ASSEMBLY BILL NO. 293—ASSEMBLYMEN ARAUJO, YEAGER, FLORES, DIAZ, SPIEGEL; COHEN, FUMO, JAUREGUI, JOINER, MILLER AND SWANK

MARCH 14, 2017

JOINT SPONSORS: SENATORS SEGERBLOM AND MANENDO

Referred to Committee on Legislative Operations and Elections

SUMMARY—Providing for presidential preference primary elections. (BDR 24-875)

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

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

AN ACT relating to elections; providing in certain circumstances for presidential preference primary elections; setting forth requirements and procedures for any presidential preference primary election; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

Legislative Counsel's Digest:

Sections 20-30 of this bill establish requirements and procedures for conducting presidential preference primary elections.

Section 20 requires that a presidential preference primary election be held if: (1) the state central committee of a major political party notifies the Secretary of State of its intention to participate in a presidential preference primary election; and (2) two or more qualified candidates of the party file declarations of candidacy pursuant to section 21. Section 20 also requires the state central committee to establish the date of its presidential preference primary election which must be at least 90 days after the date on which the state central committee notifies the Secretary of State of the date of the election.

Section 22 of this bill provides that to vote in a presidential preference primary election for a major political party, a registered voter must: (1) have indicated an affiliation with the major political party on his or her voter registration application; or (2) submit an updated voter registration application indicating an affiliation with the major political party at certain polling places.

Sections 24 and 25 of this bill set forth the period for early voting for the presidential preference primary election and the times during which polling places for early voting must be open for a presidential preference primary election.





14

15

17

Section 23 of this bill requires: (1) each county clerk to establish at least one polling place for early voting; and (2) certain polling places for early voting to be a site for an elector to register to vote or for a registered voter to change his or her political party affiliation.

Section 25 of this bill requires each county clerk to establish polling places for a presidential preference primary election. Section 25 also requires certain polling places to be a site: (1) where any registered voter in the county who has indicated an affiliation with the major political party may vote; (2) for an elector to register to vote; and (3) for a registered voter to change his or her political party affiliation.

Section 26 of this bill sets forth the requirements for an elector to register to vote or for a registered voter to change political party affiliation during early voting for or the day of the presidential preference primary election.

Section 27 of this bill requires each county clerk to provide a method for a registered voter of the major political party to cast an absent ballot in a presidential preference primary election.

Sections 29 and 32 of this bill provide that the cost of a presidential preference primary election must be paid from the Reserve for Statutory Contingency Account.

Under existing law, the state convention of a major political party selects delegates and alternates to the national convention of the party and selects nominees and alternates to the position of presidential elector. (NRS 293.163, 298.035) Under sections 7 and 31 of this bill, if a major political party participates in a presidential preference primary election, those selections will instead be made by the candidate who receives the most votes at such a primary if consistent with the rules of the party.

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 a new section to read as follows:

"Presidential preference primary election" means an election held in a presidential election year pursuant to sections 20 to 30, inclusive, of this act to determine the preferences of the registered voters of a major political party regarding the party's nominee for President of the United States.

- **Sec. 2.** NRS 293.010 is hereby amended to read as follows:
- 293.010 As used in this title, unless the context otherwise requires, the words and terms defined in NRS 293.013 to 293.121, inclusive, *and section 1 of this act* have the meanings ascribed to them in those sections.
 - **Sec. 3.** NRS 293.12757 is hereby amended to read as follows:
- 293.12757 A person may sign a petition required under the election laws of this State on or after the date the person is deemed to be registered to vote pursuant to NRS 293.517 or subsection 7 of NRS 293.5235 H or section 26 of this act.





Sec. 4. NRS 293.1277 is hereby amended to read as follows: 1. If the Secretary of State finds that the total number of signatures submitted to all the county clerks is 100 percent or more of the number of registered voters needed to declare the petition sufficient, the Secretary of State shall immediately so notify the county clerks. After the notification, each of the county clerks shall determine the number of registered voters who have signed the documents submitted in the county clerk's county and, in the case of a petition for initiative or referendum proposing a constitutional amendment or statewide measure, shall tally the number of signatures for each petition district contained or fully contained within the county clerk's county. This determination must be completed within 9 days, excluding Saturdays, Sundays and holidays, after the notification pursuant to this subsection regarding a petition containing signatures which are required to be verified pursuant to NRS 293.128, 295.056, 298.109, 306.035 or 306.110, and within 3 days, excluding Saturdays, Sundays and holidays, after the notification pursuant to this subsection regarding a petition containing signatures which are required to be verified pursuant to NRS 293.172 or 293.200. For the purpose of verification pursuant to this section, the county clerk shall not include in his or her tally of total signatures any signature included in the incorrect petition district.

