4 pursuant to subsection 1, the city clerk shall, if the statement includes the
5 information required pursuant to subsection 2, issue an absent ballot to
6 the registered voter for each city election that is conducted during the
7 year immediately succeeding the date the written statement is submitted
8 to the city clerk.

9 4. To determine whether a registered voter is entitled to receive an
10 absent ballot pursuant to this section, the city clerk may, every year after
11 an absent ballot is issued to a registered voter pursuant to subsection 3,
12 require the registered voter to submit a statement from a licensed
13 physician as specified in paragraph (a) of subsection 2. If a statement
14 from a physician licensed in this state submitted pursuant to this
15 subsection indicates that the registered voter is no longer physically
16 disabled, the city clerk shall not issue an absent ballot to the registered
17 voter pursuant to this section.

18 5. A person designated pursuant to paragraph (b) of subsection 2
19 may, on behalf of and at the direction of the registered voter, mark and
20 sign an absent ballot issued to the registered voter pursuant to the
21 provisions of this section. If the person marks and signs the ballot, the
22 person shall indicate next to his signature that the ballot has been
23 marked and signed on behalf of the registered voter.

24 6. The procedure authorized pursuant to this section is subject to all
25 other provisions of this chapter relating to voting by absent ballot to the
26 extent that those provisions are not inconsistent with the provisions of
27 this section.

28 **Sec. 26.** 1. A person who, during the 6 months immediately
29 preceding an election, mails to more than a total of 500 registered voters
30 a form to request an absent ballot for the election shall:

31 (a) Mail the form prescribed by the secretary of state, which must, in
32 14-point type or larger:

33 (1) Identify the person who is mailing the form;

34 (2) Include a notice stating, "This is a request for an absent
35 ballot."; and

36 (3) State that by returning the form the form will be submitted to
37 the city clerk;

38 (b) Not later than 14 days before mailing such a form, notify the city
39 clerk of each city to which a form will be mailed of the number of forms
40 to be mailed to voters in the city and the date of the mailing of the forms;
41 and

42 (c) Not mail such a form later than 21 days before the election.

1 **2. The provisions of this section do not authorize a person to vote by**
2 **absent ballot if he is not otherwise eligible to vote by absent ballot.**

3 **Sec. 27.** NRS 293C.185 is hereby amended to read as follows:

4 293C.185 1. Except as otherwise provided in NRS 293C.190, a name
5 may not be printed on a ballot to be used at a primary city election, unless
6 the person named has filed a declaration of candidacy or an acceptance of
7 candidacy and paid the fee established by the governing body of the city
8 not earlier than 70 days before the primary city election and not later than 5
9 p.m. on the 60th day before the primary city election.

10 2. A declaration of candidacy required to be filed by this section must
11 be in substantially the following form:

12
13 DECLARATION OF CANDIDACY OF FOR THE
14 OFFICE OF

15
16 State of Nevada

17
18 City of

19
20 For the purpose of having my name placed on the official ballot as a
21 candidate for the office of, I, the undersigned, do
22 swear or affirm under penalty of perjury that I **actually, as opposed to**
23 **constructively**, reside at, in the City or Town of,
24 County of, State of Nevada; that my actual , **as opposed to**
25 **constructive**, residence in the city, township or other area prescribed by law
26 to which the office pertains began on a date **at least** 30 days ~~for more~~
27 ~~before~~ **immediately preceding** the date of the close of filing of
28 declarations of candidacy for this office; that if nominated as a candidate at
29 the ensuing election I will accept the nomination and not withdraw; that I
30 will not knowingly violate any election law or any law defining and
31 prohibiting corrupt and fraudulent practices in campaigns and elections in
32 this state; that I will qualify for the office if elected thereto, including, but
33 not limited to, complying with any limitation prescribed by the constitution
34 and laws of this state concerning the number of years or terms for which a
35 person may hold the office; and my name will appear on all ballots as
36 designated in this declaration.

