#### Amendment No. 155

Assembly Amendment to Assembly Bill No. 342	(BDR 24-689)							
<b>Proposed by:</b> Assembly Committee on Elections, Procedures, Ethics, and Constitutional Amendments								
Amends: Summary: No Title: Yes Preamble: No Joint Sponsorship: No	Digest: Yes							

ASSEMBLY ACTION			Initial and Date	SENATE ACTION	ON	Initial and Date
Adopted		Lost		Adopted	Lost	
Concurred In		Not	1	Concurred In	Not	
Receded		Not		Receded	Not	

EXPLANATION: Matter in (1) *blue bold italics* is new language in the original bill; (2) *green bold italic underlining* is new language proposed in this amendment; (3) red strikethrough is deleted language in the original bill; (4) purple double strikethrough is language proposed to be deleted in this amendment; (5) orange double underlining is deleted language in the original bill that is proposed to be retained in this amendment; and (6) green bold is newly added transitory language.

HAC/KMG Date: 4/16/2007

A.B. No. 342—Makes various changes to the process of casting a mailing ballot in mailing precincts. (BDR 24-689)

ASSEMBLY BILL NO. 342—ASSEMBLYMEN GANSERT, MABEY, PARKS, GOEDHART, HARDY, MANENDO, MARVEL, MCCLAIN, PARNELL, SEGERBLOM AND STEWART

MARCH 15, 2007

JOINT SPONSOR: SENATOR CEGAVSKE

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

SUMMARY—Makes various changes to the process of casting a mailing ballot in mailing precincts. (BDR 24-689)

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

Effect on the State: No.

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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; providing under certain circumstances that a registered voter who lives in a mailing precinct or an absent ballot mailing precinct of a county [or city] who has received a mailing ballot may vote in person at the office of the county [or city] clerk or at designated polling places on election day or at polling places during the period for early voting; requiring certain county [and city] clerks to designate at least one polling place to be the polling place to which any registered voter who lives in any of the mailing precincts or absent ballot mailing precincts of the county [or city] may apply to vote in person on election day; providing a penalty; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

#### Legislative Counsel's Digest:

[Sections 4, 6, 11 and 13] Section 4 of this bill [provide authorization for] requires county clerks in counties with a population of 100,000 or more to designate at least one polling place in the county as the polling place where a person who lives in a mailing precinct or an absent ballot mailing precinct [of a county or a city who has received a mailing ballot to] may vote in person on election day. [or during the period for early voting, instead of returning such a ballot by mail, and sets forth a procedure for the processing of a ballot voted in person pursuant to this authorization. Sections 6 and 13 prohibit] In counties with a population of less than 100,000, section 4 provides that a county clerk may, but is not required to, designate such a polling place. Section 6 prohibits the return of a mailing ballot by any person other than the registered voter to whom the ballot was sent unless a family member returns the ballot at the request of the voter. A person who violates this provision is guilty of a category E felony.

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

### Section 1. [NRS 293.230 is hereby amended to read as follows:

- In precincts or districts where there are less than 200 voters and paper ballots are used, the election board shall perform required from the time of preparing for the opening of the polls through delivering supplies and result of votes east to the county clerk.
- Except as otherwise provided in NRS 293.235, one election board must appointed by the county clerk for all mailing precincts within the county and must designated the central election board. The county clerk shall deliver the ballots to that board in his office, and the board shall count the ballots in the manner required by law.
  - 3. The county clerk shall appoint one election board to:
- (a) Be present at each of the polling places designated by the county clerk pursuant to NRS 293.343; and
- (b) Serve any registered voter who lives in any one of the mailing precincts or absent ballot mailing precincts within the county and who applies to vote in person pursuant to paragraph (b) of subsection 2 of NRS 293.353 or subsection 3 of NRS 293.353 on election day.
- Such board or boards may be comprised of the same persons serving on the central election board appointed pursuant to subsection 2 or an absent ballot central counting board appointed pursuant to NRS 293.235.7 (Deleted by amendment.)

