ASSEMBLY BILL NO. 499—COMMITTEE ON ELECTIONS, PROCEDURES, ETHICS, AND CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS

MARCH 28, 2005

Referred to Committee on Elections, Procedures, Ethics, and Constitutional Amendments

SUMMARY—Makes various changes relating to elections. (BDR 24-898)

FISCAL NOTE: Effect on Local Government: May have Fiscal Impact. Effect on the State: Yes.

CONTAINS UNFUNDED MANDATE (§ 22) (NOT REQUESTED BY AFFECTED LOCAL GOVERNMENT)

EXPLANATION - Matter in bolded italics is new; matter between brackets formitted material is material to be omitted.

AN ACT relating to elections; requiring an election board to have a copy of a list of all registered voters in the county who are eligible to vote in an election; revising provisions relating to registering a person to vote; revising provisions relating to requesting and casting an absent ballot for an election; providing that an out-of-state student enrolled in the University and Community College System of Nevada may serve as a member of an election board; revising provisions relating to powers of a chairman of an election board; revising the provision requiring an employer to give an employee leave for the purpose of voting; revising the provisions relating to permanent polling places for early voting in person; revising the provisions relating to the casting of a provisional ballot; providing that a district attorney has concurrent jurisdiction with the Secretary of State to enforce the provisions of title 24 of NRS; directing the Legislative Commission to conduct an interim study of various matters relating to the conduct of elections in this State; providing a penalty; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.



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

- **Section 1.** Chapter 293 of NRS is hereby amended by adding thereto the provisions set forth as sections 2, 3 and 4 of this act.
- Sec. 2. 1. The county clerk may appoint a nonresident college student as an election board officer. To qualify for such an appointment, the nonresident college student must be:
- (a) A United States citizen and not eligible to register to vote in this State:
- (b) Enrolled in the University and Community College System of Nevada; and
 - (c) At least 16 years of age at the time of service.

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- 2. The county clerk may only appoint a nonresident college student as an election board officer pursuant to subsection 1 if:
- 13 (a) The nonresident college student is appointed without party 14 affiliation;
 - (b) The county clerk sends the nonresident college student a certificate stating the date and hours that the nonresident college student shall act as an election board officer; and
 - (c) The nonresident college student attends the training class required by NRS 293B.260.
 - 3. Except as otherwise provided in this subsection, the county clerk may assign a nonresident college student such duties as the county clerk deems appropriate. The county clerk shall not assign more than one nonresident college student to serve as an election board officer in any one precinct.
 - 4. The county clerk may compensate a nonresident college student for his service at the same rate fixed for election board officers generally.
 - Sec. 3. 1. The county or city clerk shall appoint a manager and an assistant manager for each polling place at which voting will be conducted during an election.
 - 2. The manager for a polling place may:
- 32 (a) Be a chairman of one of the election boards for a precinct 33 located at the polling place; and 34 (b) If the polling place is a site at which two or more election
 - (b) If the polling place is a site at which two or more election boards will conduct voting, reassign an election board officer from one of the election boards located at the polling place to a different election board located at the polling place.
 - Sec. 4. Not later than 45 days before the close of registration pursuant to NRS 293.560, a county clerk shall publish a list of each registration of a voter cancelled pursuant to the provisions of NRS 293.530, 293.535, 293.540 or 293.541.



Sec. 5. NRS 293.124 is hereby amended to read as follows:

- 293.124 1. The Secretary of State shall serve as the Chief Officer of Elections for this State. As Chief Officer, the Secretary of State is responsible for the execution and enforcement of the provisions of title 24 of NRS and all other provisions of state and federal law relating to elections in this State.
- 2. The district attorneys of this State have concurrent jurisdiction to investigate and prosecute a person who violates a provision of title 24 of NRS and any other provision of state and federal law relating to elections in this State.
- **3.** The Secretary of State shall adopt such regulations as are necessary to carry out the provisions of this section.

Sec. 6. NRS 293.217 is hereby amended to read as follows:

- 293.217 1. [The] Except as otherwise provided in subsection 2, the county clerk of each county shall appoint and notify registered voters to act as election board officers for the various precincts and districts in the county as provided in NRS 293.220 to 293.245, inclusive, and 293.384, and shall conclude those duties no later than 31 days before the election. The registered voters appointed as election board officers for any precinct or district must not all be of the same political party. No candidate for nomination or election or his relative within the second degree of consanguinity or affinity may be appointed as an election board officer. Immediately after election board officers are appointed, if requested by the county clerk, the sheriff shall:
- (a) Appoint a deputy sheriff for each polling place in the county and for the central election board or the absent ballot central counting board; or
 - (b) Deputize as a deputy sheriff for the election an election board officer of each polling place in the county and for the central election board or the absent ballot central counting board. The deputized officer shall receive no additional compensation for his services rendered as a deputy sheriff during the election for which he is deputized.
- Deputy sheriffs so appointed and deputized shall preserve order during hours of voting and attend closing of the polls.

 → Deputy sheriffs so appointed and deputized shall preserve order during hours of voting and attend closing of the polls.
 - 2. The county clerk may appoint [a]:
 - (a) A trainee for the position of election board officer as set forth in NRS 293.2175 \vdots ; and
- 40 (b) A nonresident college student as an election board officer 41 as set forth in section 2 of this act.
 - **Sec. 7.** NRS 293.220 is hereby amended to read as follows:
- 293.220 Upon the selection of persons to act as election board officers pursuant to NRS 293.217 *or section 2 of this act* or as trainees pursuant to NRS 293.2175, the county clerk shall deliver,



by mail or other means, notifications of the appointments to those persons.

 Sec. 8. NRS 293.223 is hereby amended to read as follows:

293.223 If any person appointed to serve as an election board officer pursuant to NRS 293.217 or section 2 of this act or as a trainee pursuant to NRS 293.2175 is unwilling to serve as appointed, he shall notify the county clerk within 5 days after receipt of the notification that he is unwilling to serve, whereupon the county clerk shall appoint some other registered voter to serve at the election.

Sec. 9. NRS 293.225 is hereby amended to read as follows:

293.225 1. Members of election boards continue as such from the day before the day of the election, until the time for filing contests of the election has expired.