37
38
39 (Designation of name)

40
41 (Signature of candidate for office)

1 Subscribed and sworn to before
2 me this day of, 19...

3
4
5 Notary Public or other person
6 authorized to administer an oath

7
8 3. A person may be a candidate under his given name and surname, a
9 contraction or familiar form of his given name followed by his surname or
10 the initial of his given name followed by his surname. A nickname of not
11 more than 10 letters may be incorporated into a candidate's name. The
12 nickname must be in quotation marks and appear immediately before the
13 candidate's surname. A nickname must not indicate any political,
14 economic, social or religious view or affiliation and must not be the name
15 of any person, living or dead, whose reputation is known on a statewide,
16 nationwide or worldwide basis, or in any other manner deceive a voter
17 concerning the person or principles for which he is voting.

18 4. The address of a candidate that must be included in the declaration
19 or acceptance of candidacy pursuant to subsection 2 must be the street
20 address of the residence where he actually, *as opposed to constructively*,
21 resides ~~in accordance with NRS 281.050~~, if one has been assigned. The
22 declaration or acceptance of candidacy must not be accepted for filing if
23 the candidate's address is listed as a post office box unless a street address
24 has not been assigned to his residence.

25 **Sec. 28.** NRS 293C.200 is hereby amended to read as follows:

26 293C.200 1. In addition to any other requirement provided by law,
27 no person may be a candidate for a city office unless, for at least *the* 30
28 days ~~before~~ *immediately preceding the date of* the close of filing of
29 declarations or acceptances of candidacy for the office that he seeks, he has
30 ~~been a legal resident of~~ *in accordance with NRS 281.050, actually, as*
31 *opposed to constructively, resided in* the city or other area prescribed by
32 law to which the office pertains and, if elected, over which he will have
33 jurisdiction or which he will represent.

34 2. Any person who knowingly and willfully files a declaration of
35 candidacy or an acceptance of candidacy that contains a false statement in
36 this respect is guilty of a gross misdemeanor.

37 3. Any person convicted pursuant to the provisions of this section is
38 disqualified from entering upon the duties of the office for which he was a
39 candidate.

40 **Sec. 29.** NRS 293C.265 is hereby amended to read as follows:

41 293C.265 1. Except as otherwise provided in subsection 2, a person
42 who registered to vote pursuant to the provisions of NRS 293.5235, shall,
43 for the first city election in which he votes at which that registration is

1 valid, vote in person unless he has previously voted in the county in which
2 he is registered to vote.

3 2. The provisions of subsection 1 do not apply to a person who:

4 (a) Is entitled to vote in the manner prescribed in NRS 293C.342 to
5 293C.352, inclusive;

6 (b) Is entitled to vote an absent ballot pursuant to federal law or *section*
7 *25 of this act or* NRS 293C.317;

8 (c) Submits or has previously submitted a written request for an absent
9 ballot that is signed by the registered voter before a notary public or other
10 person authorized to administer an oath; or

11 (d) Requests an absent ballot in person at the office of the city clerk.

12 **Sec. 30.** NRS 293C.282 is hereby amended to read as follows:

13 293C.282 1. Any registered voter who, because of a physical
14 disability or an inability to read or write English, is unable to mark a ballot
15 or use any voting device without assistance is entitled to assistance from a
16 consenting person of his own choice, except:

17 (a) The voter's employer or his agent; or

18 (b) An officer or agent of the voter's labor organization.

19 2. A person providing assistance *pursuant to this section* to a
20 ~~disabled~~ voter in casting his vote shall not disclose any information with
21 respect to the casting of that ballot.

22 3. The right to assistance in casting a ballot may not be denied or
23 impaired when the need for assistance is apparent or is known to the
24 election board or any member thereof, but the election board may require a
25 registered voter to sign a statement that he requires assistance in casting his
26 vote because of a physical disability or an inability to read or write English
27 when the need for assistance is not apparent or no member of the election
28 board has knowledge thereof. The statement must be executed under
29 penalty of perjury.

