

SENATE BILL NO. 241—SENATOR RHODS

MARCH 16, 2011

Referred to Committee on Legislative Operations and Elections

SUMMARY—Revises provisions relating to initiative petitions.
(BDR 24-1101)

FISCAL NOTE: Effect on Local Government: No.
Effect on the State: Yes.

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

AN ACT relating to initiative petitions; providing that petition districts from which signatures for an initiative petition must be gathered are conterminous with the districts for electing the Board of Regents of the University of Nevada; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

Legislative Counsel's Digest:

Existing law requires that an initiative petition proposing a statute, an amendment to a statute or an amendment to the Nevada Constitution be signed by a number of registered voters that is equal to at least 10 percent of the voters who voted at the last preceding general election. (Nev. Const. Art. 19, § 2) During the 2009 Legislative Session, the Legislature required the creation of petition districts and that each initiative petition be signed by a number of registered voters in each petition district in the State that equals at least 10 percent of the voters who voted in that petition district at the last preceding general election. (NRS 293.127561, 295.012) Until July 1, 2011, the petition districts are conterminous with the congressional districts established for the State. (Section 14 of chapter 460, Statutes of Nevada 2009, p. 2593)

This bill provides that petition districts are conterminous with the districts used to elect the members of the Board of Regents of the University of Nevada.

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

Section 1. NRS 293.069 is hereby amended to read as follows:
293.069 "Petition district" means a district ~~established by the~~
~~Legislature pursuant to~~ **created by** NRS 293.127561.



1 **Sec. 2.** NRS 293.127561 is hereby amended to read as
2 follows:

3 293.127561 1. ~~{The Legislature shall establish}~~ *There are*
4 *hereby created* petition districts ~~{from}~~ :

5 (a) *The boundaries of which are conterminous with the*
6 *boundaries of the districts described in NRS 396.0415 to 396.046,*
7 *inclusive, for the election of members of the Board of Regents of*
8 *the University of Nevada; and*

9 (b) *From* which signatures for a petition for initiative that
10 proposes a statute, an amendment to a statute or an amendment to
11 the Constitution of this State must be gathered. ~~{The petition~~
12 ~~districts must be established in a manner that is fair to all residents~~
13 ~~of the State, represent approximately equal populations and ensure~~
14 ~~that each signature is afforded the same weight.}~~

15 2. ~~{Petition}~~ *The petition* districts must be ~~{~~

16 ~~—(a) Based on the population databases compiled by the Bureau~~
17 ~~of the Census of the United States Department of Commerce as~~
18 ~~validated and incorporated into the geographic information system~~
19 ~~by the Legislative Counsel Bureau for use by the Nevada~~
20 ~~Legislature.~~

21 ~~—(b) Designated}~~ *designated* in the maps filed with the Office of
22 the Secretary of State pursuant to NRS 293.127562.

23 3. *Any attachment made pursuant to NRS 396.035 to a*
24 *district described in NRS 396.0415 to 396.046, inclusive, for the*
25 *election of members of the Board of Regents of the University of*
26 *Nevada must be made to the corresponding petition district in the*
27 *same manner.*

28 **Sec. 3.** Section 14 of chapter 460, Statutes of Nevada 2009, at
29 page 2593, is hereby repealed.

30 **Sec. 4.** This act becomes effective upon passage and approval.

TEXT OF REPEALED SECTION

Section 14 of chapter 460, Statutes of Nevada 2009, at page 2593:

Sec. 14. Notwithstanding the definition of “petition district” set forth in sections 2 and 11 of this act, until July 1, 2011, “petition district” as used in chapters 293 and 295 of NRS means congressional districts established for the State of Nevada.