- 2. Each member of an election board is subject to call by the board of county commissioners or city council to correct any errors discovered during the canvass of votes by the board of county commissioners or city council.
- 3. Reserve election board officers must be appointed by the county or city clerk, if practicable, to fill any vacancy which occurs on the day of the election, and the reserve officers must be compensated if they serve at the polls.
- 4. If a vacancy occurs in any election board on the day of the election and no reserves are available, the *chairman of the* election board may appoint, at the polling place, any [registered voter] person who is *qualified and* willing to serve and satisfies the *chairman of the* election board that he possesses the qualifications required to perform the services required.
- 5. If the chairman of the election board determines that additional election board officers are needed on the day of the election and no reserves are available, the chairman of the election board may appoint, at the polling place, any person who is qualified and willing to serve and satisfies the chairman of the election board that he possesses the qualifications required to perform the services required.
 - **Sec. 10.** NRS 293.227 is hereby amended to read as follows:
- 293.227 1. Each election board consists of at least three members, one of whom must be designated chairman by the county or city clerk. The boards shall make the records of election required by this chapter.
- 2. The appointment of a trainee as set forth in NRS 293.2175 and 293C.222 or a nonresident college student as set forth in sections 2 and 28 of this act may be used to determine the number of members on the election board, but under no circumstances may:



(a) The election board of any precinct include more than one trainee; [or]

- (b) The election board of any precinct include more than one nonresident college student; or
- (c) A trainee or a nonresident college student serve as chairman of the election board.
- 3. The county or city clerk shall conduct or cause to be conducted, at least 5 days before the date of the election for which the boards are appointed, a school to acquaint the chairmen with the election laws, duties of election boards, regulations of the Secretary of State and with the procedure for making the records of election and using the register for election boards. If the person appointed chairman is unable for any reason to attend the school, he shall appoint some other member of his election board to attend the school in his stead.
- 4. The board of county commissioners of any county or the city council of any city may reimburse the chairmen or their designees who attend the school for their travel expenses at a rate not exceeding 10 cents per mile.
 - 5. Each chairman shall instruct his board before election day.
 - **Sec. 11.** NRS 293.275 is hereby amended to read as follows:
- 293.275 No election board may perform its duty in serving registered voters at any precinct or district polling place in any election provided for in this title, unless it has before it [the]:
- 1. \hat{A} list of all registered voters in the county in which the precinct or district polling place is located who are eligible to vote in the election; and
 - 2. The election board register for its precinct or district.
 - **Sec. 12.** NRS 293.277 is hereby amended to read as follows:
- 293.277 1. Except as otherwise provided in NRS 293.541, if a person's name appears in the election board register or if he provides an affirmation pursuant to NRS 293.525, he is entitled to vote and must sign his name in the election board register when he applies to vote. [His]
- 2. The signature of the person provided pursuant to subsection 1 must be compared by an election board officer with the signature or a facsimile thereof on his original application to register to vote. [or]
- 3. If the election board officer determines that the signature of the person provided pursuant to subsection 1 does not match the signature or facsimile thereof on his original application, the person may use one of the forms of identification listed in subsection [2].
- $\frac{2.1}{2.1}$ 4 for the purpose of identification.



- **4.** Except as otherwise provided in NRS 293.2725, the forms of identification which may be used individually to identify a voter at the polling place are:
 - (a) The card issued to the voter at the time he registered to vote;
 - (b) A driver's license;

- (c) An identification card issued by the Department of Motor Vehicles:
 - (d) A military identification card; [or]
- (e) An identification card issued by an educational institution; or
- (f) Any other form of identification issued by a governmental agency which contains the voter's signature and physical description or picture.
 - **Sec. 13.** NRS 293.277 is hereby amended to read as follows:
- 293.277 1. Except as otherwise provided in NRS 293.541, if a person's name appears in the election board register or if he provides an affirmation pursuant to NRS 293.525, he is entitled to vote and must sign his name in the election board register when he applies to vote.
- 2. If the name of a person who appears before the election board does not appear on the election board register, the election board shall examine the list of all registered voters in the county in which the precinct or district polling place is located who are eligible to vote in the election. If the name of the person appears on such list, the election board shall notify the person of the location of the precinct at which the voter may cast a ballot.
- 3. The signature of the person provided pursuant to subsection 1 must be compared by an election board officer with the signature or a facsimile thereof on his original application to register to vote.
- [3.] 4. If the election board officer determines that the signature of the person provided pursuant to subsection 1 does not match the signature or facsimile thereof on his original application, the person may use one of the forms of identification listed in subsection [4] 5 for the purpose of identification.
- [4.] 5. Except as otherwise provided in NRS 293.2725, the forms of identification which may be used individually to identify a voter at the polling place are:
 - (a) The card issued to the voter at the time he registered to vote;
- 39 (b) A driver's license;
- 40 (c) An identification card issued by the Department of Motor Vehicles;
 - (d) A military identification card;
 - (e) An identification card issued by an educational institution; or



(f) Any other form of identification issued by a governmental agency which contains the voter's signature and physical description or picture.

Sec. 14. NRS 293.3081 is hereby amended to read as follows:

293.3081 A person at a polling place may cast a provisional ballot in an election [to vote for a candidate for federal office] if the person complies with the applicable provisions of NRS 293.3082 and:

- 1. Declares that he has registered to vote and is eligible to vote at that election in that jurisdiction, but his name does not appear on a voter registration list as a voter eligible to vote in that election in that jurisdiction or an election official asserts that the person is not eligible to vote in that election in that jurisdiction;
- 2. Applies by mail, on or after January 1, 2003, to register to vote and has not previously voted in an election for federal office in this State and fails to provide the identification required pursuant to paragraph (a) of subsection 1 of NRS 293.2725 to the election board officer at the polling place; or
- 3. Declares that he is entitled to vote after the polling place would normally close as a result of a court order or other order extending the time established for the closing of polls pursuant to a law of this State in effect 10 days before the date of the election.
- **Sec. 15.** NRS 293.3083 is hereby amended to read as follows: 293.3083 A person may cast a ballot by mail [to vote for a candidate for federal office,] which must be treated as a provisional

ballot by the county or city clerk if the person:

- 1. Applies by mail to register to vote and has not previously voted in an election for federal office in this State;
 - 2. Fails to provide the identification required pursuant to paragraph (b) of subsection 1 of NRS 293.2725 to the county or city clerk at the time that he mails his ballot; and
- 32 3. Completes the written affirmation set forth in subsection 1 33 of NRS 293,3082.
 - **Sec. 16.** NRS 293.313 is hereby amended to read as follows:
 - 293.313 1. Except as otherwise provided in NRS 293.272 and 293.502, a registered voter who provides sufficient written notice to the county clerk may vote an absent ballot as provided in this chapter.
 - 2. A registered voter [who:
 - (a) Is at least 65 years of age; or
 - (b) Has a physical disability or condition which substantially impairs his ability to go to the polling place,
- 43 → may request an absent ballot for [all]:
- 44 (a) The election immediately following the date on which the 45 county clerk receives the request; or



- (b) All elections held [during the year he requests] after he submits the request for an absent ballot.
 - 3. As used in this section, "sufficient written notice" means a:
 - (a) Written request for an absent ballot which is signed by the registered voter and returned to the county clerk in person or by mail or facsimile machine;
 - (b) Form prescribed by the Secretary of State which is completed and signed by the registered voter and returned to the county clerk in person or by mail or facsimile machine; or
 - (c) Form provided by the Federal Government.