30 *4. In addition to complying with the requirements of this section, the*
31 *city clerk and election board officer shall, upon the request of a*
32 *registered voter with a physical disability, make reasonable*
33 *accommodations to allow the voter to vote at his polling place.*

34 **Sec. 31.** NRS 293C.305 is hereby amended to read as follows:

35 293C.305 1. The city clerk shall prepare an absent ballot for the use
36 of registered voters who have requested absent ballots. *The city clerk shall*
37 *make reasonable accommodations for the use of the absent ballot by an*
38 *elderly or disabled person.*

39 2. The ballot must be prepared and ready for distribution to a
40 registered voter who resides within or outside this state, not later than 20
41 days before the election in which it will be used.

42 3. Any legal action that would prevent the ballot from being issued
43 pursuant to subsection 2 is moot and of no effect.

1 **Sec. 32.** NRS 293C.317 is hereby amended to read as follows:

2 293C.317 1. Any registered voter **who is** unable to go to the polls

3 ~~{because}~~ :

4 **(a) Because** of **an** illness or disability resulting in his confinement in a
5 hospital, sanatorium, dwelling or nursing home ~~{may request in a written~~
6 ~~statement, signed by him, that the city clerk send him an absent ballot. The~~
7 ~~city clerk shall deliver the ballot, at the office of the city clerk, to any~~
8 ~~authorized representative of the voter possessing a written statement signed~~
9 ~~by the voter stating that he is confined to a dwelling or is a patient in a~~
10 ~~hospital, sanatorium or nursing home and that he will be confined therein~~
11 ~~on election day. If any registered voter is}~~ ; **or**

12 **(b) Because he is** suddenly hospitalized , ~~{or}~~ becomes seriously ill or is
13 called away from home after the time has elapsed for requesting an absent
14 ballot as provided in NRS 293C.312 ~~{and is unable to vote at the polling~~
15 ~~place, he may apply}~~ ,

16 **may submit a written request** to the city clerk for an absent ballot . **The**
17 **request may be submitted** at any time before 5 p.m. on the day of the
18 election. ~~{The}~~

19 **2. If the city clerk determines that a request submitted pursuant to**
20 **subsection 1 includes the information required pursuant to subsection 3,**
21 **the city clerk shall {issue} , at the office of the city clerk, deliver** an absent
22 ballot ~~{upon satisfactory proof of the emergency.~~

23 ~~—2.—After}~~ **to the person designated in the request to obtain the ballot**
24 **for the registered voter.**

25 **3. A written request submitted pursuant to subsection 1 must include:**

26 **(a) The name, address and signature of the registered voter requesting**
27 **the absent ballot;**

28 **(b) The name, address and signature of the person designated by the**
29 **registered voter to obtain, deliver and return the ballot for the registered**
30 **voter;**

31 **(c) A brief statement of the illness or disability of the registered voter**
32 **or of facts sufficient to establish that the registered voter was called away**
33 **from home after the time had elapsed for requesting an absent ballot;**

34 **(d) If the voter is confined in a hospital, sanatorium, dwelling or**
35 **nursing home, a statement that he will be confined therein on the day of**
36 **the election; and**

37 **(e) Unless the person designated pursuant to paragraph (b) will mark**
38 **and sign an absent ballot on behalf of the registered voter pursuant to**
39 **subsection 5, a statement signed under penalty of perjury that only the**
40 **registered voter will mark and sign the ballot.**

41 **4. Except as otherwise provided in subsection 5, after** marking his
42 ballot the voter must ~~{place}~~ :

43 **(a) Place** it in the identification envelope ~~{. The voter must affix}~~ ;

1 (b) Affix his signature on the back of the envelope ; and ~~{return}~~

2 (c) Return it to the office of the city clerk.

