SENATE BILL NO. 60–COMMITTEE ON LEGISLATIVE OPERATIONS AND ELECTIONS

(ON BEHALF OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE)

Prefiled November 16, 2022

Referred to Committee on Legislative Operations and Elections

SUMMARY—Revises provisions relating to elections. (BDR 24-412)

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

CONTAINS UNFUNDED MANDATE (§§ 1.5, 7, 7.6) (NOT REQUESTED BY AFFECTED LOCAL GOVERNMENT)

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

AN ACT relating to elections; requiring the Secretary of State to allow any registered voter to use the system of approved electronic transmission to request and cast a ballot under certain circumstances; revising provisions relating to mail ballots; revising provisions relating to a recount and contest of a presidential election; setting forth a specific form of a declaration of candidacy for an independent candidate for partisan office; revising the methods for paying certain filing fees; revising provisions governing members of election boards; revising provisions relating to when certain candidates may be declared elected at a primary election; revising provisions relating to the form of certain ballots; revising the deadline for a hearing of an election contest; revising provisions relating to counting ballots and standards for counting votes; revising provisions relating to risk-limiting audits; revising provisions relating to an application to preregister or register to vote; revising prohibitions relating to tampering or interfering with certain election equipment or computer programs; requiring the Secretary of State to adopt by regulation a cyber-incident response plan for elections; revising the deadline by which a withdrawal of candidacy must be presented by certain candidates; revising the definition of "uniformed-service voter"; revising provisions relating to the limit on contributions to a candidate for office; delaying the effective date of certain provisions relating to automatic voter registration; repealing certain provisions relating to elections; making various other changes relating to elections; providing a penalty; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.





Legislative Counsel's Digest:

Existing law requires the Secretary of State to establish a system of approved electronic transmission through which: (1) certain military and overseas electors and voters; or (2) certain registered electors and voters with a disability may register to vote, request a ballot and cast a ballot. (NRS 293.269951, 293D.200) Sections 1.5 and 7.6 of this bill require the Secretary of State to allow any registered voter to use the system of approved electronic transmission to apply for and cast a ballot if the registered voter: (1) does not have access to his or her mail ballot; and (2) is unable to go to the polls because of an illness or disability resulting in confinement, hospitalization, serious illness or is suddenly called away from home. Sections 6.55 and 10.5 of this bill require the county and city clerks to notify the public of the provisions of sections 1.5 and 7.6.

Existing federal law requires a certificate of ascertainment of appointment of presidential electors to be issued and transmitted to the Archivist of the United States not later than 6 days before the time fixed for the meeting of the electors, which is the first Tuesday after the second Wednesday in December. (3 U.S.C. §§ 5, 7) Existing state law authorizes a candidate defeated at any election to demand and receive a recount within 3 working days after the canvass of the vote. For purposes of demanding a recount in a general election, "canvass" means: (1) the canvass by the Supreme Court of the returns for a candidate for a statewide office; or (2) the canvass of the board of county commissioners of the returns for any other candidate. (NRS 293.403) The canvass by: (1) a board of county commissioners must be completed on or before the 10th day following the election; and (2) the Supreme Court is the fourth Tuesday of November after each general election. (NRS 293.387, 293.395) Each recount must be commenced within 5 days after demand, and completed within 5 days after it begins. (NRS 293.405) Existing state law further authorizes, with certain exceptions, a candidate or registered voter to contest an election by filing a statement of contest no later than 5 days after a recount is completed, and no later than 14 days after the election if no recount is demanded. (NRS 293.407, 293.413) If an election contest is filed, the court is required to set the matter for hearing not less than 5 days nor more than 10 days after the filing of the statement of contest. (NRS 293.413)

Section 1.7 of this bill establishes a different timeline for filing a recount or an election contest that applies only to the election of presidential electors. Specifically, section 1.7 provides that a candidate for the office of presidential elector may demand and receive a recount if, on or before the 13th day following the election, the candidate files the written demand to and deposits the estimated costs of the recount with the Secretary of State. Any such recount must be: (1) commenced within 1 day after the demand is filed; and (2) completed within 5 days after the recount begins. Section 1.7 further authorizes a candidate or any registered voter to contest the election of a candidate to the office of presidential elector not more than 2 working days after the canvass of the returns by the Supreme Court. Such an election contest must be: (1) scheduled for a judicial hearing not more than 5 days after the filing of the statement of contest; and (2) decided before the deadline to issue and submit the certificate of ascertainment pursuant to federal law.

Pursuant to section 1.7, for purposes of the 2024 General Election, which will be held on November 5, 2024, the deadline: (1) to demand a recount for the office of presidential elector is November 18, 2024; (2) to begin a recount for the office of presidential elector is November 19, 2024; (3) to complete a recount for the office of presidential elector is November 24, 2024, (4) to contest the election for the office of presidential elector is December 2, 2024; and (5) for the court to set any such contest for hearing is December 7, 2024. Further, the deadline under federal law to issue and transmit the certificate of ascertainment is December 11, 2024, so pursuant to section 1.7, the court must determine the result of any election contest of the office of presidential elector before December 11, 2024.





Sections 6.35-6.5 and 7.3 of this bill make conforming changes to reflect the changes in **section 1.7** to the schedule for filing a demand for a recount or an election contest for the office of presidential elector.

Section 11.7 of this bill requires the Secretary of State to transmit the certificate of ascertainment to the Archivist.

Section 6.5 requires a court to set a contest of an election for hearing not more than 5 days after the filing of the statement of contest for any election.

Existing law requires an independent candidate for partisan office to file a declaration of candidacy. (NRS 293.200) Existing law further sets forth the form for a declaration of candidacy for all candidates for partisan office. (NRS 293.177) Section 1.8 of this bill sets forth the form for the declaration of candidacy for an independent candidate for partisan office. Section 3 of this bill makes conforming changes to clarify that the declaration of candidacy for an independent candidate must be in the form set forth in section 1.8.

Existing law sets forth certain fees for filing a declaration of candidacy and provides that the fee for filing a declaration of candidacy may be paid by cash, cashier's check or certified check. (NRS 293.193) **Section 2** of this bill: (1) provides that such a fee may also be paid by credit card; (2) revises the description of certain offices; and (3) reorganizes existing fees set forth in other provisions of existing law in to this schedule of fees.

Existing law provides that members of election boards continue to serve as such from the day before the day of the election until the time for filing contests of the election has expired. (NRS 293.225) **Section 3.5** of this bill provides instead that members continue to serve as such from the day of appointment.

Existing law provides that, in certain circumstances, if one candidate receives a majority of the votes cast in a primary election for certain nonpartisan offices, the candidate must be declared elected and the candidate's name must not be placed on the ballot. (NRS 293.260, 293C.175; Carson City Charter § 5.010; Henderson City Charter § 5.010; Las Vegas City Charter § 5.010; North Las Vegas City Charter § 5.020; Sparks City Charter § 5.020) Sections 4, 8 and 12-17 of this bill provide that for the purposes of determining the majority of the votes cast in a primary election for an office for which voters may select more than one candidate, each ballot upon which a voter marked a valid choice for one or more candidates for that office shall be deemed to be one vote cast in the primary election for that office.

Existing law provides that every ballot upon which appears the names of candidates for any statewide office or for President or Vice President of the United States must contain an additional line with a square in which the voter may select "None of these candidates." (NRS 293.269) **Section 5** of this bill provides instead that the additional line on such a ballot must contain a space in which the voter may select "None of these candidates."

Existing law: (1) authorizes the mail ballot central counting board to begin counting mail ballots 15 days before the day of the election; (2) requires the counting board to prepare to count the ballots when the polls are closed; and (3) establishes certain requirements for counting paper ballots. (NRS 293.269931, 293.363, 293C.26331, 293C.362) **Sections 6.23 and 10.2** of this bill: (1) clarify that the mail ballot central counting board may begin counting mail ballots before the polls are closed; and (2) remove the requirements for counting paper ballots.

Existing law: (1) sets forth certain standards for counting votes; (2) requires the Secretary of State to adopt regulations establishing uniform, statewide standards for counting a vote; and (3) authorizes the Secretary of State to adopt regulations establishing additional uniform statewide standards. (NRS 293.3677, 293C.369) Sections 6.24 and 10.4 of this bill authorize the Secretary of State to establish uniform thresholds for determining whether writing or a mark must be counted as a vote.



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Existing law provides that certain election materials, including the voted, rejected and spoiled ballots, must be sealed and deposited in the vaults of the county clerk. (NRS 293.391) **Section 6.25** of this bill provides that such election materials are subject to inspection for the purposes of a risk-limiting audit.

Existing law requires each county clerk to conduct a risk-limiting audit of the results of an election prior to the certification of the results of an election. (NRS 293.394) **Section 6.3** of this bill removes the requirement to conduct such an audit prior to the certification of the results.

Existing law provides that the deadline to register to vote at a voter registration agency, the Department of Motor Vehicles or an automatic voter registration agency is the last day to register to vote by mail. Existing law requires a county clerk to accept any application which is completed by the last day to register to vote by mail if the county clerk receives the application not later than 5 days after that date. (NRS 293.504, 293.5727, 293.5737) **Sections 6.6, 6.75 and 17.7** of this bill require a voter registration agency, the Department of Motor Vehicles and an automatic voter registration agency to notify a voter who registers to vote after this deadline that in order to vote in the upcoming election, the voter must register to vote by computer or at a polling place or polling place for early voting.

Existing law requires the Secretary of State to prescribe the form for applications to preregister or register to vote. (NRS 293.5235) Section 6.65 of this bill requires an application to preregister or register to vote to include an option for a voter to elect not to receive a mail ballot. Sections 6.1 and 9.2 of this bill make conforming changes to provide that a county clerk and city clerk shall not distribute a mail ballot to a person who has elected not to receive a mail ballot.

Existing federal law sets forth certain requirements for the removal of a voter from the official list of eligible voters which prohibit a state from removing the name of a registered voter unless the voter: (1) confirms a change of residence outside of the registrar's jurisdiction in writing; or (2) fails to respond to a notice sent to his or her residence and has not voted or appeared to vote for a period of time after a notice has been mailed to his or her residence. (52 U.S.C. § 20507) Sections 6.7 and 6.9 of this bill require a county clerk to mail a notice and conduct any correction or removal of a registered voter in accordance with existing federal law.

Existing law provides a penalty for a person who tampers or interferes or attempts to tamper or interfere with any computer program used to count ballots. (NRS 293.755) **Section 6.8** of this bill instead prohibits a person from tampering or interfering or attempting to tamper or interfere with any computer program used to conduct an election.

Existing law prohibits a person from being preregistered or registered to vote in more than one county at a time. (NRS 293.810) **Section 6.9** instead prohibits a person from being preregistered or registered to vote in more than one state at a time.

Existing law requires a county or city clerk or other election official to immediately notify the Secretary of State if the clerk or official identifies or is informed of a confirmed attack or attempted attack on the security of an information system used by the clerk or official. (NRS 293.875) Section 7 of this bill requires the Secretary of State to adopt by regulation a cyber-incident response plan for elections. Section 7 also requires a county or city clerk or other election official to notify the Secretary of State of any cyber-incident or attempted cyber-incident on the security of an information system used by the county or city clerk or other election official in accordance with the cyber-incident response plan.

Existing law provides that a withdrawal of candidacy must be presented: (1) for a candidate for city office, to the city clerk within 2 days after the last day for filing for candidacy; and (2) for all other candidates, to the county clerk within 7 days after the last day for filing. (NRS 293.202, 293C.195) **Section 9** of this bill requires





a withdrawal of candidacy by a candidate for a city office to be presented within 7 days, consistent with the requirement for all other candidates.