- 4. A county clerk shall consider a request from a voter who has given sufficient written notice on a form provided by the Federal Government as a request for an absent ballot for the two primary and general elections immediately following the date on which the county clerk received the request.
- 5. It is unlawful for a person fraudulently to request an absent ballot in the name of another person or to induce or coerce another person fraudulently to request an absent ballot in the name of another person. A person who violates this subsection is guilty of a category E felony and shall be punished as provided in NRS 193.130.
 - **Sec. 17.** NRS 293.315 is hereby amended to read as follows:
- 293.315 1. A registered voter referred to in NRS 293.313 may, at any time before 5 p.m. on the seventh calendar day preceding any election, make an application to that clerk for an absent voter's ballot [-] for that election. The application must be made available for public inspection.
- 2. When the voter has identified himself to the satisfaction of the clerk, he is entitled to receive the appropriate ballot or ballots, but only for his own use.
- 3. A county clerk who allows a person to copy information from an application for an absent ballot is immune from any civil or criminal liability for any damage caused by the distribution of that information, unless he knowingly and willingly allows a person who intends to use the information to further an unlawful act to copy such information.
 - **Sec. 18.** NRS 293.316 is hereby amended to read as follows:
- 293.316 1. Any registered voter who is unable to go to the polls:
- (a) Because of an illness or disability resulting in his confinement in a hospital, sanatorium, dwelling or nursing home; or
- (b) Because he is suddenly hospitalized, becomes seriously ill or is called away from home after the time has elapsed for requesting an absent ballot as provided in NRS 293.315,



- → may submit a written request to the county clerk for an absent ballot. [The]
- 2. A written request made pursuant to subsection 1 may be submitted at any time before 5 p.m. on the day of the election.
 - [2.] The request must specify whether the absent ballot is to be:
- (a) Delivered at the office of the county clerk to a person designated in the request to obtain a ballot for the registered voter making the request; or
- (b) Sent by a facsimile machine to the registered voter making the request.
- 3. If the county clerk determines that a request submitted pursuant to subsection 1 includes the information required pursuant to subsection [3,] 4, the county clerk shall, [at] as set forth in the request made pursuant to subsection 1:
- (a) At the office of the county clerk, deliver an absent ballot to the person designated in the request to obtain the ballot for the registered voter [.
- $\frac{3}{3}$; or

- (b) Use a facsimile machine to send an absent ballot to the voter.
- **4.** A written request submitted pursuant to subsection 1 must include:
- (a) The name, address and signature of the registered voter requesting the absent ballot;
- (b) [The] If the registered voter is designating a person to receive an absent ballot at the office of the county clerk, the name, address and signature of the person designated by the registered voter to obtain, deliver and return the ballot for the registered voter;
- (c) If the registered voter is requesting that the absent ballot be delivered by facsimile machine, the number of the facsimile machine at which the voter may receive an absent ballot;
- (d) A brief statement of the illness or disability of the registered voter or of facts sufficient to establish that the registered voter was called away from home after the time had elapsed for requesting an absent ballot;
- [(d)] (e) If the voter is confined in a hospital, sanatorium, dwelling or nursing home, a statement that he will be confined therein on the day of the election; and
- [(e)] (f) Unless the person designated pursuant to [paragraph (b)] subsection 6 will mark and sign an absent ballot on behalf of the registered voter pursuant to subsection [5,] 6, a statement signed under penalty of perjury that only the registered voter will mark and sign the ballot.
- [4.] 5. Except as otherwise provided in subsection [5,] 6, after marking his ballot, the voter [must:



— (a) Place may:

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- (a) If the voter returning the ballot signs and returns a statement to the county clerk acknowledging that the secrecy of his ballot could be violated, return the absent ballot to the county clerk by facsimile machine; or
- (b) If the absent ballot was received at the office of the county clerk:
 - (1) **Place** it in the identification envelope;
 - (2) Affix his signature on the back of the envelope; and

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

- [5.] 6. A person designated in a request submitted pursuant to subsection 1 may, on behalf of and at the direction of the registered voter, mark and sign the absent ballot. If the person marks and signs the ballot, the person shall indicate next to his signature that the ballot has been marked and signed on behalf of the registered voter.
- [6.] 7. A request for an absent ballot submitted pursuant to this section must be made, and the ballot delivered to the voter and returned to the county clerk, not later than the time the polls close on election day.
- [7.] 8. The procedure authorized by this section is subject to all other provisions of this chapter relating to voting by absent ballot to the extent that those provisions are not inconsistent with the provisions of this section.
 - **Sec. 19.** NRS 293.3165 is hereby amended to read as follows:
- 293.3165 1. A registered voter who, because of a physical disability, is unable to mark or sign a ballot or use a voting device without assistance may submit a written statement to the appropriate county clerk requesting that he receive an absent ballot for each election conducted [during the period specified in subsection 3.] after he submits the request for an absent ballot.
- 2. A written statement submitted pursuant to subsection 1 must:
 - (a) Include a statement from a physician licensed in this State certifying that the registered voter is a person with a physical disability and, because of the physical disability, he is unable to mark or sign a ballot or use a voting device without assistance;
 - (b) Designate the person who will assist the registered voter in marking and signing the absent ballot on behalf of the registered voter: and
- 40 (c) Include the name, address and signature of the person designated pursuant to paragraph (b).
 - 3. Upon receipt of a written statement submitted by a registered voter pursuant to subsection 1, the county clerk shall, if the statement includes the information required pursuant to subsection 2, issue an absent ballot to the registered voter for each



election that is conducted [during the year immediately succeeding] after the date the written statement is submitted to the county clerk.

- 4. To determine whether a registered voter is entitled to receive an absent ballot pursuant to this section, the county clerk may, every year after an absent ballot is issued to a registered voter pursuant to subsection 3, require the registered voter to submit a statement from a licensed physician as specified in paragraph (a) of subsection 2. If a statement from a physician licensed in this State submitted pursuant to this subsection indicates that the registered voter is no longer physically disabled, the county clerk shall not issue an absent ballot to the registered voter pursuant to this section.
- 5. A person designated pursuant to paragraph (b) of subsection 2 may, on behalf of and at the direction of the registered voter, mark and sign an absent ballot issued to the registered voter pursuant to the provisions of this section. If the person marks and signs the ballot, the person shall indicate next to his signature that the ballot has been marked and signed on behalf of the registered voter.
- 6. The procedure authorized pursuant to this section is subject to all other provisions of this chapter relating to voting by absent ballot to the extent that those provisions are not inconsistent with the provisions of this section.