3 ~~{3.}~~ 5. *A person designated in a request submitted pursuant to*
4 *subsection 1 may, on behalf of and at the direction of the registered*
5 *voter, mark and sign the absent ballot. If the person marks and signs the*
6 *ballot, the person shall indicate next to his signature that the ballot has*
7 *been marked and signed on behalf of the registered voter.*

8 6. A request for ~~{a}~~ *an absent* ballot *submitted* pursuant to this section
9 must be made, and the ballot delivered to the voter and returned to the city
10 clerk, not later than the time the polls close on election day.

11 ~~{4.}~~ 7. The procedure authorized by this section is subject to all other
12 provisions of this chapter relating to *voting by* absent ballot ~~{voting insofar~~
13 ~~as}~~ *to the extent that* those provisions are not inconsistent with the
14 provisions of this section.

15 **Sec. 33.** NRS 293C.330 is hereby amended to read as follows:

16 293C.330 1. When an absent voter receives his ballot, he must mark
17 and fold it, if it is a paper ballot, or punch it, if the ballot is voted by
18 punching a card, in accordance with the instructions, deposit it in the return
19 envelope, seal the envelope, affix his signature on the back of the envelope
20 in the space provided therefor and mail the return envelope.

21 2. If the absent voter who has received a ballot by mail applies to vote
22 the ballot in person at:

23 (a) The city clerk's office, he must mark or punch the ballot, seal it in
24 the return envelope and affix his signature in the same manner as provided
25 in subsection 1, and deliver the envelope to the city clerk.

26 (b) A polling place, he must surrender the absent ballot and provide
27 satisfactory identification before being issued a ballot to vote at the polling
28 place. A person who receives a surrendered absent ballot shall mark it
29 "Canceled."

30 3. Except as otherwise provided in NRS 293C.317, it is unlawful for
31 any person *to return an absent ballot* other than the voter who requested
32 ~~{an}~~ *the* absent ballot ~~{to return it.}~~ *or, at the request of the voter, a*
33 *member of his family. A person who returns an absent ballot and who is*
34 *a member of the family of the voter who requested the absent ballot shall,*
35 *under penalty of perjury, indicate on a form prescribed by the city clerk*
36 *that he is a member of the family of the voter who requested the absent*
37 *ballot and that the voter requested that he return the absent ballot. A*
38 *person who violates the provisions of this subsection is guilty of a category*
39 *E felony and shall be punished as provided in NRS 193.130.*

40 **Sec. 34.** NRS 293C.359 is hereby amended to read as follows:

41 293C.359 ~~{1.}~~ The ballot box for early voting in which voted ballots
42 which are paper ballots or ballots which are voted by punching a card are
43 deposited must have two ~~{locks, each with a different key}~~ *numbered seals,*

1 and must be designed and constructed so that the box can be sealed to
2 detect any unauthorized opening of the box and that the ballot slot can be
3 sealed to prevent any unauthorized deposit in the box. The seals for the
4 boxes must be serially numbered for each election.

5 ~~[2.— During the period for early voting by personal appearance, the city~~
6 ~~clerk shall keep the key to one of the locks to the ballot box for early voting~~
7 ~~and a designated custodian, not under the authority of the city clerk, shall~~
8 ~~keep the key to the second lock.~~

9 ~~—3.— Each custodian shall retain possession of the key entrusted to him~~
10 ~~until it is delivered to the ballot board for early voting.]~~

11 **Sec. 35.** NRS 293C.3602 is hereby amended to read as follows:

12 293C.3602 If paper ballots or ballots which are voted by punching a
13 card are used during the period for early voting by personal appearance:

14 1. The ballots voted at the permanent or temporary polling place must
15 be delivered by an election board officer to the city clerk's office at the
16 close of each voting day. The seal on the ballot box must indicate the
17 number of voted ballots contained in that box for that day.

18 2. When the ballot box is delivered pursuant to subsection 1, the city
19 clerk shall provide a new ballot box ~~[locked]~~ **sealed** in the manner
20 prescribed in NRS 293C.359.