- 2. Except as otherwise provided in subsection 3, if more than 500 names have been signed on the documents submitted to a county clerk, the county clerk shall examine the signatures by sampling them at random for verification. The random sample of signatures to be verified must be drawn in such a manner that every signature which has been submitted to the county clerk is given an equal opportunity to be included in the sample. The sample must include an examination of at least 500 or 5 percent of the signatures, whichever is greater. If documents were submitted to the county clerk for more than one petition district wholly contained within that county, a separate random sample must be performed for each petition district.
- 3. If a petition district comprises more than one county and the petition is for an initiative or referendum proposing a constitutional amendment or a statewide measure, and if more than 500 names have been signed on the documents submitted for that petition district, the appropriate county clerks shall examine the signatures by sampling them at random for verification. The random sample of signatures to be verified must be drawn in such a manner that every signature which has been submitted to the county clerks within the petition district is given an equal opportunity to be included in the sample. The sample must include an examination of at least 500 or





- 5 percent of the signatures presented in the petition district, whichever is greater. The Secretary of State shall determine the number of signatures that must be verified by each county clerk within the petition district.
- 4. In determining from the records of registration the number of registered voters who signed the documents, the county clerk may use the signatures contained in the file of applications to register to vote. If the county clerk uses that file, the county clerk shall ensure that every application in the file is examined, including any application in his or her possession which may not yet be entered into the county clerk's records. Except as otherwise provided in subsection 5, the county clerk shall rely only on the appearance of the signature and the address and date included with each signature in making his or her determination.
 - If:

- (a) Pursuant to NRS 293.506, a county clerk establishes a system to allow persons to register to vote by computer; for
- (b) A person registers to vote pursuant to section 26 of this act; or
- (c) A person registers to vote pursuant to NRS 293D.230 and signs his or her application to register to vote using a digital signature or an electronic signature,
- the county clerk may rely on such other indicia as prescribed by the Secretary of State in making his or her determination.
- 6. In the case of a petition for initiative or referendum proposing a constitutional amendment or statewide measure, when the county clerk is determining the number of registered voters who signed the documents from each petition district contained fully or partially within the county clerk's county, he or she must use the statewide voter registration list available pursuant to NRS 293.675.
- 7. Except as otherwise provided in subsection 9, upon completing the examination, the county clerk shall immediately attach to the documents a certificate properly dated, showing the result of the examination, including the tally of signatures by petition district, if required, and transmit the documents with the certificate to the Secretary of State. In the case of a petition for initiative or referendum proposing a constitutional amendment or statewide measure, if a petition district comprises more than one county, the appropriate county clerks shall comply with the regulations adopted by the Secretary of State pursuant to this section to complete the certificate. A copy of this certificate must be filed in the clerk's office. When the county clerk transmits the certificate to the Secretary of State, the county clerk shall notify the Secretary of State of the number of requests to remove a name received by the county clerk pursuant to NRS 295.055 or 306.015.





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

9. For any petition containing signatures which are required to be verified pursuant to the provisions of NRS 293.200, 306.035 or 306.110 for any county, district or municipal office within one county, the county clerk shall not transmit to the Secretary of State the documents containing the signatures of the registered voters.

10. The Secretary of State shall by regulation establish further procedures for carrying out the provisions of this section.

Sec. 5. NRS 293.135 is hereby amended to read as follows:

- 293.135 1. The county central committee of each major political party in each county shall have a precinct meeting of the registered voters of the party residing in each voting precinct entitled to delegates in the county convention called and held on the dates set for the precinct meeting by the respective state central committees in each year in which a general election is held. In any year in which a presidential preference primary election is held for the party, the precinct meeting must not be held until after the results of that election are certified by the Secretary of State pursuant to section 28 of this act.
- 2. The meeting must be held in one of the following places in the following order of preference:
 - (a) Any public building within the precinct if the meeting is for a single precinct, or any public building which is in reasonable proximity to the precincts and will accommodate a meeting of two or more precincts; or
- (b) Any private building within the precinct or one of the precincts.
- 3. The county central committee shall give notice of the meeting by:
- (a) Posting in a conspicuous place outside the building where the meeting is to be held; and
- (b) Publishing in one or more newspapers of general circulation in the precinct, published in the county, if any are so published,
- on the date set for giving notice of the meeting by the respective state central committees.
- 4. The notice must be printed in conspicuous display advertising format of not less than 10 column inches, and must include the following language, or words of similar import:





Notice to All Voters Registered IN THE (STATE NAME OF MAJOR POLITICAL PARTY)

Nevada state law requires each major political party, in every year during which a general election is held, to have a precinct meeting held for each precinct. All persons registered in the party and residing in the precinct are entitled to attend the precinct meeting. Delegates to your party's county convention will be elected at the meeting by those in attendance. Set forth below are the time and place at which your precinct meeting will be held, together with the number of delegates to be elected from each precinct. If you wish to participate in the organization of your party for the coming 2 years, attend your precinct meeting.

- 5. The notice must specify:
- (a) The date, time and place of the meeting; and
- (b) The number of delegates to the county convention to be chosen at the meeting.

Sec. 6. NRS 293.137 is hereby amended to read as follows:

293.137 1. Promptly at the time and place appointed therefor, the mass meeting must be convened and organized for each precinct. If access to the premises appointed for any such meeting is not available, the meeting may be convened at an accessible place immediately adjacent thereto. The meeting must be conducted openly and publicly and in such a manner that it is freely accessible to any registered voter of the party calling the meeting who resides in the precinct and is desirous of attending the meeting, until the meeting is adjourned. At the meeting, the delegates to which the members of the party residing in the precinct are entitled in the party's county convention must be elected pursuant to the rules of the state central committee of that party. In presidential election years H in which a presidential preference primary election is not held for the party, the election of delegates may be a part of expressing preferences for candidates for the party's nomination for President of the United States if the rules of the party permit such conduct. The result of the election of delegates must be certified to the county convention of the party by the chair and the secretary of the meeting upon the forms specified in subsection 3.