Existing law authorizes uniformed-service voters and certain other voters to vote in an election using a system of approved electronic transmission, a federal postcard application or the federal write-in absentee ballot. (Chapter 293D of NRS) **Section 11** of this bill revises the definition of "uniformed-service voter" to include a member of the active or reserve components of the Space Force of the United States who is on active duty.

Existing law sets forth certain limits on making or committing to make any contributions to a candidate for office, except for a federal office, and provides that no contribution made, committed or accepted for a primary election or general election affects the limitation on contributions for a special election to recall a public officer. (NRS 294A.100) Section 11.3 of this bill also provides that no contribution made, committed or accepted for a special election other than a special election to recall a public officer affects the limitation on contributions for a special election to recall a public officer.

Beginning on January 1, 2024, existing law expands the agencies which provide automatic voter registration services and establishes certain requirements for an automatic voter registration agency to transmit certain voter registration information to the Secretary of State and county clerks. (Chapter 555, Statutes of Nevada 2021, at page 3849) **Section 17.7** of this bill delays the effective date of these provisions until January 1, 2025.

Section 19 of this bill repeals certain provisions that: (1) prohibit a counting board from commencing to count the votes until all ballots are accounted for; (2) provide for a recount at a hearing of any contest; and (3) require the county clerk to transmit the number of registered voters in the county and their political affiliation to the Secretary of State before certain elections.

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 1.5 and 1.7 of this act.

Sec. 1.5. 1. The Secretary of State shall allow any registered voter to use the system of approved electronic transmission established pursuant to NRS 293D.200 to apply for and cast a ballot in every election where the system of approved electronic transmission is available to a covered voter to apply for and cast a military-overseas ballot if the registered voter does not have access to his or her mail ballot and is unable to go to the polls because:

- (a) Of an illness or disability resulting in confinement in a hospital, sanatorium, dwelling or nursing home; or
- (b) The registered voter is suddenly hospitalized, becomes seriously ill or is called away from home.
- 2. The deadlines for a registered voter to use the system of approved electronic transmission pursuant to subsection 1 to apply for and cast a ballot are the same as the deadlines set forth in





NRS 293D.310 and 293D.400 for a covered voter to apply for and cast a military-overseas ballot.

- 3. Upon receipt of an application and ballot cast by a registered voter in accordance with subsection 1 using the system of approved electronic transmission established pursuant to NRS 293D.200, the local elections official shall affix, mark or otherwise acknowledge receipt of the application and ballot by means of a time stamp on the application.
- 4. The Secretary of State shall ensure that the registered voter may provide his or her digital signature or electronic signature on any document or other material that is necessary for the registered voter to request and cast a ballot.
- 5. The Secretary of State shall prescribe the form and content of a declaration for use by a registered voter who does not have access to his or her mail ballot and is unable to go to the polls to swear or affirm specific representations pertaining to identity, eligibility to vote, status as a registered voter and timely and proper completion of a ballot.
- 6. The Secretary of State shall prescribe the duties of the county clerk upon receipt of a ballot sent by a registered voter using the system of approved electronic transmission pursuant to this section, including, without limitation, the procedures to be used in accepting, handling and counting the ballot.
- 7. The Secretary of State shall make available to a registered voter using the system of approved electronic transmission pursuant to this section information regarding instructions on using the system for approved electronic transmission to apply for and cast a ballot.
- 8. The Secretary of State shall adopt any regulations necessary to carry out the provisions of this section.
 - 9. As used in this section:
- (a) "Covered voter" has the meaning ascribed to it in NRS 293D.030.
- (b) "Digital signature" has the meaning ascribed to it in NRS 720.060.
- (c) "Electronic signature" has the meaning ascribed to it in NRS 719.100.
- 38 (d) "Military-overseas ballot" has the meaning ascribed to it in 39 NRS 293D.050.
- Sec. 1.7. For the purposes of an election to the office of presidential elector:
 - 1. The following requirements apply to a demand for a recount:
 - (a) A candidate for the office of presidential elector may demand and receive a recount of the vote to determine the number





of votes received for the candidate and the number of votes received for the person who won the election if, on or before the 13th day following the election, the candidate who demands the recount:

- (1) Files in writing a demand with the Secretary of State; and
- (2) Deposits in advance the estimated costs of the recount with the Secretary of State, as determined by the Secretary of State, in accordance with the regulations adopted by the Secretary of State defining the term "costs."
- (b) A recount conducted pursuant to this subsection must be commenced within 1 day after the demand is filed and must be completed within 5 days after the recount is begun.
- 2. The following requirements apply to a contest of an election:
- (a) A candidate for the office of presidential elector or any registered voter of this State may contest the election of a candidate to the office of presidential elector. To contest the election, the candidate or registered voter, as applicable, must file with the clerk of the district court a written statement of contest not more than 2 working days after the canvass of the returns by the Supreme Court.
- (b) The statement of contest must be prepared in accordance with NRS 293.407.
- (c) The court shall set the matter for a hearing not more than 5 days after the filing of the statement of contest and must determine the results of the contest before the deadline to issue and submit the certificate of ascertainment pursuant to 3 U.S.C. § 5. Election contests shall take precedence over all regular business of the court in order that results of elections shall be determined as soon as practicable.
- (d) The court may refer the contest to a special master in the manner provided by the Nevada Rules of Civil Procedure, and such special master shall have all powers necessary for a proper determination of the contest.
 - **Sec. 1.8.** NRS 293.177 is hereby amended to read as follows:
- 293.177 1. Except as otherwise provided in NRS 293.165 and 293.166, a name may not be printed on a ballot to be used at a primary election unless the person named has filed a declaration of candidacy with the appropriate filing officer and paid the filing fee required by NRS 293.193 not earlier than:
- (a) For a candidate for judicial office, the first Monday in January of the year in which the election is to be held and not later than 5 p.m. on the second Friday after the first Monday in January; and





- (b) For all other candidates, the first Monday in March of the year in which the election is to be held and not later than 5 p.m. on the second Friday after the first Monday in March.
- 2. A declaration of candidacy required to be filed pursuant to this chapter must be in substantially the following form:
 - (a) For partisan office:

DECLARATION OF CANDIDACY OF	FOR THE
OFFICE OF	

State of Nevada

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County of

For the purpose of having my name placed on the official ballot as a candidate for the Party nomination for the office of, I, the undersigned, do swear or affirm under penalty of perjury that I actually, as opposed to constructively, reside at, in the City or Town of, County of, State of Nevada; that my actual, as opposed to constructive, residence in the State, district, county, township, city or other area prescribed by law to which the office pertains began on a date at least 30 days immediately preceding the date of the close of filing of declarations of candidacy for this office; that my telephone number is, and the address at which I receive mail, if different than my residence, is; that I am registered as a member of the Party; that I am a qualified elector pursuant to Section 1 of Article 2 of the Constitution of the State of Nevada; that if I have ever been convicted of treason or a felony, my civil rights have been restored; that I have not, in violation of the provisions of NRS 293.176, changed the designation of my political party or political party affiliation on an official application to register to vote in any state since December 31 before the closing filing date for this election; that I generally believe in and intend to support the concepts found in the principles and policies of that political party in the coming election; that if nominated as a candidate of the Party at the ensuing election, I will accept that nomination and not withdraw; that I will not knowingly violate any election law or any law defining and prohibiting corrupt and fraudulent practices in campaigns and elections in this State; that I will qualify for the office if elected thereto, including, but not limited to, complying with any limitation prescribed by the Constitution and laws of this State





concerning the number of years or terms for which a person 1 may hold the office; that I understand that knowingly and 2 3 willfully filing a declaration of candidacy which contains a 4 false statement is a crime punishable as a gross misdemeanor 5 and also subjects me to a civil action disqualifying me from entering upon the duties of the office; and that I understand 6 7 that my name will appear on all ballots as designated in this declaration. 8 9 10 11 (Designation of name) 12 13 (Signature of candidate for office) 14 15 Subscribed and sworn to before me 16 17 this day of the month of of the year 18 19 20 Notary Public or other person 21 authorized to administer an oath 22 23 (b) For an independent candidate for partisan office: 24 25 DECLARATION OF CANDIDACY OF FOR THE 26 **OFFICE OF** 27 28 State of Nevada 29 30 *County of* 31 32 For the purpose of having my name placed on the official ballot at the general election as an independent candidate 33 for the office of, I, the undersigned, do swear or 34 affirm under penalty of perjury that I actually, as opposed 35 to constructively, reside at, in the City or Town of 36, County of State of Nevada; that my actual, as 37 opposed to constructive, residence in the State, district, 38 county, township, city or other area prescribed by law to 39 which the office pertains began on a date at least 30 days 40 immediately preceding the date of the close of filing of 41 42 declarations of candidacy for this office; that my telephone number is, and the address at which I receive mail, 43

if different than my residence, is; that I am a qualified

elector pursuant to Section 1 of Article 2 of the Constitution



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of the State of Nevada; that if I have ever been convicted of 1 2 treason or a felony, my civil rights have been restored; that I will not knowingly violate any election law or any law 3 4 defining and prohibiting corrupt and fraudulent practices in campaigns and elections in this State; that I will qualify for 5 the office if elected thereto, including, but not limited to, 6 7 complying with any limitation prescribed by the Constitution and laws of this State concerning the number 8 of years or terms for which a person may hold the office; 9 that I understand that knowingly and willfully filing a 10 declaration of candidacy which contains a false statement is 11 a crime punishable as a gross misdemeanor and also 12 13 subjects me to a civil action disqualifying me from entering upon the duties of the office; and that I understand that my 14 name will appear on all ballots as designated in this 15 declaration. 16 17 (Designation of name) 18 19 20 (Signature of candidate for office) 21 22 23 Subscribed and sworn to before me 24 this day of the month of of the year 25 26 27 Notary Public or other person 28 authorized to administer an oath 29 30 (c) For nonpartisan office: 31 DECLARATION OF CANDIDACY OF FOR THE 32 33 OFFICE OF 34 State of Nevada 35 36 37 County of 38 For the purpose of having my name placed on the official 39 ballot as a candidate for the office of I, the 40 undersigned, do swear or affirm under penalty of 41 42 perjury that I actually, as opposed to constructively, reside at 43, in the City or Town of, County of, State of

Nevada; that my actual, as opposed to constructive, residence

in the State, district, county, township, city or other area





prescribed by law to which the office pertains began on a date at least 30 days immediately preceding the date of the close of filing of declarations of candidacy for this office; that my telephone number is, and the address at which I receive mail, if different than my residence, is; that I am a qualified elector pursuant to Section 1 of Article 2 of the Constitution of the State of Nevada; that if I have ever been convicted of treason or a felony, my civil rights have been restored; that if nominated as a nonpartisan candidate at the ensuing election, I will accept the nomination and not withdraw; that I will not knowingly violate any election law or any law defining and prohibiting corrupt and fraudulent practices in campaigns and elections in this State; that I will qualify for the office if elected thereto, including, but not limited to, complying with any limitation prescribed by the Constitution and laws of this State concerning the number of years or terms for which a person may hold the office; that I understand that knowingly and willfully filing a declaration of candidacy which contains a false statement is a crime punishable as a gross misdemeanor and also subjects me to a civil action disqualifying me from entering upon the duties of the office; and that I understand that my name will appear on all ballots as designated in this declaration.