Sec. 20. NRS 293.323 is hereby amended to read as follows:

- 293.323 1. Except as otherwise provided in subsection 2, if the request for an absent ballot is made by mail or facsimile machine, the county clerk shall, as soon as the official absent ballot for the precinct or district in which the applicant resides has been printed, send to the voter by first-class mail if the absent voter is within the boundaries of the United States, its territories or possessions or on a military base, or by air mail if the absent voter is in a foreign country but not on a military base:
 - (a) Except as otherwise provided in paragraph (b):
 - (1) An absent ballot;
 - (2) A return envelope;
 - (3) Supplies for marking the ballot;
- (4) An envelope or similar device into which the ballot is inserted to ensure its secrecy; and
 - (5) Instructions.

- (b) In those counties using a mechanical voting system whereby a vote is cast by punching a card:
- 40 (1) A card attached to a sheet of foam plastic or similar backing material;
 - (2) A return envelope;
 - (3) A punching instrument;
 - (4) A sample ballot;



- 1 (5) An envelope or similar device into which the card is 2 inserted to ensure its secrecy; and
 - (6) Instructions.

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- 2. If by 5 p.m. on the Tuesday preceding an election the [county clerk] voter fails to [send] receive an absent ballot mailed pursuant to subsection 1, [to a voter who resides within the continental United States,] the voter may inform the county clerk that the voter failed to receive the absent ballot. If pursuant to this subsection a voter informs a county clerk that the voter failed to receive an absent ballot, the county clerk [may] shall use a facsimile machine to send an absent ballot and instructions to the voter. The voter [shall mail] may return his absent ballot to the county clerk [.]:
 - (a) By mail; or
- (b) If the voter returning the ballot signs and returns a statement to the city clerk acknowledging that the secrecy of the ballot could be violated, by facsimile machine.
- 3. The return envelope sent pursuant to subsection 1 must include postage prepaid by first-class mail if the absent voter is within the boundaries of the United States, its territories or possessions or on a military base.
- 4. Nothing may be enclosed or sent with an absent ballot except as required by subsection 1 or 2.
- 5. Before depositing a ballot in the mails or sending a ballot by facsimile machine, the county clerk shall record the date the ballot is issued, the name of the registered voter to whom it is issued, his precinct or district, his political affiliation, if any, the number of the ballot and any remarks he finds appropriate.
- 6. The Secretary of State shall adopt regulations to carry out the provisions of subsection 2.
 - **Sec. 21.** NRS 293.3568 is hereby amended to read as follows:
- 293.3568 1. The period for early voting by personal appearance begins the third Saturday preceding a primary or general election and extends through the Friday before election day. [, Sundays and holidays excepted.
- 36 2. The county clerk may: 37 (a) Include any Sunday or h
 - (a) Include any Sunday or holiday that falls within the period for early voting by personal appearance.
- 39 (b) Require a permanent polling place for early voting to remain 40 open until 8 p.m. on any Saturday that falls within the period for 41 early voting.
- 42 3.] 2. A permanent polling place for early voting must remain 43 open [:
- 44 (a) On Monday through Friday:



- - (2) During the second week of every day during the period for early voting [,] by personal appearance, from 8 a.m. [until 6 p.m. or] until 8 p.m. [if the county clerk so requires.

- (b) On any Saturday that falls within the period for early voting, from 10 a. m. until 6 p.m.
- (c) If the county clerk includes a Sunday that falls within the period for early voting pursuant to subsection 2, during such hours as he may establish.]
 - **Sec. 22.** NRS 293.3572 is hereby amended to read as follows:
- 293.3572 1. In addition to permanent polling places for early voting, the county clerk may establish temporary branch polling places for early voting which may include, without limitation, the clerk's office.
- 2. The provisions of subsection [3] 2 of NRS 293.3568 do not apply to a temporary polling place. Voting at a temporary branch polling place may be conducted on any one or more days and during any hours within the period for early voting by personal appearance, as determined by the county clerk.
- 3. The schedules for conducting voting are not required to be uniform among the temporary branch polling places.
- 4. The legal rights and remedies which inure to the owner or lessor of private property are not impaired or otherwise affected by the leasing of the property for use as a temporary branch polling place for early voting, except to the extent necessary to conduct early voting at that location.
 - **Sec. 23.** NRS 293.443 is hereby amended to read as follows:
 - 293.443 1. **[Except as otherwise provided in subsection 3, the]** *The* expense of providing all ballots, forms and other supplies to be used at any election regulated by this chapter or chapter 293C of NRS and all expenses necessarily incurred in the preparation for, or the conduct of, any such election is a charge upon the municipality, county, district or State, as the case may be.
- 2. The county or city clerk may submit the printing of ballots for competitive bidding.
 - [3. If a political party or other entity requests more than 50 applications to register to vote by mail, the clerk may assess a charge, not to exceed the cost of printing the applications, for each application requested in excess of 50.]
 - **Sec. 24.** NRS 293.463 is hereby amended to read as follows:
 - 293.463 1. Any registered voter may absent himself from his place of employment at a time to be designated by the employer for a sufficient time to vote, if it is impracticable for him to vote before



or after his hours of employment. A sufficient time to vote shall be determined as follows:

- (a) If the distance between the place of such voter's employment and the polling place where such person votes is 2 miles or less, [4] hour.] 2 hours.
- (b) If the distance is more than 2 miles but not more than 10 miles, $\frac{2}{3}$ hours.
 - (c) If the distance is more than 10 miles, [3] 4 hours.
- Such voter may not, because of such absence, be discharged, disciplined or penalized, nor shall any deduction be made from his usual salary or wages by reason of such absence.
- Application for leave of absence to vote shall be made to the employer or person authorized to grant such leave prior to the day of the election.
- 4. Any employer or person authorized to grant the leave of absence provided for in subsection 1, who denies any registered voter any right granted under this section, or who otherwise violates the provisions of this section, is guilty of a misdemeanor.
 - **Sec. 25.** NRS 293.504 is hereby amended to read as follows:
- 20 293.504 1. The following offices shall serve as voter 21 registration agencies:
- 22 (a) Such offices that provide public assistance as are designated 23 by the Secretary of State;
 - (b) Each office that receives money from the State of Nevada to provide services to persons in this State who are disabled;
 - (c) The offices of the Department of Motor Vehicles;
 - (d) The offices of the city and county clerks; [and]
 - (e) The administrative office located at each public school;
 - (f) Each public library; and