2. At the precinct meetings, the delegates and alternates to the party's convention must be elected. If a meeting is not held for a particular precinct at the location specified, that precinct must be without representation at the county convention unless the meeting was scheduled, with proper notice, and no registered voter of the party appeared. In that case, the meeting shall be deemed to have





been held and the position of delegate is vacant. If a position of delegate is vacant, it must be filled by the designated alternate, if any. If there is no designated alternate, the vacancy must be filled pursuant to the rules of the party, if the rules of the party so provide, or, if the rules of the party do not so provide, the county central committee shall appoint a delegate from among the qualified members of the party residing in the precinct in which the vacancy occurred, and the secretary of the county central committee shall certify the appointed delegate to the county convention.

- 3. The county central committee shall prepare and number serially a number of certificate forms equal to the total number of delegates to be elected throughout the county, and deliver the appropriate number to each precinct meeting. Each certificate must be in duplicate. The original must be given to the elected delegate, and the duplicate transmitted to the county central committee.
- 4. All duplicates must be delivered to the chair of the preliminary credentials committee of the county convention. Every delegate who presents a certificate matching one of the duplicates must be seated without dispute.
- 5. Each state central committee shall adopt written rules governing, but not limited to, the following procedures:
- (a) The selection, rights and duties of committees of a convention:
 - (b) Challenges to credentials of delegates; and
 - (c) Majority and minority reports of committees.
 - **Sec. 7.** NRS 293.163 is hereby amended to read as follows:
- 293.163 1. In presidential election years, on the call of a national party convention, but one set of party conventions and but one state convention shall be held on such respective dates and at such places as the state central committee of the party shall designate. If no earlier dates are fixed, the state convention shall be held 30 days before the date set for the national convention and the county conventions shall be held 60 days before the date set for the national convention.
- 2. Delegates to such conventions shall be selected in the same manner as prescribed in NRS 293.130 to 293.160, inclusive, and each convention shall have and exercise all of the power granted it under NRS 293.130 to 293.160, inclusive. [In] Except as otherwise provided in subsection 3, in addition to such powers granted it, the state convention shall select the necessary delegates and alternates to the national convention of the party and, if consistent with the rules and regulations of the party, shall select the national committeeman and committeewoman of the party from the State of Nevada.





3. If the party participates in a presidential preference primary election held pursuant to sections 20 to 30, inclusive, of this act and if consistent with the rules of the party:

(a) The selection of delegates and alternates to the national convention of the party must reflect the results of the presidential

preference primary election; and

2

3

4

5

10

11

12

13

14

15

16

17

18

19

20

21

22

23

24

25

26

27

28

29

30

31

32

33

34 35

36

37

39

40

41

42

43

44

(b) The necessary delegates and alternates to the national convention of the party, and the national committeeman and committeewoman of the party from the State of Nevada, must be selected by:

(1) The candidate who receives the most votes at the

presidential preference primary election of the party; or

(2) The candidates at the presidential preference primary election of the party, in proportions that reflect the results of the presidential preference primary election.

Sec. 8. NRS 293.180 is hereby amended to read as follows:

- 293.180 1. Ten or more registered voters may file a certificate of candidacy designating any registered voter as a candidate for:
- (a) Their major political party's nomination for any partisan elective office \ other than President of the United States, or as a candidate for nomination for any nonpartisan office other than a judicial office, not earlier than the first Monday in February of the year in which the election is to be held nor later than 5 p.m. on the first Friday in March; or
- (b) Nomination for a judicial office, not earlier than the first Monday in December of the year immediately preceding the year in which the election is to be held nor later than 5 p.m. on the first Friday in January of the year in which the election is to be held.
- 2. When the certificate has been filed, the officer in whose office it is filed shall notify the person named in the certificate. If the person named in the certificate files an acceptance of candidacy and pays the required fee, as provided by law, he or she is a candidate in the primary election in like manner as if he or she had filed a declaration of candidacy.
- 3. If a certificate of candidacy relates to a partisan office, all of the signers must be of the same major political party as the 38 candidate designated.
 - **Sec. 9.** NRS 293.2546 is hereby amended to read as follows:
 - The Legislature hereby declares that each voter has the right:
 - To receive and cast a ballot that: 1.
 - (a) Is written in a format that allows the clear identification of candidates; and