(Designation of name)
(Signature of candidate for office)
Subscribed and sworn to before me this day of the month of of the year
Notary Public or other person authorized to administer an oath

3. The address of a candidate which must be included in the declaration of candidacy pursuant to subsection 2 must be the street address of the residence where the candidate actually, as opposed to constructively, resides in accordance with NRS 281.050, if one has been assigned. The declaration of candidacy must not be accepted for filing if the candidate fails to comply with the following provisions of this subsection or, if applicable, the provisions of subsection 4:





- (a) The candidate shall not list the candidate's address as a post office box unless a street address has not been assigned to his or her residence; and
- (b) Except as otherwise provided in subsection 4, the candidate shall present to the filing officer:
- (1) A valid driver's license or identification card issued by a governmental agency that contains a photograph of the candidate and the candidate's residential address; or
- (2) A current utility bill, bank statement, paycheck, or document issued by a governmental entity, including a check which indicates the candidate's name and residential address, but not including a voter registration card.
- 4. If the candidate executes an oath or affirmation under penalty of perjury stating that the candidate is unable to present to the filing officer the proof of residency required by subsection 3 because a street address has not been assigned to the candidate's residence or because the rural or remote location of the candidate's residence makes it impracticable to present the proof of residency required by subsection 3, the candidate shall present to the filing officer:
- (a) A valid driver's license or identification card issued by a governmental agency that contains a photograph of the candidate; and
- (b) Alternative proof of the candidate's residential address that the filing officer determines is sufficient to verify where the candidate actually, as opposed to constructively, resides in accordance with NRS 281.050. The Secretary of State may adopt regulations establishing the forms of alternative proof of the candidate's residential address that the filing officer may accept to verify where the candidate actually, as opposed to constructively, resides in accordance with NRS 281.050.
- 5. The filing officer shall retain a copy of the proof of identity and residency provided by the candidate pursuant to subsection 3 or 4. Such a copy:
 - (a) May not be withheld from the public; and
- (b) Must not contain the social security number, driver's license or identification card number or account number of the candidate.
- 6. By filing the declaration of candidacy, the candidate shall be deemed to have appointed the filing officer for the office as his or her agent for service of process for the purposes of a proceeding pursuant to NRS 293.182. Service of such process must first be attempted at the appropriate address as specified by the candidate in the declaration of candidacy. If the candidate cannot be served at that address, service must be made by personally delivering to and leaving with the filing officer duplicate copies of the process. The





filing officer shall immediately send, by registered or certified mail, one of the copies to the candidate at the specified address, unless the candidate has designated in writing to the filing officer a different address for that purpose, in which case the filing officer shall mail the copy to the last address so designated.

- 7. If the filing officer receives credible evidence indicating that a candidate has been convicted of a felony and has not had his or her civil rights restored, the filing officer:
- (a) May conduct an investigation to determine whether the candidate has been convicted of a felony and, if so, whether the candidate has had his or her civil rights restored; and
- (b) Shall transmit the credible evidence and the findings from such investigation to the Attorney General, if the filing officer is the Secretary of State, or to the district attorney, if the filing officer is a person other than the Secretary of State.
- 8. The receipt of information by the Attorney General or district attorney pursuant to subsection 7 must be treated as a challenge of a candidate pursuant to subsections 4 and 5 of NRS 293.182 to which the provisions of NRS 293.2045 apply.
- 9. Any person who knowingly and willfully files a declaration of candidacy which contains a false statement in violation of this section is guilty of a gross misdemeanor.
 - **Sec. 2.** NRS 293.193 is hereby amended to read as follows:
- 293.193 1. Fees as listed in this section for filing declarations of candidacy must be paid to the filing officer by cash, *credit card*, cashier's check or certified check.

United States Senator	\$500
Representative in Congress	
Governor	
Justice of the Supreme Court	300
Justice of the Supreme Court	200
the Supreme Court	2001
Independent candidate for the office of President	200]
of the United States	250
Lieutenant Governor	200
Secretary of State, State Treasurer, State	200
	200
Controller or Attorney General	
Court of Appeals judge	
Member of the State Board of Education	
District judge	150
Justice of the peace	100
Any county office	100
State Senator	100
Assemblyman or Assemblywoman	





Trustee of a county school district, hospital or	
hospital district	\$30
Any <i>other</i> district office other than district judge	
Constable or other town or township office	
Member of the Board of Regents of the University	
of Nevada	0
Any other office which receives no compensation	

For the purposes of this subsection, trustee of a county school district, hospital or hospital district is not a county office.

- 2. No filing fee may be required from a candidate for an office the holder of which receives no compensation.
- 3. The county clerk shall pay to the county treasurer all filing fees received from candidates. The county treasurer shall deposit the money to the credit of the general fund of the county.
- 4. Except as otherwise provided in NRS 293.194, a filing fee paid pursuant to this section is not refundable.
 - **Sec. 3.** NRS 293.200 is hereby amended to read as follows:
- 293.200 1. An independent candidate for partisan office must file with the appropriate filing officer as set forth in NRS 293.185:
- (a) A copy of the petition of candidacy that he or she intends to subsequently circulate for signatures. The copy must be filed not earlier than the January 2 preceding the date of the election and not later than 10 working days before the last day to file the petition pursuant to subsection 4. The copy of the petition must be filed with the appropriate filing officer before the petition may be circulated for signatures.
 - (b) Either of the following:
- (1) A petition of candidacy signed by a number of registered voters equal to at least 1 percent of the total number of ballots cast in:
- (I) This State for that office at the last preceding general election in which a person was elected to that office, if the office is a statewide office;
- (II) The county for that office at the last preceding general election in which a person was elected to that office, if the office is a county office; or
- (III) The district for that office at the last preceding general election in which a person was elected to that office, if the office is a district office.
- (2) A petition of candidacy signed by 250 registered voters if the candidate is a candidate for statewide office, or signed by 100 registered voters if the candidate is a candidate for any office other than a statewide office.





- The petition may consist of more than one document. Each document must bear the name of the county in which it was circulated, and only registered voters of that county may sign the document. If the office is not a statewide office, only the registered voters of the county, district or municipality in question may sign the document. The documents that are circulated for signature in a county must be submitted to that county clerk for verification in the manner prescribed in NRS 293.1276 to 293.1279, inclusive, not later than 10 working days before the last day to file the petition pursuant to subsection 4. Each person who signs the petition shall add to his or her signature the address of the place at which the person actually resides, the date that he or she signs the petition and the name of the county where he or she is registered to vote. The person who circulates each document of the petition shall sign an affidavit attesting that the signatures on the document are genuine to the best of his or her knowledge and belief and were signed in his or her presence by persons registered to vote in that county.
- 3. The petition of candidacy may state the principle, if any, which the person qualified represents.
- 4. Petitions of candidacy must be filed not earlier than the first Monday in March preceding the general election and not later than 5 p.m. on the third Friday in June.
- 5. No petition of candidacy may contain the name of more than one candidate for each office to be filled.
- 6. A person may not file as an independent candidate if he or she is proposing to run as the candidate of a political party.
- 7. The names of independent candidates must be placed on the general election ballot and must not appear on the primary election ballot.
- 8. If the sufficiency of the petition of the candidacy of any person seeking to qualify pursuant to this section is challenged, all affidavits and documents in support of the challenge must be filed not later than 5 p.m. on the fourth Friday in June. Any judicial proceeding resulting from the challenge must be set for hearing not more than 5 days after the fourth Friday in June.
 - 9. Any challenge pursuant to subsection 8 must be filed with:
- (a) The First Judicial District Court if the petition of candidacy was filed with the Secretary of State.
- (b) The district court for the county where the petition of candidacy was filed if the petition was filed with a county clerk.
- 10. The district court in which the challenge is filed shall give priority to such proceedings over all other matters pending with the court, except for criminal proceedings.
- 11. An independent candidate for partisan office must file a declaration of candidacy *in the form required by NRS 293.177* with





the appropriate filing officer and pay the filing fee required by NRS 293.193 not earlier than the first Monday in March of the year in which the election is held and not later than 5 p.m. on the second Friday after the first Monday in March.

Sec. 3.5. NRS 293.225 is hereby amended to read as follows:

- 293.225 1. Members of election boards continue *to serve* as such from the day [before the day of the election,] *of appointment* 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 election board may appoint, at the polling place, any registered voter who is willing to serve and satisfies the election board that he or she possesses the qualifications required to perform the services required.
 - **Sec. 4.** NRS 293.260 is hereby amended to read as follows:
- 293.260 1. If there is no contest of election for nomination to a particular office, neither the title of the office nor the name of the candidate may appear on the ballot at the primary election.
- 2. If a major political party has two or more candidates for a particular office, the person who receives the highest number of votes at the primary election must be declared the nominee of that major political party for the office.
- 3. If not more than the number of candidates to be elected have filed for nomination for:
- (a) Any partisan office or the office of judge of a district court, judge of the Court of Appeals or justice of the Supreme Court, the names of those candidates must be omitted from all ballots for a primary election and placed on all ballots for the general election.
- (b) Any nonpartisan office, other than the office of judge of a district court, judge of the Court of Appeals, justice of the Supreme Court or member of a town advisory board, the names of those candidates must appear on the ballot for a primary election unless the candidates were nominated pursuant to subsection 2 of NRS 293.165. If a candidate receives one or more votes at the primary election, the candidate must be declared elected to the office and his or her name must not be placed on the ballot for the general election. If a candidate does not receive one or more votes at the





primary election, his or her name must be placed on the ballot for the general election.

- (c) The office of member of a town advisory board, the candidate must be declared elected to the office and no election must be held for that office.
- 4. If there are not more than twice the number of candidates to be elected to a nonpartisan office, the candidates must, without a primary election, be declared the nominees for the office, and the names of the candidates must be omitted from all ballots for a primary election and placed on all ballots for the general election.
- 5. If there are more than twice the number of candidates to be elected to a nonpartisan office, the names of the candidates must appear on the ballot for a primary election. Except as otherwise provided in NRS 293.400, those candidates who receive the highest number of votes at the primary election, not to exceed twice the number to be elected, must be declared nominees for the office and the names of those candidates must be placed on the ballot for the general election, except that if one of those candidates receives a majority of the votes cast in the primary election for:
- (a) The office of judge of a district court, judge of the Court of Appeals or justice of the Supreme Court, the candidate must be declared the only nominee for the office and only his or her name must be placed on the ballot for the general election.
- (b) Any other nonpartisan office, the candidate must be declared elected to the office and his or her name must not be placed on the ballot for the general election.
- For the purposes of determining whether a candidate received a majority of the votes cast in the primary election for a nonpartisan office for which voters were authorized to select more than one candidate, each ballot upon which a voter marked a valid choice for one or more candidates for that office shall be deemed to be one vote cast in the primary election for that office.
 - **Sec. 5.** NRS 293.269 is hereby amended to read as follows:
- 293.269 1. Every ballot upon which appears the names of candidates for any statewide office or for President and Vice President of the United States shall contain for each office an additional line equivalent to the lines on which the candidates' names appear and placed at the end of the group of lines containing the names of the candidates for that office. Each additional line shall contain a [square] space in which the voter may express a choice of that line in the same manner as the voter would express a choice of a candidate, and the line shall read "None of these candidates."
- 2. Only votes cast for the named candidates shall be counted in determining nomination or election to any statewide office or presidential nominations or the selection of presidential electors, but





for each office the number of ballots on which the additional line was chosen shall be listed following the names of the candidates and the number of their votes in every posting, abstract and proclamation of the results of the election.

- 3. Every sample ballot or other instruction to voters prescribed or approved by the Secretary of State shall clearly explain that the voter may mark the choice of the line "None of these candidates" only if the voter has not voted for any candidate for the office.
 - **Sec. 6.** (Deleted by amendment.)