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- 30 (g) Such other offices as the Secretary of State deems 31 appropriate. 32
 - 2. Each voter registration agency shall:
 - (a) Post in a conspicuous place that applications to register to vote are available at the agency;
 - (b) Post in a conspicuous place, in at least 12-point type, instructions for registering to vote;
 - (c) Make applications to register to vote which may be returned by mail available to each person who applies for or receives services or assistance from the agency;
 - (d) Provide the same amount of assistance to an applicant in completing an application to register to vote as the agency provides to a person completing any other forms for the agency; and
 - (e) Accept completed applications to register to vote.
 - 3. Except as otherwise provided in this subsection and NRS 293.524, any application to register to vote accepted by a voter



registration agency must be transmitted to the county clerk not later than 10 days after the application is accepted. The applications must be forwarded daily during the 2 weeks immediately preceding the fifth Sunday preceding an election. The county clerk shall accept any application to register to vote which is obtained from a voter registration agency pursuant to this section and completed by the fifth Sunday preceding an election if he receives the application not later than 5 days after that date.

- 4. The Secretary of State shall cooperate with the Secretary of Defense to develop and carry out procedures to enable persons in this State to apply to register to vote at recruitment offices of the United States Armed Forces.
 - **Sec. 26.** NRS 293.505 is hereby amended to read as follows:
- 293.505 1. All justices of the peace, except those located in county seats, are ex officio field registrars to carry out the provisions of this chapter.
- 2. The county clerk shall appoint at least one registered voter to serve as a field registrar of voters who, except as otherwise provided in NRS 293.5055, shall register voters within the county for which he is appointed. Except as otherwise provided in subsection 1, a candidate for any office may not be appointed or serve as a field registrar. A field registrar serves at the pleasure of the county clerk and shall perform his duties as the county clerk may direct.
- 3. A field registrar shall demand of any person who applies for registration all information required by the application to register to vote and shall administer all oaths required by this chapter.
- 4. When a field registrar has in his possession five or more completed applications to register to vote, he shall forward them to the county clerk, but in no case may he hold any number of them for more than 10 days.
- 5. Each field registrar shall forward to the county clerk all completed applications in his possession immediately after the fifth Sunday preceding an election. Within 5 days after the fifth Sunday preceding any general election or general city election, a field registrar shall return all unused applications in his possession to the county clerk. If all of the unused applications are not returned to the county clerk, the field registrar shall account for the unreturned applications.
- 6. Each field registrar shall submit to the county clerk a list of the serial numbers of the completed applications to register to vote and the names of the electors on those applications. The serial numbers must be listed in numerical order.
- 7. Each field registrar shall post notices sent to him by the county clerk for posting in accordance with the election laws of this State.



- 8. A field registrar, employee of a voter registration agency or person assisting a voter pursuant to subsection 12 of NRS 293.5235 shall not:
 - (a) Delegate any of his duties to another person; or
- (b) Refuse to register a person on account of that person's political party affiliation.
- 9. A person shall not hold himself out to be or attempt to exercise the duties of a field registrar unless he has been so appointed.
- 10. A county clerk, field registrar, employee of a voter registration agency or person assisting a voter pursuant to subsection 12 of NRS 293.5235 shall not:
- (a) Solicit a vote for or against a particular question or candidate;
- (b) Speak to a voter on the subject of marking his ballot for or against a particular question or candidate; or
- (c) Distribute any petition or other material concerning a candidate or question which will be on the ballot for the ensuing election.
- → while he is registering an elector.

- 11. When the county clerk receives applications to register to vote from a field registrar, he shall issue a receipt to the field registrar. The receipt must include:
 - (a) The number of persons registered; and
 - (b) The political party of the persons registered.
 - 12. A county clerk, field registrar, employee of a voter registration agency or person assisting a voter pursuant to subsection 12 of NRS 293.5235 shall not:
 - (a) Knowingly register a person who is not a qualified elector or a person who has filed a false or misleading application to register to vote;
 - (b) [Alter] Willfully or intentionally alter, deface, destroy or suppress an application to register to vote that has been signed by an elector except to correct information contained in the application after receiving notice from the elector that a change in or addition to the information is required; or
- (c) Register a person who fails to provide satisfactory proof of identification and the address at which he actually resides.
- 13. If a field registrar violates any of the provisions of this section, the county clerk shall immediately suspend the field registrar and notify the district attorney of the county in which the violation occurred.
- 14. A person who violates any of the provisions of subsection 8, 9, 10 or 12 is guilty of a category E felony and shall be punished as provided in NRS 193.130.



- **Sec. 27.** NRS 293.507 is hereby amended to read as follows:
- 293.507 1. The Secretary of State shall prescribe:

- (a) A standard form for applications to register to vote; and
- (b) A special form for registration to be used in a county where registrations are performed and records of registration are kept by computer.
- 2. The county clerks shall provide forms for applications to register to vote to field registrars in the form and number prescribed by the Secretary of State.
- 3. A form for an application to register to vote must include a duplicate copy or receipt to be retained by the applicant upon completion of the form.
 - 4. The form for an application to register to vote must include:
 - (a) A line for use by the county clerk to enter:
- (1) The number indicated on the voter's current and valid driver's license issued by the Department of Motor Vehicles, if the voter has such a driver's license;
- (2) The last four digits of the voter's social security number, if the voter does not have a driver's license issued by the Department of Motor Vehicles and does have a social security number; or
- (3) The number issued to the voter pursuant to subsection 5, if the voter does not have a current and valid driver's license issued by the Department of Motor Vehicles or a social security number.
- (b) A line on which to enter the address at which the voter actually resides, as set forth in NRS 293.486.
- (c) A notice that the voter may not list a business as the address required pursuant to paragraph (b) unless he actually resides there.
- (d) A line on which to enter an address at which the voter may receive mail, including, without limitation, a post office box or general delivery.
- (e) A line on which the voter may indicate that the voter submits a request for a permanent absent ballot.
- 5. If a voter does not have the identification set forth in subparagraph (1) or (2) of paragraph (a) of subsection 4, the voter shall sign an affidavit stating that he does not have a current and valid driver's license issued by the Department of Motor Vehicles or a social security number. Upon receipt of the affidavit, the county clerk shall issue an identification number to the voter which must be the same number as the unique identifier assigned to the voter for purposes of the statewide voter registration list.
- 6. The Secretary of State shall adopt regulations to carry out the provisions of subsections 4 and 5.



- **Sec. 28.** Chapter 293C of NRS is hereby amended by adding thereto a new section to read as follows:
- 1. The city clerk may appoint a nonresident college student as an election board officer. To qualify for such an appointment, the nonresident college student must be:
- (a) A United States citizen and not eligible to register to vote in this State;
- (b) Enrolled in the University and Community College System of Nevada; and
 - (c) At the time of service, at least 16 years of age.