- (b) Accurately records the voter's preference in the selection of candidates.
- 2. To have questions concerning voting procedures answered and to have an explanation of the procedures for voting posted in a conspicuous place at the polling place.
 - 3. To vote without being intimidated, threatened or coerced.
- 4. To vote on election day if the voter is waiting in line to vote before 7 p.m. at [his or her] a polling place at which he or she is entitled to vote [before 7 p.m.] and the voter has not already cast a vote in that election.
- 5. To return a spoiled ballot and is entitled to receive another ballot in its place.
 - 6. To request assistance in voting, if necessary.
- 7. To a sample ballot which is accurate, informative and delivered in a timely manner.
- 8. To receive instruction in the use of the equipment for voting during early voting or on election day.
- 9. To have nondiscriminatory equal access to the elections system, including, without limitation, a voter who is elderly, disabled, a member of a minority group, employed by the military or a citizen who is overseas.
- 10. To have a uniform, statewide standard for counting and recounting all votes accurately.
- 11. To have complaints about elections and election contests resolved fairly, accurately and efficiently.
 - **Sec. 10.** NRS 293.273 is hereby amended to read as follows:
- 293.273 1. Except as otherwise provided in subsection 2 and NRS 293.305, at all elections held under the provisions of this title, the polls must open at 7 a.m. and close at 7 p.m.
- 2. Whenever at any election all the votes of [the] a polling place [, as shown on the roster,], other than a polling place where a person may register to vote pursuant to section 26 of this act on the day of a presidential preference primary election have been cast, as shown by the roster, the election board officers shall close the [polls,] polling place, and the counting of votes must begin and continue without unnecessary delay until the count is completed.
- 3. Upon opening the polls, one of the election board officers shall cause a proclamation to be made that all present may be aware of the fact that applications of registered voters to vote will be received.
- 4. No person other than election board officers engaged in receiving, preparing or depositing ballots may be permitted inside the guardrail during the time the polls are open, except by authority of the election board as necessary to keep order and carry out the provisions of this title.





- **Sec. 11.** NRS 293.305 is hereby amended to read as follows: 293.305

 1. If at the hour of closing the polls there are any lregistered:
 - (a) Registered voters waiting to vote ; or
- (b) If the polling place has been designated pursuant to section 25 of this act as a site for an elector of the county to register to vote on the day of a presidential preference primary election, persons waiting to register to vote,
- the doors of the polling place must be closed after all such voters persons have been admitted to the polling place. Voting must continue until those voters persons have voted.
- 2. The deputy sheriff shall allow other persons to enter the polling place after the doors have been closed for the purpose of observing or any other legitimate purpose if there is room within the polling place and such admittance will not interfere unduly with the voting.
 - **Sec. 12.** NRS 293.3604 is hereby amended to read as follows:
- 293.3604 If ballots which are voted on a mechanical recording device which directly records the votes electronically are used during the period for early voting by personal appearance in an election: [other than a presidential preference primary election:]
 - 1. At the close of each voting day, the election board shall:
- (a) Prepare and sign a statement for the polling place. The statement must include:
 - (1) The title of the election;
- (2) The number which identifies the mechanical recording device and the storage device required pursuant to NRS 293B.084;
- (3) The number of ballots voted on the mechanical recording device for that day; and
- (4) The number of signatures in the roster for early voting for that day.
 - (b) Secure:

- (1) The ballots pursuant to the plan for security required by NRS 293.3594; and
- (2) Each mechanical voting device in the manner prescribed by the Secretary of State pursuant to NRS 293.3594.
- 2. At the close of the last voting day, the county clerk shall deliver to the ballot board for early voting:
 - (a) The statements for all polling places for early voting;
 - (b) The voting rosters used for early voting;
- (c) The storage device required pursuant to NRS 293B.084 from each mechanical recording device used during the period for early voting; and
 - (d) Any other items as determined by the county clerk.





- 3. Upon receipt of the items set forth in subsection 2 at the close of the last voting day, the ballot board for early voting shall:
 - (a) Indicate the number of ballots on an official statement of ballots; and
 - (b) Place the storage devices in the container provided to transport those items to the central counting place and seal the container with a numbered seal. The official statement of ballots must accompany the storage devices to the central counting place.

Sec. 13. NRS 293.517 is hereby amended to read as follows:

293.517 1. Any elector residing within the county may register to vote:

- (a) Except as otherwise provided in NRS 293.560 and 293C.527, by appearing before the county clerk, a field registrar or a voter registration agency, completing the application to register to vote, giving true and satisfactory answers to all questions relevant to his or her identity and right to vote, and providing proof of residence and identity;
- (b) By completing and mailing or personally delivering to the county clerk an application to register to vote pursuant to the provisions of NRS 293.5235;
- (c) Pursuant to the provisions of NRS 293.524 or chapter 293D of NRS 11 or section 26 of this act;
- (d) At his or her residence with the assistance of a field registrar pursuant to NRS 293.5237; or
- (e) By submitting an application to register to vote by computer, if the county clerk has established a system pursuant to NRS 293.506 for using a computer to register voters.
- The county clerk shall require a person to submit official identification as proof of residence and identity, such as a driver's license or other official document, before registering the person. If the applicant registers to vote pursuant to this subsection and fails to provide proof of residence and identity, the applicant must provide proof of residence and identity before casting a ballot in person or by mail or after casting a provisional ballot pursuant to NRS 293.3081 or 293.3083. For the purposes of this subsection, a voter registration card issued pursuant to subsection 6 does not provide proof of the residence or identity of a person.
- 2. The application to register to vote must be signed and verified under penalty of perjury by the elector registering.
- 3. Each elector who is or has been married must be registered under his or her own given or first name, and not under the given or first name or initials of his or her spouse.
- 4. An elector who is registered and changes his or her name must complete a new application to register to vote. The elector may obtain a new application:





- (a) At the office of the county clerk or field registrar;
- (b) By submitting an application to register to vote pursuant to the provisions of NRS 293.5235;
- (c) By submitting a written statement to the county clerk requesting the county clerk to mail an application to register to vote;
 - (d) At any voter registration agency; or

- (e) By submitting an application to register to vote by computer, if the county clerk has established a system pursuant to NRS 293.506 for using a computer to register voters.
- → If the elector fails to register under his or her new name, the elector may be challenged pursuant to the provisions of NRS 293.303 or 293C.292 and may be required to furnish proof of identity and subsequent change of name.
- 5. Except as otherwise provided in subsection 7, an elector who registers to vote pursuant to paragraph (a) of subsection 1 shall be deemed to be registered upon the completion of an application to register to vote.
- 6. After the county clerk determines that the application to register to vote of a person is complete and that, except as otherwise provided in NRS 293D.210, the person is eligible to vote pursuant to NRS 293.485, the county clerk shall issue a voter registration card to the voter which contains:
- (a) The name, address, political affiliation and precinct number of the voter:
 - (b) The date of issuance; and
 - (c) The signature of the county clerk.
- 7. If an elector submits an application to register to vote or an affidavit described in paragraph (c) of subsection 1 of NRS 293.507 that contains any handwritten additions, erasures or interlineations, the county clerk may object to the application to register to vote if the county clerk believes that because of such handwritten additions, erasures or interlineations, the application to register to vote of the elector is incomplete or that, except as otherwise provided in NRS 293D.210, the elector is not eligible to vote pursuant to NRS 293.485. If the county clerk objects pursuant to this subsection, he or she shall immediately notify the elector and the district attorney of the county. Not later than 5 business days after the district attorney receives such notification, the district attorney shall advise the county clerk as to whether:
- (a) The application to register to vote of the elector is complete and, except as otherwise provided in NRS 293D.210, the elector is eligible to vote pursuant to NRS 293.485; and
- (b) The county clerk should proceed to process the application to register to vote.





→ If the District Attorney advises the county clerk to process the application to register to vote, the county clerk shall immediately issue a voter registration card to the applicant pursuant to subsection 6.

Sec. 14. NRS 293.560 is hereby amended to read as follows:

293.560 1. Except as otherwise provided in NRS 293.502, 293D.230 and 293D.300, *and sections 20 to 30, inclusive, of this act,* registration must close on the third Tuesday preceding any primary or general election and on the third Saturday preceding any recall or special election, except that if a recall or special election is held on the same day as a primary or general election, registration must close on the third Tuesday preceding the day of the elections.

- 2. For a primary or special election, the office of the county clerk must be open until 7 p.m. during the last 2 days on which registration is open. In a county whose population is less than 100,000, the office of the county clerk may close at 5 p.m. during the last 2 days before registration closes if approved by the board of county commissioners.
 - 3. For a general election:

- (a) In a county whose population is less than 100,000, the office of the county clerk must be open until 7 p.m. during the last 2 days on which registration is open. The office of the county clerk may close at 5 p.m. if approved by the board of county commissioners.
- (b) In a county whose population is 100,000 or more, the office of the county clerk must be open during the last 4 days on which registration is open, according to the following schedule:
 - (1) On weekdays until 9 p.m.; and
- (2) A minimum of 8 hours on Saturdays, Sundays and legal holidays.
- 4. Except for a special election held pursuant to chapter 306 or 350 of NRS:
- (a) The county clerk of each county shall cause a notice signed by him or her to be published in a newspaper having a general circulation in the county indicating:
 - (1) The day and time that registration will be closed; and
- (2) If the county clerk has designated a county facility pursuant to NRS 293.5035, the location of that facility.
- → If no such newspaper is published in the county, the publication may be made in a newspaper of general circulation published in the nearest county in this State.
- (b) The notice must be published once each week for 4 consecutive weeks next preceding the close of registration for any election.
- 5. The offices of the county clerk, a county facility designated pursuant to NRS 293.5035 and other ex officio registrars may





remain open on the last Friday in October in each even-numbered year.

- 6. For the period beginning on the fifth Sunday preceding any primary or general election and ending on the third Tuesday preceding any primary or general election, an elector may register to vote only:
- (a) By appearing in person at the office of the county clerk or, if open, a county facility designated pursuant to NRS 293.5035; or
- (b) By computer, if the county clerk has established a system pursuant to NRS 293.506 for using a computer to register voters.
- 7. A county facility designated pursuant to NRS 293.5035 may be open during the periods described in this section for such hours of operation as the county clerk may determine, as set forth in subsection 3 of NRS 293.5035.
 - Sec. 15. NRS 293.730 is hereby amended to read as follows:

293.730 1. A person shall not:

- (a) Remain in or outside of any polling place so as to interfere with the conduct of the election.
- (b) Except an election board officer, receive from any voter a ballot prepared by the voter.
- (c) Remove a ballot from any polling place before the closing of the polls.
- (d) Apply for or receive a ballot at any election precinct or district other than [the] one at which the person is entitled to vote.
- (e) Show his or her ballot to any person, after voting, so as to reveal any of the names voted for.
- (f) Inside a polling place, ask another person for whom he or she intends to vote.
 - (g) Except an election board officer, deliver a ballot to a voter.
- (h) Except an election board officer in the course of the election board officer's official duties, inside a polling place, ask another person his or her name, address or political affiliation.
 - 2. A voter shall not:
- (a) Receive a ballot from any person other than an election board officer.
- (b) Deliver to an election board or to any member thereof any ballot other than the one received.
- (c) Place any mark upon his or her ballot by which it may afterward be identified as the one voted by the person.
- 3. Any person who violates any provision of this section is guilty of a category E felony and shall be punished as provided in NRS 193.130.
 - **Sec. 16.** NRS 293.790 is hereby amended to read as follows:
- 293.790 If any person whose vote has been rejected offers to vote at the same election, at any polling place other than [the] one in





which the person is **[registered]** authorized to vote, such person is guilty of a gross misdemeanor.

Sec. 17. NRS 293C.3604 is hereby amended to read as follows:

293C.3604 If ballots which are voted on a mechanical recording device which directly records the votes electronically are used during the period for early voting by personal appearance in an election: [other than a presidential preference primary election:]

- 1. At the close of each voting day, the election board shall:
- 10 (a) Prepare and sign a statement for the polling place. The statement must include:
 - (1) The title of the election;
 - (2) The number which identifies the mechanical recording device and the storage device required pursuant to NRS 293B.084;
 - (3) The number of ballots voted on the mechanical recording device for that day; and
 - (4) The number of signatures in the roster for early voting for that day.
 - (b) Secure:

- (1) The ballots pursuant to the plan for security required by NRS 293C.3594; and
- (2) Each mechanical voting device in the manner prescribed by the Secretary of State pursuant to NRS 293C.3594.
- 2. At the close of the last voting day, the city clerk shall deliver to the ballot board for early voting:
 - (a) The statements for all polling places for early voting;
 - (b) The voting rosters used for early voting;
- (c) The storage device required pursuant to NRS 293B.084 from each mechanical recording device used during the period for early voting; and
 - (d) Any other items as determined by the city clerk.
- 3. Upon receipt of the items set forth in subsection 2 at the close of the last voting day, the ballot board for early voting shall:
- (a) Indicate the number of ballots on an official statement of ballots; and
- (b) Place the storage devices in the container provided to transport those items to the central counting place and seal the container with a number seal. The official statement of ballots must accompany the storage devices to the central counting place.
 - **Sec. 18.** NRS 293D.100 is hereby amended to read as follows:
- 293D.100 The voting procedures set forth in this chapter apply to every primary election, *presidential preference primary election*, general election or special election in which a candidate for federal office appears on the ballot.





- **Sec. 19.** Chapter 298 of NRS is hereby amended by adding thereto the provisions set forth as sections 20 to 30, inclusive, of this act.
- Sec. 20. 1. Except as otherwise provided in section 21 of this act, a presidential preference primary election must be held for a major political party if, not later than 5 p.m. on October 1 of the year preceding a presidential election, the state central committee of the party notifies the Secretary of State in writing that the party will participate in a presidential preference primary election.
- 2. The state central committee shall establish the date of the presidential preference primary election for the major political party which must be at least 90 days after the date on which the state central committee notifies the Secretary of State of the date of the presidential preference primary election.
 - 3. The Secretary of State shall:

- (a) Provide public notice of the date established by the state central committee for the presidential preference primary election of the major political party; and
- (b) Prescribe and provide public notice of the period for filing declarations of candidacy pursuant to section 21 of this act.
- Sec. 21. 1. A person who wishes to be a candidate for the nomination for President of the United States for a major political party must file with the Secretary of State a declaration of candidacy on a form prescribed by the Secretary of State during the period prescribed by the Secretary of State pursuant to section 20 of this act.
- 2. If, after the date of the close of filing declarations of candidacy, there are less than two qualified candidates of the party who have filed declarations of candidacy, a presidential preference primary election may not be held for that major political party.
- Sec. 22. 1. To vote in a presidential preference primary election for a major political party, a registered voter must:
- (a) Have indicated an affiliation with the major political party on his or her application to register to vote; or
- (b) Submit an updated application to register to vote that indicates an affiliation with the major political party at a polling place where a person may register to vote or change political party affiliation pursuant to section 26 of this act.
- 2. Except as otherwise provided in section 26 of this act, voter registration for a presidential preference primary election closes on the 21st day before the presidential preference primary election.





3. A person shall not vote in more than one presidential preference primary election.

Sec. 23. 1. Each county clerk shall establish at least one polling place for early voting by personal appearance in the county for a presidential preference primary election where any registered voter in the county who has indicated an affiliation with the major political party may vote.

2. In counties whose population is 100,000 or more, every polling place for early voting established pursuant to subsection 1

is a site for:

(a) An elector in the county who is not registered to vote by the close of registration to register to vote; and

(b) A registered voter in the county to change his or her political party affiliation so that the person may vote in the presidential preference primary election for the major political party.