- **Sec. 6.1.** NRS 293.269911 is hereby amended to read as follows:
- 293.269911 1. Except as otherwise provided in this section, the county clerk shall prepare and distribute to each active registered voter in the county and each person who registers to vote or updates his or her voter registration information not later than the 14 days before the election a mail ballot for every election. The county clerk shall make reasonable accommodations for the use of the mail ballot by a person who is elderly or disabled, including, without limitation, by providing, upon request, the mail ballot in 12-point type to a person who is elderly or disabled.
- 2. The county clerk shall allow a voter to elect not to receive a mail ballot pursuant to this section by submitting to the county clerk a written notice in the form prescribed by the county clerk which must be received by the county clerk not later than 60 days before the day of the election.
- 3. The county clerk shall not distribute a mail ballot to any person who:
- (a) Registers to vote for the election pursuant to the provisions of NRS 293.5772 to 293.5887, inclusive; [or]
- (b) Elects not to receive a mail ballot pursuant to subsection 2 :; or
- (c) Elects not to receive a mail ballot at the time the person preregistered or registered to vote.
- 4. The mail ballot must include all offices, candidates and measures upon which the voter is entitled to vote at the election.
- 5. Except as otherwise provided in subsections 2 and 3, the mail ballot must be distributed to:
 - (a) Each active registered voter who:
- (1) Resides within the State, not later than 20 days before the election; and
- (2) Except as otherwise provided in paragraph (c), resides outside the State, not later than 40 days before the election.
- (b) Each active registered voter who registers to vote after the dates set for distributing mail ballots pursuant to paragraph (a) but





who is eligible to receive a mail ballot pursuant to subsection 1, not later than 13 days before the election.

- (c) Each covered voter who is entitled to have a military-overseas ballot transmitted pursuant to the provisions of chapter 293D of NRS or the Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act, 52 U.S.C. §§ 20301 et seq., not later than the time required by those provisions.
- 6. In the case of a special election where no candidate for federal office will appear on the ballot, the mail ballot must be distributed to each active registered voter not later than 15 days before the special election.
- 7. Any untimely legal action which would prevent the mail ballot from being distributed to any voter pursuant to this section is moot and of no effect.
 - **Sec. 6.15.** (Deleted by amendment.)
 - **Sec. 6.2.** (Deleted by amendment.)
- **Sec. 6.23.** NRS 293.363 is hereby amended to read as follows: 293.363 1. [When] Mail ballots must be counted by the mail ballot central counting board pursuant to NRS 293.269931.
- 2. Ballots cast using a mechanical voting system must not be counted until the polls are closed. [, the counting board shall prepare to count the ballots voted.] The counting procedure must be public and, to the extent practicable, continue without adjournment until completed.
- [2. If the ballots are paper ballots, the counting board shall prepare in the following manner:
- (a) The container that holds the ballots or the ballot box must be opened and the ballots contained therein counted by the counting board and opened far enough to ascertain whether each ballot is single. If two or more ballots are found folded together to present the appearance of a single ballot, they must be laid aside until the count of the ballots is completed. If a majority of the inspectors are of the opinion that the ballots folded together were voted by one person, the ballots must be rejected and placed in an envelope, upon which must be written the reason for their rejection. The envelope must be signed by the counting board officers and placed in the container or ballot box after the count is completed.
- (b) If the ballots in the container or box are found to exceed in number the number of names as are indicated on the roster as having voted, the ballots must be replaced in the container or box, and a counting board officer, with his or her back turned to the container or box, shall draw out a number of ballots equal to the excess. The excess ballots must be marked on the back thereof with the words "Excess ballots not counted." The ballots when so marked must be





immediately sealed in an envelope and returned to the county clerk with the other ballots rejected for any cause.

- (c) When it has been ascertained that the number of ballots agrees with the number of names of registered voters shown to have voted, the board shall proceed to count. If there is a discrepancy between the number of ballots and the number of voters, a record of the discrepancy must be made.]
- **Sec. 6.24.** NRS 293.3677 is hereby amended to read as follows:
- 293.3677 1. When counting a vote in an election, if more choices than permitted by the instructions for a ballot are marked for any office or question, the vote for that office or question may not be counted [.] if the marks meet or exceed the threshold established by regulation pursuant to subsection 3.
- 2. Except as otherwise provided in subsection 1, in an election in which a mechanical voting system is used whereby a vote is cast by darkening a designated space on the ballot:
- (a) A vote must be counted if the designated space is darkened or there is a writing in the designated space, including, without limitation, a cross or check; and
- (b) Except as otherwise provided in paragraph (a), a writing or other mark on the ballot, including, without limitation, a cross, check, tear or scratch may not be counted as a vote [.] unless the writing or mark meets or exceeds the threshold established by regulation pursuant to subsection 3.
 - 3. The Secretary of State:
 - (a) May adopt regulations establishing [additional]:
- (1) Additional uniform, statewide standards, not inconsistent with this section, for counting a vote cast by a method of voting described in subsection 2; and
- (2) Uniform thresholds for determining whether writing or a mark on a ballot must be counted as a vote; and
- (b) Shall adopt regulations establishing uniform, statewide standards for counting a vote cast by each method of voting used in this State that is not described in subsection 2, including, without limitation, a vote cast on a mechanical recording device which directly records the votes electronically.
 - **Sec. 6.25.** NRS 293.391 is hereby amended to read as follows:
- 293.391 1. The voted ballots, rejected ballots, spoiled ballots, challenge lists, records printed on paper of voted ballots collected pursuant to NRS 293B.400, reports prepared pursuant to NRS 293.269937 and stubs of the ballots used, enclosed and sealed, must, after canvass of the votes by the board of county commissioners, be deposited in the vaults of the county clerk. The records of voted ballots that are maintained in electronic form must, after canvass of





the votes by the board of county commissioners, be sealed and deposited in the vaults of the county clerk. The tally lists collected pursuant to this title must, after canvass of the votes by the board of county commissioners, be deposited in the vaults of the county clerk without being sealed. All materials described by this subsection must be preserved for at least 22 months, and all such sealed materials must be destroyed immediately after the preservation period. A notice of the destruction must be published by the clerk in at least one newspaper of general circulation in the county not less than 2 weeks before the destruction.

- 2. Unused ballots, enclosed and sealed, must, after canvass of the votes by the board of county commissioners, be deposited in the vaults of the county clerk and preserved for at least the period during which the election may be contested and adjudicated, after which the unused ballots may be destroyed.
- 3. The rosters containing the signatures of those persons who voted in the election and the tally lists deposited with the board of county commissioners are subject to the inspection of any elector who may wish to examine them at any time after their deposit with the county clerk.
- 4. A contestant of an election may inspect all of the material regarding that election which is preserved pursuant to subsection 1 or 2, except the voted ballots and records printed on paper of voted ballots collected pursuant to NRS 293B.400 which are deposited with the county clerk.
- 5. The voted ballots and records printed on paper of voted ballots collected pursuant to NRS 293B.400 which are deposited with the county clerk are not subject to the inspection of anyone, except in cases of a contested election, and then only by the judge, body or board before whom the election is being contested, or by the parties to the contest, jointly, pursuant to an order of such judge, body or board.
- 6. All of the materials preserved pursuant to subsection 1 which are deposited with the county clerk are subject to inspection in a risk-limiting audit that is conducted in accordance with the regulations adopted pursuant to NRS 293.394.
 - **Sec. 6.3.** NRS 293.394 is hereby amended to read as follows:
- 293.394 1. The Secretary of State shall adopt regulations for conducting a risk-limiting audit of an election, which may include, without limitation:
 - (a) Procedures to conduct a risk-limiting audit;
 - (b) Criteria for which elections must be audited; and
 - (c) Criteria to determine the scope of the risk-limiting audit.
- 2. In accordance with the regulations adopted by the Secretary of State pursuant to this section, each county clerk shall conduct a





risk-limiting audit of the results of an election. [prior to the certification of the results of the election pursuant to NRS 293.395.]

- 3. As used in this section, "risk-limiting audit" means an audit protocol that:
 - (a) Makes use of statistical principles and methods; and
- (b) Is designed to limit the risk of certifying an incorrect election outcome.

Sec. 6.35. NRS 293.403 is hereby amended to read as follows:

- 293.403 1. [A] Except as otherwise provided in section 1.7 of this act, a candidate defeated at any election may demand and receive a recount of the vote for the office for which he or she is a candidate to determine the number of votes received for the candidate and the number of votes received for the person who won the election if, within 3 working days after the canvass of the vote and the certification by the county clerk or city clerk of the abstract of votes, the candidate who demands the recount:
- (a) Files in writing a demand with the officer with whom the candidate filed his or her declaration of candidacy; and
- (b) Deposits in advance the estimated costs of the recount with that officer.
- 2. Any voter at an election may demand and receive a recount of the vote for a ballot question if, within 3 working days after the canvass of the vote and the certification by the county clerk or city clerk of the abstract of votes, the voter:
 - (a) Files in writing a demand with:
- (1) The Secretary of State, if the demand is for a recount of a ballot question affecting more than one county; or
- (2) The county or city clerk who will conduct the recount, if the demand is for a recount of a ballot question affecting only one county or city; and
- (b) Deposits in advance the estimated costs of the recount with the person to whom the demand was made.
- 3. The estimated costs of the recount must be determined by the person with whom the advance is deposited based on regulations adopted by the Secretary of State defining the term "costs."
 - 4. As used in this section, "canvass" means:
- (a) In any primary election, the canvass by the board of county commissioners of the returns for a candidate or ballot question voted for in one county or the canvass by the board of county commissioners last completing its canvass of the returns for a candidate or ballot question voted for in more than one county.
- (b) In any primary city election, the canvass by the city council of the returns for a candidate or ballot question voted for in the city.
 - (c) In any general election:





- (1) The canvass by the Supreme Court of the returns for a candidate for a statewide office or a statewide ballot question; or
- (2) The canvass of the board of county commissioners of the returns for any other candidate or ballot question, as provided in paragraph (a).
- (d) In any general city election, the canvass by the city council of the returns for a candidate or ballot question voted for in the city.
 - **Sec. 6.4.** NRS 293.404 is hereby amended to read as follows:
- 293.404 1. Where a recount is demanded pursuant to the provisions of NRS 293.403, *or section 1.7 of this act*, the:
- (a) County clerk of each county affected by the recount shall employ a recount board to conduct the recount in the county, and shall act as chair of the recount board unless the recount is for the office of county clerk, in which case the registrar of voters of the county, if a registrar of voters has been appointed for the county, shall act as chair of the recount board. If a registrar of voters has not been appointed for the county, the chair of the board of county commissioners, if the chair is not a candidate on the ballot, shall act as chair of the recount board. If the recount is for the office of county clerk, a registrar of voters has not been appointed for the county and the chair of the board of county commissioners is a candidate on the ballot, the chair of the board of county commissioners shall appoint another member of the board of county commissioners who is not a candidate on the ballot to act as chair of the recount board. A member of the board of county commissioners who is a candidate on the ballot may not serve as a member of the recount board.
- (b) City clerk shall employ a recount board to conduct the recount in the city, and shall act as chair of the recount board unless the recount is for the office of city clerk, in which case the mayor of the city, if the mayor is not a candidate on the ballot, shall act as chair of the recount board. If the recount is for the office of city clerk and the mayor of the city is a candidate on the ballot, the mayor of the city shall appoint another member of the city council who is not a candidate on the ballot to act as chair of the recount board. A member of the city council who is a candidate on the ballot may not serve as a member of the recount board.
- 2. Each candidate for the office affected by the recount and the voter who demanded the recount, if any, may be present in person or by an authorized representative, but may not be a member of the recount board.
- 3. The recount must include a count and inspection of all ballots, including rejected ballots, and must determine whether all ballots are marked as required by law. All ballots must be recounted in the same manner in which the ballots were originally tabulated.