21 3. At the close of the fourth voting day before the last day to vote early
22 and at the close of each of the 3 days thereafter, the city clerk shall deliver
23 all ballots voted to the ballot board for early voting. At the close of the last
24 voting day, the city clerk shall deliver to the ballot board for early voting:

25 (a) Each remaining ballot box containing the ballots voted early by
26 personal appearance ; ~~[and his key to each box;]~~

27 (b) A voting roster of all persons who voted early by personal
28 appearance; and

29 (c) Any list of registered voters used in conducting early voting.

30 4. ~~[Upon the call of the chairmen of the board, the custodian of the key~~
31 ~~to the second lock on the ballot boxes shall deliver his key for each box to~~
32 ~~the presiding officer.~~

33 ~~—5.]~~ Upon the receipt of ballots, the board shall:

34 (a) Remove all ballots from the ballot boxes and sort the ballots by
35 precinct or voting district;

36 (b) Count the number of ballots by precinct or voting district;

37 (c) Account for all ballots on an official statement of ballots; and

38 (d) Place all official ballots in the container provided to transport those
39 items to a central counting place and seal the container with a numbered
40 seal. The official statement of ballots must accompany the voted ballots to

41 the central counting place.

1 ~~[6.]~~ 5. The city clerk shall allow members of the general public to
2 observe the handling of the ballots pursuant to subsection ~~[5]~~ 4 if those
3 members do not interfere with the handling of the ballots.

4 **Sec. 36.** NRS 293C.390 is hereby amended to read as follows:

5 293C.390 1. The voted ballots, rejected ballots, spoiled ballots,
6 ~~[unused ballots,]~~ tally lists, pollbooks, challenge lists, voting receipts,
7 records printed on paper of voted ballots collected pursuant to NRS
8 293B.400 and stubs of the ballots used, enclosed and sealed must, after
9 canvass of the votes by the governing body of the city, be deposited in the
10 vaults of the city clerk and preserved for at least 22 months. All *such*
11 sealed materials must be destroyed immediately after that period. A notice
12 of the destruction must be published by the city clerk in at least one
13 newspaper of general circulation in the city, or if no newspaper is of
14 general circulation in that city, in a newspaper of general circulation in the
15 nearest city, not less than 2 weeks before the destruction of the materials.

16 *Unused ballots, enclosed and sealed, must, after canvass of the votes by*
17 *the governing body of the city, be deposited in the vaults of the city clerk*
18 *and preserved for at least the period during which the election may be*
19 *contested and adjudicated, after which the unused ballots may be*
20 *destroyed.*

21 2. The pollbooks containing the signatures of those persons who voted
22 in the election and the tally lists deposited with the governing body of the
23 city are subject to the inspection of any elector who may wish to examine
24 them at any time after their deposit with the city clerk.

25 3. A contestant of an election may inspect all of the material relating to
26 that election which is preserved pursuant to subsection 1, except the voted
27 ballots.

28 4. The voted ballots deposited with the city clerk are not subject to the
29 inspection of any person, except in a contested election, and only by the
30 judge, body or board before whom the election is being contested, or by the
31 parties to the contest, jointly, pursuant to an order of the judge, body or
32 board.

33 **Sec. 37.** Chapter 306 of NRS is hereby amended by adding thereto a
34 new section to read as follows:

35 *If a public officer who is subject to a recall petition resigns his office:*

36 *1. Before the call for a special election is issued:*

37 *(a) The official with whom the petition to recall is filed shall cease any*
38 *further proceedings regarding the petition;*

39 *(b) A vacancy occurs in that office; and*

40 *(c) The vacancy thereby created must be filled in the manner provided*
41 *by law.*

42 *2. After the call for a special election is issued, the special election*
43 *must be conducted.*

1 **Sec. 38.** NRS 306.110 is hereby amended to read as follows:

2 306.110 1. A petition to nominate other candidates for the office
3 must be signed by registered voters of the state, or of the county, district or
4 municipality holding the election, equal in number to 25 percent of the
5 number of registered voters who voted in the state, or in the county, district
6 or municipality holding the election at the general election at which the
7 public officer was elected. *Each petition may consist of more than one*
8 *document. Each document must bear the name of one county and must*
9 *not be signed by a person who is not a registered voter of that county.*

10 2. The nominating petition must be filed, at least ~~15~~ 20 days before
11 the date of the special election, with the officer with whom the recall
12 petition is filed. *Each document of the petition must be submitted for*
13 *verification pursuant to NRS 293.1276 to 293.1279, inclusive, to the*
14 *county clerk of the county named on the document.*

15 3. Each candidate who is nominated for office must file an acceptance
16 of candidacy with the appropriate filing officer and pay the fee required by
17 NRS 293.193 or by the governing body of a city at least ~~15~~ 20 days
18 before the date of the special election.

19 **Sec. 39.** NRS 218.010 is hereby amended to read as follows:

20 218.010 No person ~~shall be~~ *is* eligible to the office of state senator or
21 assemblyman who:

22 1. Is not a qualified elector and who has not been ~~an~~ *an actual, as*
23 *opposed to constructive*, citizen resident of this state for 1 year next
24 preceding his election.

25 2. At the time of election has not attained the age of 21 years.

26 **Sec. 40.** NRS 218.043 is hereby amended to read as follows:

27 218.043 Where a vacancy occurs in the office of state senator or
28 assemblyman during a regular or special session of the legislature or at a
29 time when no biennial election or regular election at which county officers
30 are to be elected will take place between the occurrence of the vacancy and
31 the next regular or special session, the procedure for filling the vacancy is
32 as follows:

33 1. Where the senator or assemblyman was elected from a district
34 wholly within one county, the board of county commissioners of the county
35 from which the former incumbent was elected shall appoint a person of the
36 same political party as the former incumbent *and who actually, as opposed*
37 *to constructively, resides in the district* to fill the vacancy.

38 2. Where the former incumbent was elected from a district comprising
39 more than one county, the county commissioners of each county within or
40 partly within the district shall meet to appoint a person of the same political
41 party as the former incumbent *and who actually, as opposed to*
42 *constructively, resides in the district* to fill the vacancy, under the
43 chairmanship of the chairman of the board of county commissioners of the

1 county whose population residing within the district is the greatest. Each
2 board of county commissioners shall first meet separately and determine
3 the single candidate it will nominate to fill the vacancy. Then , the boards
4 shall meet jointly and the chairmen on behalf of the boards shall cast a
5 proportionate number of votes according to the percent, rounded to the
6 nearest whole percent, which the population of its county is of the
7 population of the entire district. Populations must be determined by the last
8 decennial census or special census conducted by the Bureau of the Census
9 of the United States Department of Commerce. The person who receives a
10 plurality of these votes is appointed to fill the vacancy. If no person
11 receives a plurality of the votes, the boards of county commissioners of the
12 respective counties shall each select a candidate, and the appointee ~~{shall}~~
13 **must** be chosen by drawing lots among the candidates so selected.

14 3. The board of county commissioners or the board of the county
15 which has the largest population within the district, as the case may be,
16 shall issue a certificate of appointment naming the appointee. The county
17 clerk or the clerk of the county which has the largest population within the
18 district, as the case may be, shall give the certificate to the appointee and
19 send a copy of the certificate to the secretary of state.

20 **Sec. 41.** NRS 281.050 is hereby amended to read as follows:

21 281.050 1. The ~~{legal}~~ residence of a person with reference to his
22 eligibility to office is ~~{that place where he has been actually, physically and~~
23 ~~corporeally present}~~ **his actual residence** within the state or county or
24 district, as the case may be, during all the period for which residence is
25 claimed by him. ~~{Should}~~ **If** any person ~~{absent}~~ **absents** himself from the
26 jurisdiction of his residence ~~{such absence shall}~~ **with the intention in good**
27 **faith to return without delay and continue his residence, the period of**
28 **absence must not** be considered in determining the question of ~~{legal}~~
29 residence.