3. In counties whose population is less than 100,000, the county clerk must designate at least one polling place for early voting established pursuant to subsection 1 as a site for:

(a) An elector in the county who is not registered to vote by the

close of registration to register to vote; and

(b) A registered voter in the county to change his or her political party affiliation so that the person may vote in the presidential preference primary election for the major political party.

4. For each polling place established pursuant to this section, the county clerk shall publish in a newspaper of general circulation in the county the location, the dates and times when early voting will be conducted and an indication of whether a person may register to vote or change his or her political affiliation at the polling place.

Sec. 24. 1. The period for early voting by personal appearance for a presidential preference primary election begins on the 17th day before the presidential preference primary election and extends through the second day before the presidential preference primary election, Sundays and federal holidays excepted.

2. The county clerk may:

(a) Include any Sunday or federal holiday that falls within the period for early voting by personal appearance.

(b) Require a polling place for early voting to remain open until 8 p.m. on any Saturday that falls within the period for early voting.

- 3. A polling place for early voting must remain open:
- (a) On Monday through Friday:





- 1 (1) During the first week of early voting, from 8 a.m. until 2 6 p.m.
 - (2) During the second week of early voting, 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, for at least 4 hours between 10 a.m. and 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 the county clerk may establish.
- Sec. 25. 1. Each county clerk shall establish polling places for the day of a presidential preference primary election. Every polling place must open and close at the times set forth in NRS 293.273.
- 2. In counties whose population is 100,000 or more, every polling place established pursuant to subsection 1 is a site:

(a) Where any registered voter in the county who has indicated

an affiliation with the major political party may vote;

(b) For an elector who is not registered to vote by the close of registration to register to vote; and

(c) For a registered voter to change his or her political party affiliation so that the person may vote in the presidential preference primary election for the major political party.

3. In counties whose population is less than 100,000, the county clerk must designate at least one polling place established pursuant to subsection 1 as a site:

(a) Where any registered voter in the county who has indicated an affiliation with the major political party may vote;

(b) For an elector who is not registered to vote by the close of

registration to register to vote; and

- (c) For a registered voter to change his or her political party affiliation so that the person may vote or change his or her political affiliation in the presidential preference primary election.
 - 4. For each polling place established pursuant to this section, the county clerk shall publish in a newspaper of general circulation in the county the location and an indication of whether at the polling place any registered voter in the county who has indicated an affiliation with the major political party may vote or a person may register to vote.
- Sec. 26. 1. To register to vote or change political party affiliation during early voting or on the day of the presidential preference primary election, an elector or registered voter, as applicable, must:
 - (a) Appear before the close of the polling place;
 - (b) Complete an application to register to vote; and





- (c) Provide proof of his or her identity and residence as described in subsections 2 and 3.
- The following forms of identification may be used to identify an elector applying to register to vote or a registered voter changing political party affiliation pursuant to this section:
 - (a) A driver's license:

3

4

5

6 7

8

9

10

11

12 13

14

15

16

17

18

19

22 23

24

27

28

29

30

31

32

33

34 35

36

37

38

39

40 41

42

43

- (b) An identification card issued by the Department of Motor Vehicles:
 - (c) A military identification card; or
- (d) Any other form of identification issued by a governmental agency which contains the signature and a physical description or picture of the elector or registered voter.
- The following documents may be used to establish the residency of an elector or a registered voter if the current residential address of the elector or registered voter, as indicated on his or her application to register to vote, is displayed on the document:
 - (a) Any form of identification set forth in subsection 2;
- (b) A utility bill, including, without limitation, a bill for electric, gas, oil, water, sewer, septic, telephone, cellular telephone 20 or cable television service: 21
 - (c) A bank or credit union statement;
 - (d) A paycheck;
 - (e) An income tax return;
- 25 (f) A statement concerning the mortgage, rental or lease of a 26 residence:
 - (g) A motor vehicle registration;
 - (h) A property tax statement;
 - (i) Any other document issued by a governmental agency; or
 - (i) Any other official document which the county clerk, field registrar or other person designated by the county clerk to accept applications to register to vote pursuant to this section determines, in his or her discretion, to be a reliable indication of the true residential address of the elector or registered voter.
 - An elector who registers to vote or a registered voter who changes political party affiliation pursuant to this section shall be deemed to be registered or have his or her political party affiliation changed, as applicable, upon the completion of an application to register to vote and the verification of his or her identity and residency.
 - An elector who registers to vote or a registered voter who changes his or her political party affiliation, as applicable, pursuant to this section may vote in the presidential preference primary election for a major political party only:





- (a) At the polling place at which the elector registers to vote or the registered voter changes his or her political party affiliation; and
- (b) If the elector or registered voter indicates on the 4 application to register to vote an affiliation with the major political 6
 - Šec. 27. Each county clerk shall provide by rule or regulation a method for a registered voter of the major political party to cast an absent ballot in a presidential preference primary election.
 - Sec. 28. 1. Immediately after a presidential preference primary election, the Secretary of State shall compile the returns for each candidate of the major political party whose name appeared on the ballot.
 - The Secretary of State shall make out and file in his or her office an abstract of the returns and shall certify the number of votes received by each candidate to:
 - (a) The state central committee of the major political party; and
 - (b) The national committee of the party if necessary to comply with the rules and regulations of the party.
 - Sec. 29. If a presidential preference primary election is held pursuant to sections 20 to 30, inclusive, of this act, the cost of the election is a charge against the State and must be paid from the Reserve for Statutory Contingency Account created by NRS 353.264 upon recommendation by the Secretary of State and approval by the State Board of Examiners.
 - Sec. 30. 1. The Secretary of State shall adopt regulations to carry out the provisions of sections 20 to 30, inclusive, of this act.
 - 2. To the extent possible, the provisions of chapters 293 and 293B of NRS governing the conduct of a primary election also govern the conduct of a presidential preference primary election and must be given effect to the extent that the provisions of those chapters do not conflict with the provisions of sections 20 to 30, inclusive, of this act or the regulations adopted by the Secretary of State to carry out those provisions.
 - If there is a conflict between the provisions of chapters 293 or 293B of NRS and the provisions of sections 20 to 30, inclusive, of this act or the regulations adopted by the Secretary of State to carry out those provisions, the provisions of sections 20 to 30, inclusive, of this act and the regulations adopted by the Secretary of State to carry out those provisions control.
 - **Sec. 31.** NRS 298.035 is hereby amended to read as follows:
 - 298.035 1. **Each Except as otherwise provided in** subsection 2, each major political party shall, at the state



5

7

8

10

11

12 13

14 15

16

17

18 19

20

21

22

23

24

25

26 27

28 29

30

31

32

33

34

35 36

37

38 39

40

41 42

43

44



convention of the major political party held in that year, select from the qualified electors who are legally registered members of the major political party:

- (a) A nominee to the position of presidential elector; and
- (b) An alternate to the nominee for presidential elector,
- → for each position of presidential elector required by law.
- 2. If a major political party participates in a presidential preference primary election held pursuant to sections 20 to 30, inclusive, of this act, and if consistent with the rules of the major political party, the selection of nominees and alternates pursuant to subsection 1 must be done by the candidate of the major political party who receives the most votes at the presidential preference primary election.
- 3. Each minor political party shall choose from the qualified electors who are legally registered members of the minor political party:
 - (a) A nominee to the position of presidential elector; and
 - (b) An alternate to the nominee for presidential elector,
- → for each position of presidential elector required by law. The person who is authorized to file the list of candidates for partisan office of the minor political party with the Secretary of State pursuant to NRS 293.1725 shall, not later than the last Tuesday in August, submit to the Secretary of State the list of nominees for presidential elector and alternates.
- [3.] 4. Each independent candidate nominated for the office of President pursuant to NRS 298.109 shall, at the time of filing the petition as required pursuant to subsection 1 of NRS 298.109, or within 10 days thereafter, choose from the qualified electors:
 - (a) A nominee to the position of presidential elector; and
 - (b) An alternate to the nominee for presidential elector,
- → for each position of presidential elector required by law.
 - **Sec. 32.** NRS 353.264 is hereby amended to read as follows:
- 353.264 1. The Reserve for Statutory Contingency Account is hereby created in the State General Fund.
 - 2. The State Board of Examiners shall administer the Reserve for Statutory Contingency Account. The money in the Account must be expended only for:
- (a) The payment of claims which are obligations of the State pursuant to NRS 41.03435, 41.0347, 62I.025, 176.485, 179.310, 212.040, 212.050, 212.070, 281.174, 282.290, 282.315, 288.203, 293.253, 293.405, 353.120, 353.262, 412.154 and 475.235 [;] and section 29 of this act;
- 43 (b) The payment of claims which are obligations of the State 44 pursuant to:





- (1) Chapter 472 of NRS arising from operations of the Division of Forestry of the State Department of Conservation and Natural Resources directly involving the protection of life and property; and
 - (2) NRS 7.155, 34.750, 176A.640, 179.225 and 213.153,
- → except that claims may be approved for the respective purposes listed in this paragraph only when the money otherwise appropriated for those purposes has been exhausted;
- (c) The payment of claims which are obligations of the State pursuant to NRS 41.0349 and 41.037, but only to the extent that the money in the Fund for Insurance Premiums is insufficient to pay the claims; and
- (d) The payment of claims which are obligations of the State pursuant to NRS 535.030 arising from remedial actions taken by the State Engineer when the condition of a dam becomes dangerous to the safety of life or property.
- 3. The State Board of Examiners may authorize its Clerk or a person designated by the Clerk, under such circumstances as it deems appropriate, to approve, on behalf of the Board, the payment of claims from the Reserve for Statutory Contingency Account. For the purpose of exercising any authority granted to the Clerk of the State Board of Examiners or to the person designated by the Clerk pursuant to this subsection, any statutory reference to the State Board of Examiners relating to such a claim shall be deemed to refer to the Clerk of the Board or the person designated by the Clerk.
- **Sec. 33.** The Secretary of State shall adopt such regulations and prescribe such forms as are required by or necessary to carry out the provisions of this act so that the regulations and forms are effective and available for distribution and use as soon as practicable before the next presidential election.
 - **Sec. 34.** This act becomes effective on July 1, 2017.