- 4. The county or city clerk shall unseal and give to the recount board all ballots to be counted.
- 5. The Secretary of State may adopt regulations to carry out the provisions of this section.
 - **Sec. 6.43.** NRS 293.405 is hereby amended to read as follows:
- 293.405 1. If the person who demanded the recount does not prevail, and it is found that the sum deposited was less than the cost of the recount, the person shall, upon demand, pay the deficiency to the county clerk, city clerk or Secretary of State, as the case may be. If the sum deposited is in excess of the cost, the excess must be refunded to the person.
- 2. If the person who demanded the recount prevails, the sum deposited with the Secretary of State, county clerk or city clerk must be refunded to the person and the cost of the recount must be paid as follows:
- (a) If the recount concerns an office or ballot question for which voting is not statewide, the cost must be borne by the county or city which conducted the recount.
- (b) If the recount concerns an office or ballot question for which voting is statewide, the clerk of each county shall submit a statement of its costs in the recount to the Secretary of State for review and approval. The Secretary of State shall submit the statements to the State Board of Examiners, which shall repay the allowable costs from the Reserve for Statutory Contingency Account to the respective counties.
- 3. [Each] Except as otherwise provided in section 1.7 of this act, each recount must be commenced within 5 days after demand, and must be completed within 5 days after it is begun.
- 4. After the recount of a precinct is completed, that precinct must not be subject to another recount for the same office or ballot question at the same election.
 - **Sec. 6.47.** NRS 293.407 is hereby amended to read as follows:
- 293.407 1. A candidate at any election, or any registered voter of the appropriate political subdivision, may contest the election of any candidate, except for the office of United States Senator or Representative in Congress.
- 2. Except where the contest involves the general election for the office of Governor, Lieutenant Governor, Assemblyman, Assemblywoman, State Senator, justice of the Supreme Court or judge of the Court of Appeals, a candidate or voter who wishes to contest an election, including election to the office of presidential elector, must, within the time prescribed in NRS 293.413, *or section 1.7 of this act, as applicable*, file with the clerk of the district court a written statement of contest, setting forth:





- (a) The name of the contestant and that the contestant is a registered voter of the political subdivision in which the election to be contested or part of it was held;
 - (b) The name of the defendant;

- (c) The office to which the defendant was declared elected;
- (d) The particular grounds of contest and the section of Nevada Revised Statutes pursuant to which the statement is filed; and
- (e) The date of the declaration of the result of the election and the body or board which canvassed the returns thereof.
- 3. The contestant shall verify the statement of contest in the manner provided for the verification of pleadings in civil actions.
- 4. All material regarding a contest filed by a contestant with the clerk of the district court must be filed in triplicate.
- 5. The contestant must notify the defendant that a statement of contest has been filed pursuant to this section.

Sec. 6.5. NRS 293.413 is hereby amended to read as follows:

- 293.413 1. [The] Except as otherwise provided in section 1.7 of this act, the statement of contest provided for in NRS 293.407 shall be filed with the clerk of the district court no later than 5 days after a recount is completed, and no later than 14 days after the election if no recount is demanded. The parties to a contest shall be denominated contestant and defendant.
- 2. The court shall set the matter for hearing not [less] *more* than 5 days [nor more than 10 days] after the filing of the statement of contest. Election contests shall take precedence over all regular business of the court in order that results of elections shall be determined as soon as practicable.
- 3. The court may refer the contest to a special master in the manner provided by the Nevada Rules of Civil Procedure, and such special master shall have all powers necessary for a proper determination of the contest.

Sec. 6.55. NRS 293.469 is hereby amended to read as follows: 293.469 Each county clerk is encouraged to:

- 1. Not later than the earlier date of the notice provided pursuant to NRS 293.203 or the first notice provided pursuant to subsection 3 of NRS 293.560, notify the public, through means designed to reach members of the public who are elderly or disabled, of the provisions of NRS 293.269911, 293.269951, 293.2955 and 293.296 [...] and section 1.5 of this act.
- 2. Provide in alternative audio and visual formats information concerning elections, information concerning how to preregister or register to vote and information concerning the manner of voting for use by a person who is elderly or disabled, including, without limitation, providing such information through a





telecommunications device that is accessible to a person who is deaf.

- 3. Not later than 5 working days after receiving the request of a person who is elderly or disabled, provide to the person, in a format that can be used by the person, any requested material that is:
 - (a) Related to elections; and

- (b) Made available by the county clerk to the public in printed form.
 - **Sec. 6.6.** NRS 293.504 is hereby amended to read as follows:
- 293.504 1. The following offices shall serve as voter registration agencies:
- (a) Such offices that provide public assistance as are designated by the Secretary of State;
- (b) Each office that receives money from the State of Nevada to provide services to persons with disabilities in this State;
 - (c) The offices of the Department of Motor Vehicles;
 - (d) The offices of the city and county clerks;
- (e) Such other county and municipal facilities as a county clerk or city clerk may designate pursuant to NRS 293.5035 or 293C.520, as applicable;
 - (f) Recruitment offices of the United States Armed Forces; and
- (g) Such other offices as the Secretary of State deems appropriate.
 - 2. Each voter registration agency shall:
- (a) Post in a conspicuous place, in at least 12-point type, instructions for preregistering and registering to vote;
- (b) Except as otherwise provided in subsection 3 and NRS 293.5732 to 293.5757, inclusive, distribute applications to preregister or register to vote which may be returned by mail with any application for services or assistance from the agency or submitted for any other purpose and with each application for recertification, renewal or change of address submitted to the agency that relates to such services, assistance or other purpose;
- (c) Provide the same amount of assistance to an applicant in completing an application to preregister or register to vote as the agency provides to a person completing any other forms for the agency; and
- (d) Accept completed applications to preregister or register to vote.
- 3. A voter registration agency is not required to provide an application to preregister or register to vote pursuant to paragraph (b) of subsection 2 to a person who applies for or receives services or assistance from the agency or submits an application for any other purpose if the person affirmatively declines to preregister or register to vote and submits to the agency a written form that meets





the requirements of 52 U.S.C. § 20506(a)(6). Information related to the declination to preregister or register to vote may not be used for

any purpose other than voter registration.

4. Except as otherwise provided in this subsection and NRS 293.5727 and 293.5747, any application to preregister or 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 last day to register to vote by mail pursuant to NRS 293.560 or 293C.527, as applicable. The county clerk shall accept any application which is obtained from a voter registration agency pursuant to this section and completed by the last day to register to vote by mail pursuant to NRS 293.560 or 293C.527, as applicable, if the county clerk receives the application not later than 5 days after that date.

- 5. A voter registration agency shall provide notice to a voter who submits an application to register to vote after the last day to register to vote by mail for an election pursuant to NRS 293.560 or 293C.527 that to vote in the upcoming election, the voter must complete an application to register to vote by computer using the system established by the Secretary of State pursuant to NRS 293.671 or in person pursuant to NRS 293.5772 to 293.5887, inclusive.
- **6.** 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 preregister or register to vote at recruitment offices of the United States Armed Forces.
- **Sec. 6.65.** NRS 293.5235 is hereby amended to read as follows:
- 293.5235 1. Except as otherwise provided in NRS 293.502 and chapter 293D of NRS, a person may preregister or register to vote by:
- (a) Mailing an application to preregister or register to vote to the county clerk of the county in which the person resides.
 - (b) A computer using:
- (1) The system established by the Secretary of State pursuant to NRS 293.671; or
- (2) A system established by the county clerk, if the county clerk has established a system pursuant to NRS 293.506 for using a computer to preregister or register to vote.
 - (c) Any other method authorized by the provisions of this title.
- 2. The county clerk shall, upon request, mail an application to preregister or register to vote to an applicant. The county clerk shall make the applications available at various public places in the county.





- 3. Except as otherwise provided in NRS 293.5772 to 293.5887, inclusive:
- (a) An application to preregister to vote may be used to correct information in a previous application.
- (b) An application to register to vote may be used to correct information in the registrar of voters' register.
- 4. An application to preregister or register to vote which is mailed to an applicant by the county clerk or made available to the public at various locations or voter registration agencies in the county may be returned to the county clerk by mail or in person. For the purposes of this section, an application which is personally delivered to the county clerk shall be deemed to have been returned by mail.
- 5. The applicant must complete the application, including, without limitation, checking the boxes described in paragraphs (b) and (c) of subsection 12 and signing the application.
- 6. The county clerk shall, upon receipt of an application, determine whether the application is complete.
- 7. If the county clerk determines that the application is complete, he or she shall, within 10 days after receiving the application, mail to the applicant:
- (a) A notice that the applicant is preregistered or registered to vote, as applicable. If the applicant is registered to vote, the county clerk must also mail to the applicant a voter registration card; or
- (b) A notice that the person's application to preregister to vote or the registrar of voters' register has been corrected to reflect any changes indicated on the application.
- 8. Except as otherwise provided in subsections 5 and 6 of NRS 293.518 and NRS 293.5767, if the county clerk determines that the application is not complete, the county clerk shall, as soon as possible, mail a notice to the applicant that additional information is required to complete the application. If the applicant provides the information requested by the county clerk within 15 days after the county clerk mails the notice, the county clerk shall, within 10 days after receiving the information, mail to the applicant:
 - (a) A notice that the applicant is:
 - (1) Preregistered to vote; or
 - (2) Registered to vote and a voter registration card; or
- (b) A notice that the person's application to preregister to vote or the registrar of voters' register has been corrected to reflect any changes indicated on the application.
- → If the applicant does not provide the additional information within the prescribed period, the application is void.
- 9. The applicant shall be deemed to be preregistered or registered or to have corrected the information in the application to





preregister to vote or the registrar of voters' register on the date the application is postmarked or received by the county clerk, whichever is earlier.

- 10. If the applicant fails to check the box described in paragraph (b) of subsection 12, the application shall not be considered invalid, and the county clerk shall provide a means for the applicant to correct the omission at the time the applicant appears to vote in person at the assigned polling place.
- 11. The Secretary of State shall prescribe the form for applications to preregister or register to vote by:
- (a) Mail, which must be used to preregister or register to vote by mail in this State.
- (b) Computer, which must be used to preregister or register to vote by computer using:
- (1) The system established by the Secretary of State pursuant to NRS 293.671; or
- (2) A system established by the county clerk, if the county clerk has established a system pursuant to NRS 293.506 for using a computer to preregister or register to vote.
- 12. The application to preregister or register to vote by mail must include:
 - (a) A notice in at least 10-point type which states:

NOTICE: You are urged to return your application to the County Clerk in person or by mail. If you choose to give your completed application to another person to return to the County Clerk on your behalf, and the person fails to deliver the application to the County Clerk, you will not be preregistered or registered to vote, as applicable. Please retain the duplicate copy or receipt from your application to preregister or register to vote.

(b) The question, "Are you a citizen of the United States?" and boxes for the applicant to check to indicate whether or not the applicant is a citizen of the United States.

(c) If the application is to:

- (1) Preregister to vote, the question, "Are you at least 17 years of age and not more than 18 years of age?" and boxes to indicate whether or not the applicant is at least 17 years of age and not more than 18 years of age.
- (2) Register to vote, the question, "Will you be at least 18 years of age on or before election day?" and boxes for the applicant to check to indicate whether or not the applicant will be at least 18 years of age or older on election day.





- (d) A statement instructing the applicant not to complete the application if the applicant checked "no" in response to the question set forth in:
- (1) If the application is to preregister to vote, paragraph (b) or subparagraph (1) of paragraph (c).

(2) If the application is to register to vote, paragraph (b) or

subparagraph (2) of paragraph (c).

(e) A statement informing the applicant that if the application is submitted by mail and the applicant is preregistering or registering to vote for the first time, the applicant must submit the information set forth in paragraph (a) of subsection 2 of NRS 293.2725 to avoid the requirements of subsection 1 of NRS 293.2725 upon voting for the first time.

(f) An option for an applicant to elect not to receive a mail ballot.

13. Except as otherwise provided in subsections 5 and 6 of NRS 293.518, the county clerk shall not preregister or register a person to vote pursuant to this section unless that person has provided all of the information required by the application.