30 2. If a candidate who has filed for elective office moves his residence
31 out of the state, county, district, ward, subdistrict or any other unit
32 prescribed by law for which he is a candidate and in which he is required
33 **actually, as opposed to constructively,** to reside, a vacancy is created
34 thereby and the appropriate action for filling ~~{such vacancy shall}~~ **the**
35 **vacancy must** be taken. **A person shall be deemed to have moved his**
36 **residence for the purposes of this section if:**

37 **(a) He has acted affirmatively to remove himself from one place; and**

38 **(b) He has an intention to remain in another place.**

39 3. The district court has jurisdiction to determine the question of
40 ~~{legal}~~ residence in an action for declaratory judgment.

41 4. **As used in this section, “actual residence” means the place where**
42 **a person is legally domiciled and maintains a permanent habitation. If**
43 **the person maintains more than one such habitation, the place he**

1 *declares to be his principal permanent habitation when filing a*
2 *declaration or affidavit pursuant to NRS 293.177 or 293C.185 shall be*
3 *deemed to be his actual residence.*

4 **Sec. 42.** NRS 283.040 is hereby amended to read as follows:

5 283.040 1. Every office becomes vacant upon the occurring of any of
6 the following events before the expiration of the term:

7 (a) The death or resignation of the incumbent.

8 (b) The removal of the incumbent from office.

9 (c) The confirmed insanity of the incumbent, found by a court of
10 competent jurisdiction.

11 (d) A conviction of the incumbent of any felony or offense involving a
12 violation of his official oath or bond or a violation of NRS 241.040,
13 293.1755 or 293C.200.

14 (e) A refusal or neglect of the person elected or appointed to take the
15 oath of office, as prescribed in NRS 282.010, or, when a bond is required
16 by law, his refusal or neglect to give the bond within the time prescribed by
17 law.

18 (f) Except as otherwise provided in NRS 266.400, the ceasing of the
19 incumbent to be ~~an~~ *an actual, as opposed to constructive*, resident of the
20 state, district, county, city, ward or other unit prescribed by law in which
21 the duties of his office are to be exercised, or from which he was elected or
22 appointed, or in which he was required to reside to be a candidate for office
23 or appointed to office.

24 (g) The neglect or refusal of the incumbent to discharge the duties of his
25 office for a period of 30 days, except when prevented by sickness or
26 absence from the state or county, as provided by law. In a county whose
27 population is less than 10,000, after an incumbent, other than a state
28 officer, has been prevented by sickness from discharging the duties of his
29 office for at least 6 months, the district attorney, either on his own volition
30 or at the request of another person, may petition the district court to declare
31 the office vacant. If the incumbent holds the office of district attorney, the
32 attorney general, either on his own volition or at the request of another
33 person, may petition the district court to declare the office vacant. The
34 district court shall hold a hearing to determine whether to declare the office
35 vacant and, in making its determination, shall consider evidence relating to:

36 (1) The medical condition of the incumbent;

37 (2) The extent to which illness, disease or physical weakness has
38 rendered the incumbent unable to manage independently and perform the
39 duties of his office; and

40 (3) The extent to which the absence of the incumbent has had a
41 detrimental effect on the applicable governmental entity.

42 (h) The decision of a competent tribunal declaring the election or
43 appointment void or the office

vacant.

1 2. Upon the happening of any of the events described in subsection 1,
2 if the incumbent fails or refuses to relinquish his office, the attorney general
3 shall, if the office is a state office or concerns more than one county, or the
4 district attorney shall, if the office is a county office or concerns territory
5 within one county, commence and prosecute, in a court of competent
6 jurisdiction, any proceedings for judgment and decree declaring that office
7 vacant.
8 **Sec. 43.** The provisions of subsection 1 of NRS 354.599 do not apply
9 to any additional expenses of a local government that are related to the
10 provisions of this act.

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