# Sec. 2. [NRS 293.245 is hereby amended to read as follows:

- 203.245 When the county clerk determines it necessary to cause any in the county to be designated absent ballot mailing precincts, the precinct mailing ballots must be placed by the central election board [,] or the ab central counting board [] in the proper absent ballot mailing precinct ballot board (Deleted by amendment.)
  - Sec. 3. [NRS 293.275 is hereby amended to read as follows:
- 203.275 No election board may perform its duty in serving registered at any precinct or district polling place in any election provided for in this title, unless it has before it the election board register for the registered voters of its precinct or district [.], which, in the ease of an election board assigned to serve any registered voter who lives in any one of the mailing precincts or absent ballot mailing precincts within a single county or city and who applies to vote in person, must include all the registered voters enrolled in the mailing precinct record book pursuant to NRS 293.350 or 293C.347.1 (Deleted by amendment.)
  - **Sec. 4.** NRS 293.343 is hereby amended to read as follows:
- 293.343 1. A registered voter who resides in an election precinct in which there were not more than 200 voters registered for the last preceding general election, or in a precinct in which it appears to the satisfaction of the county clerk that there are not more than 200 registered voters, may vote at any election regulated by this chapter in the manner provided in NRS 293.345 to 293.355, inclusive.
- 2. Whenever the county clerk has designated a precinct as a mailing precinct, registered voters residing in that precinct may vote at any election regulated by this chapter in the manner provided in NRS 293.345 to 293.355, inclusive.

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293.353 <del>[Upon]</del>

Except as otherwise provided in subsection 2:

(a) Immediately after opening the envelope,], in accordance with the instructions, mark and fold the ballot [;

[Whenever] In a county whose population is 100,000 or more, whenever a registered voter is entitled to vote in a mailing precinct or an absent ballot mailing precinct, the county clerk:

(a) Shall designate at least one polling place in the county as the polling place to which such a voter may apply to vote in person, pursuant to paragraph (b) of subsection 2 of NRS 293.353 or subsection 3 of NRS 293.353, on election day; and

(b) May designate certain polling places for early voting as the polling places to which such a voter may apply to vote in person, pursuant to paragraph (b) of subsection 2 of NRS 293.353 or subsection 3 of NRS 293.353, during the period for early voting, if it is impractical for the county clerk to provide at each polling place for early voting a ballot in every form required in the county.

4. In a county whose population is less than 100,000, whenever a registered voter is entitled to vote in a mailing precinct or an absent ballot mailing precinct,

the county clerk:

(a) May designate one or more polling places in the county as the polling place to which such a voter may apply to vote in person, pursuant to paragraph (b) of subsection 2 of NRS 293.353 or subsection 3 of NRS 293.353, on election day; and

(b) May designate certain polling places for early voting as the polling places to which such a voter may apply to vote in person, pursuant to paragraph (b) of subsection 2 of NRS 293.353 or subsection 3 of NRS 293.353, during the period for early voting, if it is impractical for the county clerk to provide at each polling place for early voting a ballot in every form required in the county.

5. Polling places designated pursuant to subsection 3 or 4 may include, without limitation, polling places located as closely as practicable to the mailing precincts.

**Sec. 5.** NRS 293.345 is hereby amended to read as follows:

Before 5 p.m. on the last business day preceding the first day of the period for early voting for any primary election or general election, the county clerk shall [mail] cause to be mailed to each registered voter in each mailing precinct and in each absent ballot mailing precinct [, before 5 p.m. on the second Thursday before the primary election and before 5 p.m. on the fourth Tuesday in October of any year in which a general election is to be held,] an official mailing ballot to be voted by him at the election [...], and accompanying supplies, as specified in NRS 293.350.

2. [The] If the county clerk has designated, pursuant to subsection 3 or 4 of NRS 293.343, one or more polling places to which a voter may apply to vote in person, the official ballot and the sample ballot must include a notice in bold type informing the voter of the location of the designated polling place or polling places on election day and the polling places during the period for early voting to which the voter may apply to vote in person pursuant to paragraph (b) of subsection 2 of NRS 293.353 or subsection 3 of NRS 293.353.