- 14. The county clerk shall mail, by postcard, the notices required pursuant to subsections 7 and 8. If the postcard is returned to the county clerk by the United States Postal Service because the address is fictitious or the person does not live at that address, the county clerk shall attempt to determine whether the person's current residence is other than that indicated on the application to preregister or register to vote in the manner set forth in NRS 293.530.
- 15. A person who, by mail, preregisters or registers to vote pursuant to this section may be assisted in completing the application to preregister or register to vote by any other person. The application must include the mailing address and signature of the person who assisted the applicant. The failure to provide the information required by this subsection will not result in the application being deemed incomplete.
- 16. An application to preregister or register to vote must be made available to all persons, regardless of political party affiliation.
- 17. An application must not be altered or otherwise defaced after the applicant has completed and signed it. An application must be mailed or delivered in person to the office of the county clerk within 10 days after it is completed.
- 18. A person who willfully violates any of the provisions of subsection 15, 16 or 17 is guilty of a category E felony and shall be punished as provided in NRS 193.130.
- 19. The Secretary of State shall adopt regulations to carry out the provisions of this section.





Sec. 6.7. NRS 293.5307 is hereby amended to read as follows: 293.5307 If a county clerk enters into an agreement pursuant to NRS 293.5303, the county clerk shall review each notice of a change of address filed with the United States Postal Service by a resident of the county and identify each resident who is a registered voter and has moved to a new address. [Before removing or correcting information in the statewide voter registration list, the] *The* county clerk shall , *in accordance with 52 U.S.C. § 20507*, mail a notice to each such registered voter and follow the procedures set forth in NRS 293.530.

Sec. 6.75. NRS 293.5727 is hereby amended to read as follows:

- 293.5727 1. Except as otherwise provided in this section, the Department of Motor Vehicles shall provide an application to preregister or register to vote to each person who applies for the issuance or renewal of any type of driver's license or identification card issued by the Department.
- 2. The county clerk shall use the applications to preregister or register to vote which are signed and completed pursuant to subsection 1 to preregister or register an applicant to vote or to correct the preregistration or registration of the applicant, as applicable. An application that is not signed must not be used to preregister or register or correct the preregistration or registration of the applicant.
- 3. For the purposes of this section, each employee specifically authorized to do so by the Director of the Department may oversee the completion of an application. The authorized employee shall check the application for completeness and verify the information required by the application. Each application must include a duplicate copy or receipt to be retained by the applicant upon completion of the form. The Department shall, except as otherwise provided in this subsection, forward each application on a weekly basis to the county clerk or, if applicable, to the registrar of voters of the county in which the applicant resides. The applications must be forwarded daily during the 2 weeks immediately preceding the last day to register to vote by mail pursuant to NRS 293.560 or 293C.527, as applicable.
 - 4. The Department [is]:
- (a) Is not required to provide an application to register to vote pursuant to subsection 1 to a person who declines to apply to register to vote pursuant to this section and submits to the Department a written form that meets the requirements of 52 U.S.C. § 20506(a)(6). Information related to the declination to apply to register to vote must not be used for any purpose other than voter registration.





- (b) Shall provide notice to a voter who submits an application to register to vote after the last day to register to vote by mail in an election pursuant to NRS 293.560 or 293C.527 that to vote in the upcoming election, the voter must complete an application to register to vote by computer using the system established by the Secretary of State pursuant to NRS 293.671 or in person pursuant to NRS 293.5772 to 293.5887, inclusive.
 - 5. The county clerk shall accept any application to:
 - (a) Preregister to vote at any time.

- (b) Register to vote which is obtained from the Department of Motor Vehicles pursuant to this section and completed by the last day to register to vote by mail pursuant to NRS 293.560 or 293C.527, as applicable, if the county clerk receives the application not later than 5 days after that date.
- Upon receipt of an application, the county clerk or field registrar of voters shall determine whether the application is complete. If the county clerk or field registrar of voters determines that the application is complete, he or she shall notify the applicant and the applicant shall be deemed to be preregistered or registered as of the date of the submission of the application. If the county clerk or field registrar of voters determines that the application is not complete, he or she shall notify the applicant of the additional information required. The applicant shall be deemed to be preregistered or registered as of the date of the initial submission of the application if the additional information is provided within 15 days after the notice for the additional information is mailed. If the applicant has not provided the additional information within 15 days after the notice for the additional information is mailed, the incomplete application is void. Any notification required by this subsection must be given by mail at the mailing address on the application not more than 7 working days after the determination is made concerning whether the application is complete.
- 7. The county clerk shall use any form submitted to the Department to correct information on a driver's license or identification card to correct information on a previous application to preregister or register unless the person indicates on the form that the correction is not to be used for the purposes of preregistration or voter registration. The Department shall forward each such form to the county clerk or, if applicable, to the registrar of voters of the county in which the person resides in the same manner provided by subsection 3 for applications to preregister or register to vote.
- 8. Upon receipt of a form to correct information, the county clerk shall compare the information to that contained in the database created by the Secretary of State pursuant to NRS 293.675. The county clerk shall correct the information to reflect any changes





indicated on the form. After making any changes, the county clerk shall notify the person by mail that the records have been corrected.

- 9. The Secretary of State shall, with the approval of the Director, adopt regulations to:
- (a) Establish any procedure necessary to provide a person who applies to preregister to vote or an elector who applies to register to vote pursuant to this section the opportunity to do so;
- (b) Prescribe the contents of any forms or applications which the Department is required to distribute pursuant to this section; and
- (c) Provide for the transfer of the completed applications of preregistration or registration from the Department to the appropriate county clerk.
 - **Sec. 6.8.** NRS 293.755 is hereby amended to read as follows:
- 293.755 1. A person who tampers or interferes with, or attempts to tamper or interfere with, a mechanical voting system, mechanical voting device or any computer program used **[to count ballots]** to conduct an election with the intent to prevent the proper operation of that device, system or program is guilty of a category D felony and shall be punished as provided in NRS 193.130.
- 2. A person who tampers or interferes with, or attempts to tamper or interfere with, a mechanical voting system, mechanical voting device or any computer program used to **[count ballots]** conduct an election with the intent to influence the outcome of an election is guilty of a category B felony and shall be punished by imprisonment in the state prison for a minimum term of not less than 2 years and a maximum term of not more than 20 years.
- 3. The county or city clerk shall report any alleged violation of this section to the district attorney who shall cause appropriate proceedings to be instituted and prosecuted in a court of competent jurisdiction without delay.
 - **Sec. 6.9.** NRS 293.810 is hereby amended to read as follows:
- 293.810 *1*. It is unlawful for any person to be preregistered to vote or registered as a voter in more than one [county] *state* at one time.
- 2. If a county clerk receives information from another state that a person is registered to vote in that state, the county clerk shall, in accordance with 52 U.S.C. § 20507, mail a notice to each such registered voter and follow the procedures set forth in NRS 293.530 or 293.541, as applicable.
 - **Sec. 7.** NRS 293.875 is hereby amended to read as follows:
- 293.875 1. At least once each year, each county or city clerk and all members of their staff whose duties include administering an election must complete a training class on cybersecurity that is approved by the Secretary of State.





- 2. The Secretary of State shall adopt by regulation a cyber-incident response plan for elections. Each county and city clerk and other local election official is required to comply with the requirements of the cyber-incident response plan. If any county or city clerk or other local election official identifies or is informed of a confirmed [attack] cyber-incident or attempted [attack] cyber-incident on the security of an information system used by the county or city clerk or other local election official, the county or city clerk or other local election official shall [immediately] notify the Secretary of State regarding such [attack] cyber-incident or attempted [attack.] cyber-incident in accordance with the cyber-incident response plan adopted by the Secretary of State pursuant to this subsection.
- **Sec. 7.3.** NRS 293B.400 is hereby amended to read as follows: 293B.400 1. Except as otherwise provided in this section, if a recount is demanded pursuant to the provisions of NRS 293.403 *or section 1.7 of this act* or if an election is contested pursuant to NRS 293.407, *or section 1.7 of this act*, the county or city clerk shall ensure that each mechanical recording device which directly recorded votes electronically for the applicable election provides a record printed on paper of each ballot voted on that device.
- 2. In carrying out the requirements of this section, the county or city clerk shall:
 - (a) Print only the records required for the recount or contest; and
- (b) Collect those records and deposit them in the vaults of the county or city clerk pursuant to NRS 293.391 or 293C.390.
- **Sec. 7.6.** Chapter 293C of NRS is hereby amended by adding thereto a new section to read as follows:
- 1. The Secretary of State shall allow any registered voter to use the system of approved electronic transmission established pursuant to NRS 293D.200 to apply for and cast a ballot in every election where the system of approved electronic transmission is available to a covered voter to request and cast a military-overseas ballot if the registered voter does not have access to his or her mail ballot and is unable to go to the polls because:
- (a) Of an illness or disability resulting in confinement in a hospital, sanatorium, dwelling or nursing home; or
- (b) The registered voter is suddenly hospitalized, becomes seriously ill or is called away from home.
- 2. The deadlines for a registered voter to use the system of approved electronic transmission pursuant to subsection 1 to apply for and cast a ballot are the same as the deadlines set forth in NRS 293D.310 and 293D.400 for a covered voter to apply for and cast a military-overseas ballot.





3. Upon receipt of an application and ballot cast by a registered voter in accordance with subsection 1 using the system of approved electronic transmission established pursuant to NRS 293D.200, the local elections official shall affix, mark or otherwise acknowledge receipt of the application and ballot by means of a time stamp on the application.

4. The Secretary of State shall ensure that the registered voter may provide his or her digital signature or electronic signature on any document or other material that is necessary for the registered

voter to request and cast a ballot.

5. The Secretary of State shall prescribe the form and content of a declaration for use by a registered voter who does not have access to his or her mail ballot and is unable to go to the polls to swear or affirm specific representations pertaining to identity, eligibility to vote, status as a registered voter and timely and proper completion of a ballot.

6. The Secretary of State shall prescribe the duties of the city clerk upon receipt of a ballot sent by a registered voter using the system of approved electronic transmission pursuant to this section, including, without limitation, the procedures to be used in

accepting, handling and counting the ballot.

7. The Secretary of State shall make available to a registered voter using the system of approved electronic transmission pursuant to this section information regarding instructions on using the system for approved electronic transmission to apply for and cast a ballot.

- 8. The Secretary of State shall adopt any regulations necessary to carry out the provisions of this section.
 - 9. As used in this section:
- (a) "Covered voter" has the meaning ascribed to it in NRS 293D.030.
- (b) "Digital signature" has the meaning ascribed to it in NRS 720.060.
- (c) "Electronic signature" has the meaning ascribed to it in NRS 719.100.
- (d) "Military-overseas ballot" has the meaning ascribed to it in NRS 293D.050.
 - **Sec. 8.** NRS 293C.175 is hereby amended to read as follows:
- 293C.175 1. A primary city election must be held in each city of population category one, and in each city of population category two that has so provided by ordinance, on the second Tuesday in June of each even-numbered year, at which time there must be nominated candidates for offices to be voted for at the next general city election.