- 2. The city clerk may only appoint a nonresident college student as an election board officer pursuant to subsection 1 if:
- (a) The nonresident college student is appointed without party affiliation;
- (b) The city clerk sends the nonresident college student a certificate stating the date and hours that the nonresident college student shall act as an election board officer; and
- (c) The nonresident college student attends the training class required by NRS 293B.260.
- 3. Except as otherwise provided in this subsection, the city clerk may assign a nonresident college student such duties as the city clerk deems appropriate. The city clerk shall not assign more than one nonresident college student to serve as an election board officer in any one precinct.
- 4. The city clerk may compensate a nonresident college student for his service at the same rate fixed for election board officers generally.

Sec. 29. NRS 293C.220 is hereby amended to read as follows:

- 293C.220 1. [The] Except as otherwise provided in subsection 2, the city clerk shall appoint and notify registered voters to act as election board officers for the various precincts and districts in the city as provided in NRS 293.225, 293.227, 293C.227 to 293C.250, inclusive, and 293C.382 and shall conclude those duties not later than 31 days before the election. No candidate for nomination or election or his relative within the second degree of consanguinity or affinity may be appointed as an election board officer. Immediately after election board officers are appointed, if requested by the city clerk, the chief law enforcement officer of the city shall:
- (a) Appoint an officer for each polling place in the city and for the central election board or the absent ballot central counting board; or
- (b) Deputize, as an officer for the election, an election board officer for each polling place and for the central election board or the absent ballot central counting board. The deputized officer may



not receive any additional compensation for the services he provides as an officer during the election for which he is deputized.

- → Officers so appointed and deputized shall preserve order during hours of voting and attend the closing of the polls.
 - 2. The city clerk may appoint [a]:

- (a) A trainee for the position of election board officer as set forth in NRS 293C.222 [...]; and
- (b) A nonresident college student as an election board officer as set forth in section 28 of this act.
- **Sec. 30.** NRS 293C.227 is hereby amended to read as follows: 293C.227 Upon the selection of persons to act as election board officers pursuant to NRS 293C.220 *or section 28 of this act* or as trainees pursuant to NRS 293C.222, the city clerk shall deliver, by mail or other means, notifications of the appointments to those persons.
 - **Sec. 31.** NRS 293C.228 is hereby amended to read as follows:
- 293C.228 If any person appointed to serve as an election board officer pursuant to NRS 293C.220 *or section 28 of this act* or as a trainee pursuant to NRS 293C.222 is unwilling to serve as appointed, he shall notify the city clerk within 5 days after receipt of the notification that he is unwilling to serve, whereupon the city clerk shall appoint some other registered voter to serve at the election.
- **Sec. 32.** NRS 293C.270 is hereby amended to read as follows: 293C.270 1. If a person's name appears in the election board register or if he provides an affirmation pursuant to NRS 293C.525, he is entitled to vote and must sign his name in the election board

28 register when he applies to vote. [His] **2.** The signature of the per-

- 2. The signature of the person provided pursuant to subsection 1 must be compared by an election board officer with the signature or a facsimile thereof on his original application to register to vote.
- 3. If the election board officer determines that the signature of the person provided pursuant to subsection 1 does not match the signature or facsimile thereof on his original application, the person may use one of the forms of identification listed in subsection [2.
- 2.] 4 for the purpose of identification.
- 4. The forms of identification that may be used to identify a voter at the polling place are:
 - (a) The card issued to the voter at the time he registered to vote;
- (b) A driver's license;
- 43 (c) An identification card issued by the Department of Motor Vehicles;
 - (d) A military identification card; or



- 1 (e) An identification card issued by an educational institution; 2 or
 - (f) Any other form of identification issued by a governmental agency that contains the voter's signature and physical description or picture.
 - **Sec. 33.** NRS 293C.270 is hereby amended to read as follows:
 - 293C.270 1. If a person's name appears in the election board register or if he provides an affirmation pursuant to NRS 293C.525, he is entitled to vote and must sign his name in the election board register when he applies to vote.
 - 2. If the name of a person who appears before the election board does not appear on the election board register, the election board shall examine the list of all registered voters in the county in which the precinct or district polling place is located who are eligible to vote in the election. If the name of the person appears on such list, the election board shall notify the person of the location of the precinct at which the voter may cast a ballot.
 - 3. The signature of the person provided pursuant to subsection 1 must be compared by an election board officer with the signature or a facsimile thereof on his original application to register to vote.
 - [3.] 4. If the election board officer determines that the signature of the person provided pursuant to subsection 1 does not match the signature or facsimile thereof on his original application, the person may use one of the forms of identification listed in subsection [4] 5 for the purpose of identification.
 - [4.] 5. The forms of identification that may be used to identify a voter at the polling place are:
 - (a) The card issued to the voter at the time he registered to vote;
 - (b) A driver's license;

- (c) An identification card issued by the Department of Motor Vehicles;
 - (d) A military identification card;
 - (e) An identification card issued by an educational institution; or
- 34 (f) Any other form of identification issued by a governmental 35 agency that contains the voter's signature and physical description 36 or picture.
 - **Sec. 34.** NRS 293C.310 is hereby amended to read as follows:
 - 293C.310 1. Except as otherwise provided in NRS 293.502 and 293C.265, a registered voter who provides sufficient written notice to the city clerk may vote an absent ballot as provided in this chapter.
 - 2. A registered voter [who:
 - (a) Is at least 65 years of age; or



- (b) Has a physical disability or condition that substantially impairs his ability to go to the polling place,
 - → may request an absent ballot for [all]:

- (a) The election immediately following the date on which the city clerk receives the request; or
- (b) All elections held [during the year he requests] after he submits the request for an absent ballot.
 - 3. As used in this section, "sufficient written notice" means a:
- (a) Written request for an absent ballot that is signed by the registered voter and returned to the city clerk in person or by mail or facsimile machine;
- (b) Form prescribed by the Secretary of State that is completed and signed by the registered voter and returned to the city clerk in person or by mail or facsimile machine; or
 - (c) Form provided by the Federal Government.
- 4. A city clerk shall consider a request from a voter who has given sufficient written notice on a form provided by the Federal Government as:
- (a) A request for the primary city election and the general city election unless otherwise specified in the request; and
- (b) A request for an absent ballot for the two primary and general elections immediately following the date on which the city clerk received the request.
- 5. It is unlawful for a person fraudulently to request an absent ballot in the name of another person or to induce or coerce another person fraudulently to request an absent ballot in the name of another person. A person who violates any provision of this subsection is guilty of a category E felony and shall be punished as provided in NRS 193.130.
 - **Sec. 35.** NRS 293C.312 is hereby amended to read as follows:
- 293C.312 1. A registered voter referred to in NRS 293C.310 may, at any time before 5 p.m. on the seventh calendar day preceding any election, make an application to the city clerk for an absent voter's ballot [...] for that election. The application must be made available for public inspection.
- 2. When the voter has identified himself to the satisfaction of the city clerk, he is entitled to receive the appropriate ballot or ballots, but only for his own use.
- 3. A city clerk who allows a person to copy information from an application for an absent ballot is immune from any civil or criminal liability for any damage caused by the distribution of that information, unless he knowingly and willingly allows a person who intends to use the information to further an unlawful act to copy the information.