**Sec. 6.** NRS 293.353 is hereby amended to read as follows:

1. Except as otherwise provided in subsection 2 or 3, upon receipt of a mailing ballot from the county clerk, the registered voter must :

- 1 (b) Place the ballot, if it is a paper ballot, or punch it and leave it unfolded, 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9 if the ballot is voted by punching a card, deposit and seal the ballot in the return envelope [:
  - (c) Affix, affix his signature on the back of the envelope [; and
    - (d) Mail or deliver] and mail the envelope to the county clerk.
  - In those counties using a mechanical voting system whereby a vote is cast by punching a card:
    - (a) Immediately after opening the envelope, punch the card;
    - (b) Place the unfolded card in the return envelope;

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- (c) Affix his signature on the back of the envelope; and
- (d) Mail or deliver the envelope to the county clerk.] Except as otherwise provided in subsection 3, if a registered voter who has received a mailing ballot applies to vote in person at:
- (a) The office of the county clerk, he must mark or punch the ballot, place and seal it in the return envelope and affix his signature in the same manner as provided in subsection 1, and deliver the envelope to the clerk.
- (b) One of the [designated] polling places on election day or a polling place for early voting in the county H designated pursuant to subsection 3 or 4 of NRS 293.343, he must surrender the mailing ballot and provide satisfactory identification before being issued a ballot to vote at the polling place. A person who receives a surrendered mailing ballot shall mark it "Cancelled."
- 3. If a registered voter who has received a mailing ballot applies to vote in person at the office of the county clerk or at one of the [designated] polling places on election day or a polling place for early voting in the county 🙀 designated pursuant to subsection 3 or 4 of NRS 293.343, and the voter does not have the mailing ballot to deliver or surrender, the voter must be issued a ballot to vote if the voter:
  - (a) Provides satisfactory identification;
  - (b) Is a registered voter who is otherwise entitled to vote; and
- (c) Signs an affirmation under penalty of perjury on a form prepared by the Secretary of State declaring that the voter has not voted during the election.
- 4. It is unlawful for any person to return a mailing ballot other than the registered voter to whom the ballot was sent or, at the request of the voter, a member of the family of that voter. A person who returns a mailing ballot and who is a member of the family of the voter who received the mailing ballot shall, under penalty of perjury, indicate on a form prescribed by the county clerk that he is a member of the family of the voter who received the mailing ballot and that the voter requested that he return the mailing ballot. A person who violates the provisions of this subsection is guilty of a category E felony and shall be punished as provided in NRS 193.130.
  - **Sec. 7.** NRS 293.355 is hereby amended to read as follows:
- 293.355 1. Upon receipt of the return envelope from [the] a registered voter figure of a mailing precinct or absent ballot mailing precinct, whether through the mail or in person at the office of the county clerk pursuant to paragraph (a) of subsection 2 of NRS 293.353, the county clerk shall follow the same procedure as in the case of absent ballots.
- 2. Ballots voted in person at a polling place pursuant to paragraph (b) of subsection 2 of NRS 293.353 or subsection 3 of NRS 293.353, or at the office of the county clerk pursuant to subsection 3 of NRS 293.353, by registered voters of a mailing precinct or absent ballot mailing precinct must be processed and reported by the appointed election board or county clerk in the same manner as required by law for absent ballots voted in person pursuant to NRS 293.330.