- 2. A candidate for an office to be voted for at the primary or general city election must file a declaration of candidacy with the city clerk not earlier than:
- (a) For the office of judge of a municipal court, the first Monday in January of the year in which the applicable election is to be held and not later than 5 p.m. on the second Friday after the first Monday in January.
- (b) For any other office, the first Monday in March of the year in which the applicable election is to be held and not later than 5 p.m. on the second Friday after the first Monday in March.
- 3. At the time that a candidate files a declaration of candidacy, the city clerk shall charge and collect from the candidate, and the candidate must pay to the city clerk, a filing fee in an amount fixed by the governing body of the city by ordinance or resolution. The filing fees collected by the city clerk must be deposited to the credit of the general fund of the city.
- 4. All candidates, except as otherwise provided in NRS 266.220, must be voted upon by the electors of the city at large.
- 5. If, in a primary city election held in a city of population category one or two, one candidate receives a majority of votes cast in that election for the office for which he or she is a candidate, the candidate must be declared elected to the office and the candidate's name must not be placed on the ballot for the general city election. If, in the primary city election, no candidate receives a majority of votes cast in that election for the office for which he or she is a candidate, the names of the two candidates receiving the highest number of votes must be placed on the ballot for the general city election. For the purposes of determining whether a candidate received a majority of the votes cast in the primary election for an office upon which voters were authorized to select more than one candidate, each ballot upon which a voter marked a valid choice for one or more candidates for that office shall be deemed to be one vote cast in the primary city election for that office.
 - **Sec. 9.** NRS 293C.195 is hereby amended to read as follows:
- 293C.195 A withdrawal of candidacy for a city office must be in writing and presented to the city clerk by the candidate in person within [2] 7 days, excluding Saturdays, Sundays and holidays, after the last day for filing a declaration of candidacy. If the withdrawal of candidacy is submitted in a timely manner pursuant to the provisions of this subsection, the withdrawal shall be deemed effective after the seventh day, excluding Saturdays, Sundays and holidays, after the last day for filing.
- **Sec. 9.2.** NRS 293C.263 is hereby amended to read as follows: 293C.263 1. Except as otherwise provided in this section, the city clerk shall prepare and distribute to each active registered voter





in the city and each person who registers to vote or updates his or her voter registration information not later than the 14 days before the election a mail ballot for every election. The city clerk shall make reasonable accommodations for the use of the mail ballot by a person who is elderly or disabled, including, without limitation, by providing, upon request, the mail ballot in 12-point type to a person who is elderly or disabled.

- 2. The city clerk shall allow a voter to elect not to receive a mail ballot pursuant to this section by submitting to the city clerk a written notice in the form prescribed by the city clerk which must be received by the city clerk not later than 60 days before the day of the election.
- 3. The city clerk shall not distribute a mail ballot to any person who:
- (a) Registers to vote for the election pursuant to the provisions of NRS 293.5772 to 293.5887, inclusive; [or]
- (b) Elects not to receive a mail ballot pursuant to subsection 2 [.]; or
- (c) Elects not to receive a mail ballot at the time the person preregistered or registered to vote.
- 4. The mail ballot must include all offices, candidates and measures upon which the voter is entitled to vote at the election.
- 5. Except as otherwise provided in subsections 2 and 3, the mail ballot must be distributed to:
 - (a) Each active registered voter who:
- (1) Resides within the State, not later than 20 days before the election; and
- (2) Except as otherwise provided in paragraph (b), resides outside the State, not later than 40 days before the election.
- (b) Each active registered voter who registers to vote after the dates set for distributing mail ballots pursuant to paragraph (a) but who is eligible to receive a mail ballot pursuant to subsection 1, not later than 13 days before the election.
- (c) Each covered voter who is entitled to have a military-overseas ballot transmitted pursuant to the provisions of chapter 293D of NRS or the Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act, 52 U.S.C. §§ 20301 et seq., not later than the time required by those provisions.
- 6. In the case of a special election where no candidate for federal office will appear on the ballot, the mail ballot must be distributed to each active registered voter not later than 15 days before the special election.
- 7. Any untimely legal action which would prevent the mail ballot from being distributed to any voter pursuant to this section is most and of no effect.





Sec. 9.6. (Deleted by amendment.)

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- **Sec. 9.8.** (Deleted by amendment.)
- **Sec. 10.** (Deleted by amendment.)
- **Sec. 10.2.** NRS 293C.362 is hereby amended to read as follows:
- 293C.362 1. [When] Mail ballots must be counted by the mail ballot central counting board pursuant to NRS 293C.26331.
- 2. Ballots cast using a mechanical voting system must not be counted until the polls are closed. [, the counting board shall prepare to count the ballots voted.] The counting procedure must be public and, to the extent practicable, continue without adjournment until completed.
- [2. If the ballots are paper ballots, the counting board shall prepare in the following manner:
- (a) The container that holds the ballots or the ballot box must be opened and the ballots contained therein counted by the counting board and opened far enough to determine whether each ballot is single. If two or more ballots are found folded together to present the appearance of a single ballot, they must be laid aside until the count of the ballots is completed. If a majority of the inspectors are of the opinion that the ballots folded together were voted by one person, the ballots must be rejected and placed in an envelope, upon which must be written the reason for their rejection. The envelope must be signed by the counting board officers and placed in the container or ballot box after the count is completed.
- (b) If the ballots in the container or box are found to exceed the number of names as are indicated on the roster as having voted, the ballots must be replaced in the container or box and a counting board officer shall, with his or her back turned to the container or box, draw out a number of ballots equal to the excess. The excess ballots must be marked on the back thereof with the words "Excess ballots not counted." The ballots when so marked must be immediately sealed in an envelope and returned to the city clerk with the other ballots rejected for any cause.
- (c) When it has been determined that the number of ballots agrees with the number of names of registered voters shown to have voted, the board shall proceed to count. If there is a discrepancy between the number of ballots and the number of voters, a record of the discrepancy must be made.]
- **Sec. 10.4.** NRS 293C.369 is hereby amended to read as follows:
- 293C.369 1. When counting a vote in an election, if more choices than permitted by the instructions for a ballot are marked for any office or question, the vote for that office or question may not





be counted [.] if the marks meet or exceed the threshold established by regulation pursuant to subsection 3.

- 2. Except as otherwise provided in subsection 1, in an election in which a mechanical voting system is used whereby a vote is cast by darkening a designated space on the ballot:
- (a) A vote must be counted if the designated space is darkened or there is a writing in the designated space, including, without limitation, a cross or check; and
- (b) Except as otherwise provided in paragraph (a), a writing or other mark on the ballot, including, without limitation, a cross, check, tear or scratch may not be counted as a vote [.] unless the writing or mark meets or exceeds the threshold established by regulation pursuant to subsection 3.
 - 3. The Secretary of State:

- (a) May adopt regulations establishing [additional]:
- (1) Additional uniform, statewide standards, not inconsistent with this section, for counting a vote cast by a method of voting described in subsection 2: and
- (2) Uniform thresholds for determining whether writing or a mark on a ballot must be counted as a vote; and
- (b) Shall adopt regulations establishing uniform, statewide standards for counting a vote cast by each method of voting used in this State that is not described in subsection 2, including, without limitation, a vote cast on a mechanical recording device which directly records the votes electronically.
- **Sec. 10.5.** NRS 293C.720 is hereby amended to read as follows:

293C.720 Each city clerk is encouraged to:

- 1. Not later than the earlier date of the first notice provided pursuant to subsection 3 of NRS 293.560 or NRS 293C.187, notify the public, through means designed to reach members of the public who are elderly or disabled, of the provisions of NRS 293C.263, 293C.281 and 293C.282 [...] and section 7.6 of this act.
- 2. Provide in alternative audio and visual formats information concerning elections, information concerning how to preregister or register to vote and information concerning the manner of voting for use by a person who is elderly or disabled, including, without limitation, providing such information through a telecommunications device that is accessible to a person who is deaf.
- 3. Not later than 5 working days after receiving the request of a person who is elderly or disabled, provide to the person, in a format that can be used by the person, any requested material that is:
 - (a) Related to elections; and





- (b) Made available by the city clerk to the public in printed form.
 - **Sec. 11.** NRS 293D.090 is hereby amended to read as follows: 293D.090 "Uniformed-service voter" means an elector who is:
 - 1. A member of the active or reserve components of the Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine Corps, [or] Coast Guard *or Space Force* of the United States who is on active duty;
 - 2. A member of the Merchant Marine, the Commissioned Corps of the Public Health Service or the Commissioned Corps of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration of the United States:
 - 3. A member of the National Guard or state militia unit who is on activated status; or
 - 4. A spouse or dependent of a person described in subsection 1, 2 or 3.
 - **Sec. 11.3.** NRS 294A.100 is hereby amended to read as follows:
 - 294A.100 1. A person shall not make or commit to make a contribution or contributions to a candidate for any office, except a federal office, in an amount which exceeds \$5,000 for the primary election, regardless of the number of candidates for the office, and \$5,000 for the general election, regardless of the number of candidates for the office, during the period:
 - (a) Beginning January 1 of the year immediately following the last general election for the office and ending December 31 immediately following the next general election for the office, if that office is a state, district, county or township office; or
 - (b) Beginning from 30 days after the last election for the office and ending 30 days after the next general city election for the office, if that office is a city office.
 - 2. A candidate shall not accept a contribution or commitment to make a contribution made in violation of subsection 1.
 - 3. No contribution made, committed to be made or accepted pursuant to this section to a candidate for a primary election, [or] general election or special election other than a special election to recall a public officer affects the limitations on the amount of contributions that may be committed, contributed or accepted pursuant to NRS 294A.115 for a special election to recall a public officer.
- 4. A person who willfully violates any provision of this section is guilty of a category E felony and shall be punished as provided in NRS 193.130.
- **Sec. 11.7.** NRS 298.055 is hereby amended to read as follows: 298.055 The *Secretary of State shall submit the* certificate of ascertainment [submitted] to the Archivist of the United States





pursuant to 3 U.S.C. § [6] 5. The certificate of ascertainment must include a statement that:

- 1. Each nominee for presidential elector shall serve as a presidential elector unless a vacancy occurs in the position of presidential elector held by that nominee for presidential elector before the conclusion of the meeting of presidential electors held pursuant to 3 U.S.C. § 7; and
- 2. If a person is appointed pursuant to NRS 298.065 to fill a vacancy in a position of presidential elector, the Secretary of State will submit an amended certificate of ascertainment to the Archivist.
- **Sec. 12.** Section 5.010 of the Charter of Carson City, being chapter 213, Statutes of Nevada 1969, as last amended by chapter 295, Statutes of Nevada 2015, at page 1481, is hereby amended to read as follows:

Sec. 5.010 Primary election.

- 1. A primary election must be held on the date fixed by the election laws of this state for statewide elections, at which time there must be nominated candidates for offices to be voted for at the next general election.
- 2. A candidate for any office to be voted for at any primary election must file a declaration of candidacy as provided by the election laws of this state.
- 3. All candidates for the office of Mayor and Supervisor, and candidates for the office of Municipal Judge if a third department of the Municipal Court has been established, must be voted upon by the registered voters of Carson City at large.
- 4. If only two persons file for a particular office, their names must not appear on the primary ballot but their names must be placed on the ballot for the general election.
- If in the primary election one candidate receives a majority of votes cast in that election for the office for which he or she is a candidate, the candidate must be declared elected to the office and his or her name must not be placed on the ballot for the general election. If in the primary election no candidate receives a majority of votes cast in that election for the office for which he or she is a candidate, the names of the two candidates receiving the highest numbers of votes must be placed on the ballot for the general election. For the purposes of determining whether a candidate received a majority of the votes cast in the primary election for an office for which voters were authorized to select more than one candidate, each ballot upon which a voter marked a valid choice for one or more candidates for that office shall be deemed to be one vote cast in the primary election for that office.



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Sec. 13. Section 5.010 of the Charter of the City of Henderson, being chapter 266, Statutes of Nevada 1971, as last amended by chapter 558, Statutes of Nevada 2019, at page 3553, is hereby amended to read as follows:

Sec. 5.010 Primary municipal election.