- **Sec. 36.** NRS 293C.317 is hereby amended to read as follows: 293C.317 1. Any registered voter who is unable to go to the bolls:
- (a) Because of an illness or disability resulting in his confinement in a hospital, sanatorium, dwelling or nursing home; or
- (b) Because he is suddenly hospitalized, becomes seriously ill or is called away from home after the time has elapsed for requesting an absent ballot as provided in NRS 293C.312,
- may submit a written request to the city clerk for an absent ballot. [The]
- **2.** A written request made pursuant to subsection 1 may be submitted at any time before 5 p.m. on the day of the election.
 - [2.] The request must specify whether the absent ballot is to be:
- (a) Delivered at the office of the city clerk to a person designated in the request to obtain a ballot for the registered voter making the request; or
- (b) Sent by a facsimile machine to the registered voter making the request.
- 3. If the city clerk determines that a request submitted pursuant to subsection 1 includes the information required pursuant to subsection [3,] 4, the city clerk shall, [at] as set forth in the request made pursuant to subsection 1:
- (a) At the office of the city clerk, deliver an absent ballot to the person designated in the request to obtain the ballot for the registered voter.
 - $\frac{3}{3}$; or

- (b) Use a facsimile machine to send an absent ballot to the voter.
- **4.** A written request submitted pursuant to subsection 1 must 30 include:
- 31 (a) The name, address and signature of the registered voter requesting the absent ballot;
 - (b) [The] If the registered voter is designating a person to receive an absent ballot at the office of the city clerk, the name, address and signature of the person designated by the registered voter to obtain, deliver and return the ballot for the registered voter;
 - (c) If the registered voter is requesting that the absent ballot be delivered by facsimile machine, the number of the facsimile machine at which the voter may receive an absent ballot;
 - (d) A brief statement of the illness or disability of the registered voter or of facts sufficient to establish that the registered voter was called away from home after the time had elapsed for requesting an absent ballot;



- [(d)] (e) If the voter is confined in a hospital, sanatorium, dwelling or nursing home, a statement that he will be confined therein on the day of the election; and
- [(e)] (f) Unless the person designated pursuant to [paragraph (b)] subsection 6 will mark and sign an absent ballot on behalf of the registered voter pursuant to subsection [5,] 6, a statement signed under penalty of perjury that only the registered voter will mark and sign the ballot.
- [4.] 5. Except as otherwise provided in subsection [5,] 6, after marking his ballot the voter [must:
- (a) Place may:

- (a) If the voter returning the ballot signs and returns a statement to the city clerk acknowledging that the secrecy of the ballot could be violated, return the absent ballot to the city clerk by facsimile machine; or
- (b) If the absent ballot was received at the office of the city clerk:
 - (1) **Place** it in the identification envelope;
 - (2) Affix his signature on the back of the envelope; and
 - (3) Return it to the office of the city clerk.
- [5.] 6. A person designated in a request submitted pursuant to subsection 1 may, on behalf of and at the direction of the registered voter, mark and sign the absent ballot. If the person marks and signs the ballot, the person shall indicate next to his signature that the ballot has been marked and signed on behalf of the registered voter.
- 26 [6.] 7. A request for an absent ballot submitted pursuant to this section must be made, and the ballot delivered to the voter and returned to the city clerk, not later than the time the polls close on election day.
 - [7.] 8. The procedure authorized by this section is subject to all other provisions of this chapter relating to voting by absent ballot to the extent that those provisions are not inconsistent with the provisions of this section.
 - Sec. 37. NRS 293C.318 is hereby amended to read as follows:
 - 293C.318 1. A registered voter who, because of a physical disability, is unable to mark or sign a ballot or use a voting device without assistance may submit a written statement to the appropriate city clerk requesting that he receive an absent ballot for each city election conducted [during the period specified in subsection 3.] after he submits the request for an absent ballot.
- 41 2. A written statement submitted pursuant to subsection 1 42 must:
 - (a) Include a statement from a physician licensed in this State certifying that the registered voter is a person with a physical



disability and, because of the physical disability, he is unable to mark or sign a ballot or use a voting device without assistance;

- (b) Designate the person who will assist the registered voter in marking and signing the absent ballot on behalf of the registered voter; and
- (c) Include the name, address and signature of the person designated pursuant to paragraph (b).
- 3. Upon receipt of a written statement submitted by a registered voter pursuant to subsection 1, the city clerk shall, if the statement includes the information required pursuant to subsection 2, issue an absent ballot to the registered voter for each city election that is conducted [during the year immediately succeeding] after the date the written statement is submitted to the city clerk.
- 4. To determine whether a registered voter is entitled to receive an absent ballot pursuant to this section, the city clerk may, every year after an absent ballot is issued to a registered voter pursuant to subsection 3, require the registered voter to submit a statement from a licensed physician as specified in paragraph (a) of subsection 2. If a statement from a physician licensed in this State submitted pursuant to this subsection indicates that the registered voter is no longer physically disabled, the city clerk shall not issue an absent ballot to the registered voter pursuant to this section.
- 5. A person designated pursuant to paragraph (b) of subsection 2 may, on behalf of and at the direction of the registered voter, mark and sign an absent ballot issued to the registered voter pursuant to the provisions of this section. If the person marks and signs the ballot, the person shall indicate next to his signature that the ballot has been marked and signed on behalf of the registered voter.
- 6. The procedure authorized pursuant to this section is subject to all other provisions of this chapter relating to voting by absent ballot to the extent that those provisions are not inconsistent with the provisions of this section.
 - **Sec. 38.** NRS 293C.322 is hereby amended to read as follows:
- 293C.322 1. Except as otherwise provided in subsection 2, if the request for an absent ballot is made by mail or facsimile machine, the city clerk shall, as soon as the official absent ballot for the precinct or district in which the applicant resides has been printed, send to the voter by first-class mail if the absent voter is within the boundaries of the United States, its territories or possessions or on a military base, or by air mail if the absent voter is in a foreign country but not on a military base:
 - (a) Except as otherwise provided in paragraph (b):
 - (1) An absent ballot;
 - (2) A return envelope;
 - (3) Supplies for marking the ballot;



- (4) An envelope or similar device into which the ballot is 2 inserted to ensure its secrecy; and
 - (5) Instructions.