Sec. 8. [NRS 293.563 is hereby amended to read as follows:

293.563 1. During the interval between the closing of registration and the election, the county clerk shall:

- (a) In counties where records of registration are not kept by computer, prepare for each precinct or district a binder containing in alphabetical order the original applications to register to vote of the electors in the precinct or district. The binder constitutes the election board register.
- (b) In counties where records of registration are kept by computer, have printed and placed in a binder for each precinct or district a computer listing in alphabetical order of the applications to register to vote of the electors in the precinct or district. The binder constitutes the election board register.
- 2. Each election board register must be delivered or caused to be delivered by the county or city clerk, before the opening of the polls, to [an]:
- (a) An election officer of the proper precinct or district [before the opening of the polls.]; or
- (b) The election board appointed by the county or city elerk pursuant to subsection 3 of NRS 293.230 or subsection 3 of NRS 293C.230.] (Deleted by amendment.)
  - Sec. 9. (INRS 293C.230 is hereby amended to read as follows:
- 293C.230 1. In precincts or districts in a city where there are less than 200 registered voters and paper ballots are used, the election board shall perform all duties required from the time of preparing for the opening of the polls through delivering the supplies and result of votes east to the city clerk.
- 2. Except as otherwise provided in NRS 293C.240, one election board must be appointed by the city clerk for all mailing precincts within the city and must be designated the central election board. The city clerk shall deliver the mailed ballots to that board in his office, and the board shall count the votes on those ballots in the manner required by law.
- 3. The city clerk shall appoint one election board to:
- (a) Be present at each of the polling places designated by the city clerk pursuant to NRS 293C.342; and
- (b) Serve any registered voter who lives in any one of the mailing precincts or absent ballot mailing precincts within the city and who applies to vote in person pursuant to paragraph (b) of subsection 2 of NRS 293C.350 or subsection 3 of NRS 293C.350 on election day.
- → The election board may be comprised of the same persons serving on the central election board appointed pursuant to subsection 2 or an absent ballot central counting board appointed pursuant to NRS 293C.240.] (Deleted by amendment.)
  - Sec. 10. NRS 293C.250 is hereby amended to read as follows:
- 293C.250 When the city clerk determines it necessary to cause any precincts in the city to be designated absent ballot mailing precincts, the precinct's mailing ballots must be placed by the central election board or the absent ballot central counting board in the proper absent ballot mailing precinct ballot box.] (Deleted by amendment.)
  - Sec. 11. [NRS 293C.342 is hereby amended to read as follows:
- 293C.342 1. A registered voter who resides in an election precinet in which there were not more than 200 voters registered for the last preceding city general election, or in a precinet in which it appears to the satisfaction of the city clerk that there are not more than 200 registered voters, may vote at any election regulated by this chapter in the manner provided in NRS 293C.345 to 293C.352 [.], inclusive.

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Whenever the city clerk has designated a precinct as a mailing precinct,
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       registered voters residing in that precinct may vote at any election regulated by this
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       chapter in the manner provided in NRS 293C 345 to 293C 352 [.], inclusive.
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          3. Whenever a registered voter is entitled to vote in a mailing precinct or an
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       absent ballot mailing precinct, the city clerk:
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        (a) Shall designate at least one polling place in the city as the polling place to
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       which such a voter may apply to vote in person, pursuant to paragraph (b) of
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       subsection 2 of NRS 293C.350 or subsection 3 of NRS 293C.350, on election day;
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       and
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           (b) May designate certain polling places for early voting as the polling places
       to which such a voter may apply to vote in person, pursuant to paragraph (b) of
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       subsection 2 of NRS 293C.350 or subsection 3 of NRS 293C.350, during the
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       period for early voting, if it is impractical for the city clerk to provide at each
       polling place for early voting a ballot in every form required in the city.] (Deleted
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       by amendment.)
           Sec. 12. [NRS 293C.345 is hereby amended to read as follows:
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           293C.345 [Except as otherwise provided in NRS 293C.115,]
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           1. Before 5 p.m. on the last business day preceding the first day of the
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       period for early voting for any primary city election or general city election, the
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       city clerk shall [mail] cause to be mailed to each registered voter in each mailing
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       precinct and in each absent ballot mailing precinct [, before 5 p.m. on the third
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       Thursday in March and before 5 p.m. on the fourth Tuesday in May of any year in
       which a general city election is held,] an official mailing ballot to be voted by him
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       at the election [.], and accompanying supplies, as specified in NRS 293C.347.
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          2. The official ballot and the sample ballot must include a notice in bold
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       type informing the voter of the location of the designated polling place or polling
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       places on election day and the polling places during the period for early voting to
       which the voter may apply to vote in person pursuant to paragraph (b) of subsection 2 of NRS 293C.350 or subsection 3 of NRS 293C.350.] (Deleted by
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       amendment.)
           Sec. 13. [NRS 293C.350 is hereby amended to read as follows:
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           293C.350 [Upon]
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           1. Except as otherwise provided in subsection 2 or 3, upon receipt of a
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       mailing ballot from the city clerk, the registered voter must [:
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    Except as otherwise provided in subsection 2:

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           (a) Immediately after opening the envelope,] , in accordance with the
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       instructions, mark and fold the ballot [:
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           (b) Place the ballot], if it is a paper ballot, or punch it and leave it unfolded,
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       if the ballot is voted by punching a card, deposit and seal the ballot in the return
       envelope [;
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           (e) Affix], affix his signature on the back of the envelope [; and
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           (d) Mail or deliver] and mail the envelope to the city clerk.
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           2. [In those cities using a mechanical voting system whereby a vote is east by
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       punching a card:
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          (a) Immediately after opening the envelope, punch the eard;
          (b) Place the unfolded eard in the return envelope;
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           (c) Affix his signature on the back of the envelope; and
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           (d) Mail or deliver the envelope to the city clerk.] Except as otherwise
       provided in subsection 3, if a registered voter who has received a mailing ballot
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       applies to vote in person at:
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          (a) The office of the city clerk, he must mark or punch the ballot, place and
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seal it in the return envelope and affix his signature in the same manner as

provided in subsection 1, and deliver the envelope to the clerk.

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- (b) One of the designated polling places on election day or a polling place for early voting in the city, he must surrender the mailing ballot and provide satisfactory identification before being issued a ballot to vote at the polling place. A person who receives a surrendered mailing ballot shall mark it "Cancelled."
- 3. If a registered voter who has received a mailing ballot applies to vote in person at the office of the city clerk or at one of the designated polling places on election day or a polling place for early voting in the city, and the voter does not have the mailing ballot to deliver or surrender, the voter must be issued a ballot to vote if the voter:
  - (a) Provides satisfactory identification;
  - (b) Is a registered voter who is otherwise entitled to vote; and
- (c) Signs an affirmation under penalty of perjury on a form prepared by the Secretary of State declaring that the voter has not voted during the election.
- 4. It is unlawful for any person to return a mailing ballot other than the registered voter to whom the ballot was sent or, at the request of the voter, a member of the family of that voter. A person who returns a mailing ballot and who is a member of the family of the voter who received the mailing ballot shall, under penalty of perjury, indicate on a form prescribed by the city clerk that he is a member of the family of the voter who received the mailing ballot and that the voter requested that he return the mailing ballot. A person who violates the provisions of this subsection is guilty of a category E felony and shall be punished as provided in NRS 193.130.] (Deleted by amendment.)
  - Sec. 14. [NRS 293C.352 is hereby amended to read as follows:
- 293C.352 1. Upon receipt of the return envelope from [the] a registered voter [,] of a mailing precinct or absent ballot mailing precinct, whether through the mail or in person at the office of the city clerk pursuant to paragraph (a) of subsection 2 of NRS 293C,350, the city clerk shall follow the same procedure as in the case of absent ballots.
- 2. Ballots voted in person at a polling place pursuant to paragraph (b) of subsection 2 of NRS 293C.350 or subsection 3 of NRS 293C.350, or at the office of the city clerk pursuant to subsection 3 of NRS 293C.350, by registered voters of a mailing precinct or absent ballot mailing precinct must be processed and reported by the appointed election board or city clerk in the same manner as required by law for absent ballots voted in person pursuant to NRS 293C.330.] (Deleted by amendment.)