- 1. A primary municipal election must be held:
- (a) On the first Tuesday after the first Monday in April 2019; and
- (b) Beginning in 2022, on the second Tuesday in June of each even-numbered year,
- → at which time there must be nominated candidates for offices to be voted for at the next general municipal election.
- 2. A candidate for any office to be voted for at any primary municipal election must file a declaration of candidacy as provided by the election laws of this State.
- 3. All candidates for elective office must be voted upon by the registered voters of the City at large.
- 4. If in the primary municipal election no candidate receives a majority of votes cast in that election for the office for which he or she is a candidate, the names of the two candidates receiving the highest number of votes must be placed on the ballot for the general municipal election. If in the primary municipal election, regardless of the number of candidates for an office, one candidate receives a majority of votes cast in that election for the office for which he or she is a candidate, he or she must be declared elected and no general municipal election need be held for that office. Such candidate shall enter upon his or her respective duties at:
- (a) If the primary municipal election was held in 2019, the second regular meeting of the City Council held in June 2019.
- (b) If the primary municipal election was held on the second Tuesday of June of an even-numbered year, the first regular meeting of the City Council held in January of the year following the primary municipal election.
- 5. For the purposes of determining whether a candidate received a majority of the votes cast in the primary municipal election for an office for which voters were authorized to select more than one candidate, each ballot upon which a voter marked a valid choice for one or more candidates for that office shall be deemed to be one vote cast in the primary municipal election for that office.

Sec. 14. Section 5.010 of the Charter of the City of Henderson, being chapter 266, Statutes of Nevada 1971, as last amended by





chapters 350 and 558, Statutes of Nevada 2019, at pages 2179 and 3553, respectively, is hereby amended to read as follows:

Sec. 5.010 Primary municipal election.

- 1. A primary municipal election must be held:
- (a) On the first Tuesday after the first Monday in April 2019; and
- (b) Beginning in 2022, on the second Tuesday in June of each even-numbered year,
- → at which time there must be nominated candidates for offices to be voted for at the next general municipal election.
- 2. A candidate for any office to be voted for at any primary municipal election must file a declaration of candidacy as provided by the election laws of this State.
- 3. All candidates for elective office, other than candidates for the office of Council Member, must be voted upon by the registered voters of the City at large.
- 4. A candidate for the office of Council Member must be voted upon only by the registered voters of the ward that he or she seeks to represent.
- 5. If in the primary municipal election no candidate receives a majority of votes cast in that election for the office for which he or she is a candidate, the names of the two candidates receiving the highest number of votes must be placed on the ballot for the general municipal election. If in the primary municipal election, regardless of the number of candidates for an office, one candidate receives a majority of votes cast in that election for the office for which he or she is a candidate, he or she must be declared elected and no general municipal election need be held for that office. Such candidate shall enter upon his or her respective duties at:
- (a) If the primary municipal election was held in 2019, the second regular meeting of the City Council held in June 2019.
- (b) If the primary municipal election was held on the second Tuesday of June of an even-numbered year, the first regular meeting of the City Council held in January of the year following the primary municipal election.
- 6. For the purposes of determining whether a candidate received a majority of the votes cast in the primary municipal election for an office for which voters were authorized to select more than one candidate, each ballot upon which a voter marked a valid choice for one or more candidates for that office shall be deemed to be one vote cast in the primary municipal election for that office.





Sec. 15. Section 5.010 of the Charter of the City of Las Vegas, being chapter 517, Statutes of Nevada 1983, as last amended by chapter 558, Statutes of Nevada 2019, at page 3558, is hereby amended to read as follows:

Sec. 5.010 Primary municipal elections.

- 1. A primary municipal election must be held in the City:
- (a) On the first Tuesday after the first Monday in April 2019; and
- (b) Beginning in 2022, on the second Tuesday in June of each even-numbered year.
 - 2. In the primary municipal elections:
- (a) The candidates for Council Member who are to be nominated must be nominated and voted for separately according to the respective wards.
- (b) If the City Council has established an additional department or departments of the Municipal Court pursuant to section 4.010 and, as a result, more than one office of Municipal Judge is to be filled at any election, the candidates for those offices must be nominated and voted upon separately according to the respective departments.
- 3. Each candidate for municipal office must file a declaration of candidacy with the City Clerk. All filing fees collected by the City Clerk must be paid into the City Treasury.
- 4. If, in the primary municipal election, regardless of the number of candidates for an office, one candidate receives a majority of votes which are cast in that election for the office for which he or she is a candidate, he or she must be declared elected for the term which commences on the day of the first regular meeting of the City Council next succeeding the meeting at which the canvass of the returns is made, and no general municipal election need be held for that office. If, in the primary municipal election, no candidate receives a majority of votes which are cast in that election for the office for which he or she is a candidate, the names of the two candidates who receive the highest number of votes must be placed on the ballot for the general municipal election.
- 5. For the purposes of determining whether a candidate received a majority of the votes cast in the primary municipal election for an office for which voters were authorized to select more than one candidate, each ballot upon which a voter marked a valid choice for one or more candidates for that office shall be deemed to be one vote cast in the primary municipal election for that office.





Sec. 16. Section 5.020 of the Charter of the City of North Las Vegas, being chapter 573, Statutes of Nevada 1971, as last amended by chapter 558, Statutes of Nevada 2019, at page 3562, is hereby amended to read as follows:

Sec. 5.020 Primary municipal elections; declaration of candidacy.

- 1. The City Council shall provide by ordinance for candidates for elective office to declare their candidacy and file the necessary documents. The seats for City Council Members must be designated by the numbers one through four, which numbers must correspond with the wards the candidates for City Council Members will seek to represent. A candidate for the office of City Council Member shall include in his or her declaration of candidacy the number of the ward which he or she seeks to represent. Each candidate for City Council must be designated as a candidate for the City Council seat that corresponds with the ward that he or she seeks to represent.
 - 2. A primary municipal election must be held:
- (a) On the Tuesday following the first Monday in April 2019; and
- (b) Beginning in 2022, on the second Tuesday in June of each even-numbered year.
 - 3. In the primary municipal election:
- (a) A candidate for the office of City Council Member must be voted upon only by the registered voters of the ward that he or she seeks to represent.
- (b) Candidates for all other elective offices must be voted upon by the registered voters of the City at large.
- 4. Except as otherwise provided in subsection 5, after the primary municipal election, the names of the two candidates who receive the highest number of votes must be placed on the ballot for the general municipal election.
- 5. If, regardless of the number of candidates for an office, one candidate receives a majority of the total votes cast for that office in the primary municipal election, he or she must be declared elected to that office and no general municipal election need be held for that office. For the purposes of determining whether a candidate received a majority of the votes cast in the primary municipal election for an office for which voters were authorized to select more than one candidate, each ballot upon which a voter marked a valid choice for one or more candidates for that office shall be deemed to be one vote cast in the primary municipal election for that office.





Sec. 17. Section 5.020 of the Charter of the City of Sparks, being chapter 470, Statutes of Nevada 1975, as last amended by chapter 158, Statutes of Nevada 2021, at page 716, is hereby amended to read as follows:

Sec. 5.020 Primary elections.

1. At the primary election:

- (a) Candidates for the offices of Mayor, City Attorney and Municipal Judge must be voted upon by the registered voters of the City at large.
- (b) Candidates to represent a ward as a member of the City Council must be voted upon by the registered voters of the ward to be represented by them.
- 2. If at 5 p.m. on the last day for filing a declaration of candidacy:
- (a) There is only one candidate who has filed for nomination for an office, that candidate must be declared elected to the office and no election may be held for that office.
- (b) Except as otherwise provided in paragraph (a), not more than twice the number of candidates to be elected have filed for nomination for an office, the names of those candidates must be omitted from all ballots for a primary election and placed on all ballots for a general election.
- (c) More than twice the number of candidates to be elected have filed for nomination for an office, the names of the candidates must be placed on the ballot for the primary election.
 - 3. If at the primary election:
- (a) One candidate receives the majority of votes cast in the election for the office for which he or she is a candidate, he or she must be declared elected to the office and no general election need be held for that office.
- (b) No candidate receives the majority of votes cast in the election for the office for which he or she is a candidate, the names of the two candidates who receive the highest number of votes must be placed on the ballot for the general election.
- For the purposes of determining whether a candidate received a majority of the votes cast in the primary election for an office for which voters were authorized to select more than one candidate, each ballot upon which a voter marked a valid choice for one or more candidates for that office shall be deemed to be one vote cast in the primary election for that office.





- **Sec. 17.3** Section 22 of chapter 555, Statutes of Nevada 2021, at page 3866, is hereby amended to read as follows:
 - Sec. 22. NRS 293.5747 is hereby amended to read as follows:
 - 293.5747 1. An automatic voter registration agency is required to electronically transmit the following information of a person to the Secretary of State and county clerk using the system established pursuant to NRS 293.5732:
 - (a) An electronic facsimile of the signature of the person, if the automatic voter registration agency is capable of recording, storing and transmitting to the county clerk an electronic facsimile of the signature of the person;
 - (b) The first or given name and the surname of the person;
 - (c) The address at which the person actually resides as set forth in NRS 293.486 and, if different, the address at which the person may receive mail, including, without limitation, a post office box or general delivery;
 - (d) The date of birth of the person;
 - (e) At least one of the following:
 - (1) The number indicated on the person's current and valid driver's license or identification card issued by the Department of Motor Vehicles; or
 - (2) The last four digits of the person's social security number; and
 - (f) A description of the documentation presented to the automatic voter registration agency that indicates the person is a citizen of the United States.
 - 2. Except as otherwise provided in section 3 of this act, the automatic voter registration agency shall electronically transmit to the Secretary of State and the appropriate county clerk the information described in subsection 1:
 - (a) Except as otherwise provided in paragraph (b), not later than 5 working days after collecting the information; and
 - (b) During the 2 weeks immediately preceding the fifth Sunday preceding an election, not later than 1 working day after collecting the information.
 - 3. An automatic voter registration agency shall provide notice to a voter who submits an application to register to vote after the last day to register to vote by mail for an election pursuant to NRS 293.560 or 293C.527 that to vote in the upcoming election, the voter must complete an application to register to vote by computer using the system established by the Secretary of State pursuant to





NRS 293.671 or in person pursuant to NRS 293.5772 to 293.5887, inclusive.

- **Sec. 17.7.** Section 36 of chapter 555, Statutes of Nevada 2021, at page 3876, is hereby amended to read as follows:
 - Sec. 36. 1. This section becomes effective upon passage and approval.
 - 2. Sections 32.3 and 32.7 of this act become effective on July 1, 2021.
 - 3. Sections 1 to 32, inclusive, and 33, 34 and 35 of this act become effective:
 - (a) Upon passage and approval for the purpose of adopting regulations and performing any other preparatory administrative tasks that are necessary to carry out the provisions of this act; and
 - (b) On January 1, [2024,] 2025, for all other purposes.
- **Sec. 18.** 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. 19.** NRS 293.365, 293.423, 293.567 and 293C.365 are hereby repealed.
- **Sec. 20.** 1. This section becomes effective upon passage and approval.
- 2. Sections 1 to 12, inclusive, and 15 to 19, inclusive, of this act become effective on July 1, 2023.
- 3. Section 13 of this act becomes effective on July 1, 2023, if the question set forth in subsection 2 of section 5 of Assembly Bill No. 282 of the 2019 Legislative Session, chapter 350, Statutes of Nevada 2019, at page 2181, is not approved and ratified by the registered voters of the City of Henderson at the 2022 General Election.
- 4. Section 14 of this act becomes effective on July 1, 2023, if the question set forth in subsection 2 of section 5 of Assembly Bill No. 282 of the 2019 Legislative Session, chapter 350, Statutes of Nevada 2019, at page 2181, is approved and ratified by the registered voters of the City of Henderson at the 2022 General Election.

LEADLINES OF REPEALED SECTIONS

293.365 Accounting for all paper ballots before counting of votes begins.

293.423 Recount of ballots at hearing of contest.





293.567 Number of registered voters in county to be transmitted by county clerk to Secretary of State before certain elections.

293C.365 Accounting for all paper ballots before counting of votes begins.