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- (b) In those cities using a mechanical voting system whereby a vote is cast by punching a card:
- (1) A card attached to a sheet of foam plastic or similar backing material;
 - (2) A return envelope;
 - (3) A punching instrument;
 - (4) A sample ballot;
- (5) An envelope or similar device into which the card is inserted to ensure its secrecy; and
 - (6) Instructions.
- If by 5 p.m. on the Tuesday preceding an election the [city clerk voter fails to send receive an absent ballot mailed pursuant to subsection 1, fto a voter who resides within the continental United States, the voter may inform the city clerk that the voter failed to receive an absent ballot. If pursuant to this subsection a voter informs a city clerk that the voter failed to receive an absent ballot, the city clerk [may] shall use a facsimile machine to send an absent ballot and instructions to the voter. The voter [shall mail] may return his absent ballot to the city clerk ::
 - (a) By mail; or
- (b) If the voter returning the ballot signs and returns a statement to the city clerk acknowledging that the secrecy of the ballot could be violated, by facsimile machine.
- The return envelope sent pursuant to subsection 1 must include postage prepaid by first-class mail if the absent voter is within the boundaries of the United States, its territories or possessions or on a military base.
- Nothing may be enclosed or sent with an absent ballot except as required by subsection 1 or 2.
- Before depositing a ballot with the United States Postal Service or sending a ballot by facsimile machine, the city clerk shall record the date the ballot is issued, the name of the registered voter to whom it is issued, his precinct or district, the number of the ballot and any remarks he finds appropriate.
- The Secretary of State shall adopt regulations to carry out the provisions of subsection 2.
- 39 Sec. 39. NRS 293C.3568 is hereby amended to read as 40 41 follows:
 - 293C.3568 1. The period for early voting by personal appearance begins the third Saturday preceding a primary city election or general city election, and extends through the Friday before election day. [, Sundays and holidays excepted.



1 — 2. The city clerk may:

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- (a) Include any Sunday or holiday that falls within the period for early voting by personal appearance.
- (b) Require a permanent polling place for early voting to remain open until 8 p.m. on any Saturday that falls within the period for early voting.
 3.1 2. A permanent polling place for early voting must remain
 - 3.] 2. A permanent polling place for early voting must remain open [:
- 9 (a) On Monday through Friday:
- 10 (1) During the first week of early voting, from 8 a.m. until 11 6 p.m.
 - (2) During the second week of every day during the period for early voting [,] by personal appearance, from 8 a.m. [until 6 p.m. or] until 8 p.m. [if the city clerk so requires.]
- 15 (b) On any Saturday that falls within the period for early voting, from 10 a.m. until 6 p.m.
- 17 (c) If the city clerk includes a Sunday that falls within the period 18 for early voting pursuant to subsection 2, during such hours as he 19 may establish.]
 - **Sec. 40.** NRS 293C.3572 is hereby amended to read as follows:
 - 293C.3572 1. In addition to permanent polling places for early voting, the city clerk may establish temporary branch polling places for early voting.
 - 2. The provisions of subsection [3] 2 of NRS 293C.3568 do not apply to a temporary polling place. Voting at a temporary branch polling place may be conducted on any one or more days and during any hours within the period for early voting by personal appearance, as determined by the city clerk.
 - 3. The schedules for conducting voting are not required to be uniform among the temporary branch polling places.
 - 4. The legal rights and remedies which inure to the owner or lessor of private property are not impaired or otherwise affected by the leasing of the property for use as a temporary branch polling place for early voting, except to the extent necessary to conduct early voting at that location.
 - **Sec. 41.** 1. The Legislative Commission shall appoint a committee consisting of six Legislators to conduct an interim study of the procedures relating to the conduct of an election in this State.
 - 2. The Legislative Commission shall appoint to the committee three members of the Senate and three members of the Assembly who are acquainted with the procedures relating to the conduct of an election in this State.
- 44 3. The study must include, without limitation, a consideration 45 of:



- (a) The methods used to ensure that all absent ballots and provisional ballots cast by voters in an election are counted in a uniform, fair and consistent manner;
- (b) The procedures and technology used to ensure the integrity of the mechanical voting systems used in this State;
 - (c) Revising the deadlines relating to registering to vote;

- (d) Revising the time frames relating to the casting of an absent ballot:
- (e) The methods for ensuring that all voters in this State have adequate access to a polling place and whether closing public schools on election day and using those schools as polling places would ensure that all voters have adequate access to a polling place;
- (f) Conducting voting on a countywide basis, without regard to location of polling places, on election day;
- (g) The methods for regulating groups that seek to register voters to ensure accountability and to prevent fraudulent activity including whether each such group should be assigned an identification number, whether a person representing such a group who registers a person to vote shall sign the receipt for registration and whether such groups shall provide training to a person representing such a group before registering people to vote;
- (h) Guaranteeing a person who presents a receipt for a registration to vote at a polling place on election day the right to cast a ballot if such a person does not appear on the roster of registered voters;
- (i) The methods to provide that the Chief Officer of Elections in this State is elected as a nonpartisan office;
- (j) The methods to ensure that voter registration agencies, including, without limitation, the Department of Motor Vehicles, promptly deliver completed applications to register to vote to the appropriate county clerk;
- (k) The methods to ensure that a county clerk has adequate staff to conduct an election;
- (1) Whether a sufficient number of permanent polling places for early voting are available in counties whose populations are 100,000 or more; and
- (m) Providing for the proportionate election of presidential electors in this State.
- 4. In conducting the study, the committee shall seek information and suggestions from experts in the area of conducting elections.
- 5. Any recommended legislation proposed by the committee must be approved by a majority of the members of the Senate and a majority of the members of the Assembly who are appointed to the committee.



- 6. The Legislative Commission shall submit a report of the results of the study and any recommendations for legislation to the 74th Session of the Nevada Legislature.

 Sec. 42. The provisions of NRS 354.599 do not apply to any
- **Sec. 42.** The provisions of NRS 354.599 do not apply to any additional expenses of a local government that are related to the provisions of this act.

- **Sec. 43.** 1. This section and sections 1 to 10, inclusive, 12, 14 to 32, inclusive, and 34 to 42, inclusive, of this act become effective on October 1, 2005.
- 2. Sections 12 and 32 of this act expire by limitation on December 31, 2007.
- 3. Sections 11, 13 and 33 of this act become effective on January 1, 2008.



