Nevada Legislature
LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL BUREAU

RESEARCH DIVISION

SENATE COMMITTEE ON LEGISLATIVE OPERATIONS AND ELECTIONS

COMMITTEE BRIEF

February 25, 2025

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INTRODUCTION

During the 2025 Legislative Session, the Senate Committee on Legislative Operations and Elections will consider bills and resolutions on topics related primarily to elections, ethics, constitutional amendments, and legislative business. This Committee Brief discusses bill statistics and highlights topics expected to be heard by this Committee during the next several months.

Staff services for the Committee during the 2025 Legislative Session are provided by the following individuals:

- Pepper Sturm, Committee Policy Analyst, Research Division, Legislative Counsel Bureau (LCB);
- Kelsey DeLozier, Committee Counsel, Legal Division, LCB;
- Ann Standley, Committee Manager;
- Barbara Young, Committee Secretary;
- Suzanne Efford, Committee Secretary; and
- Kaci Kerfeld, Research Policy Assistant, Research Division, LCB.

JURISDICTION OF THE COMMITTEE

Bills are referred to the Committee by a vote of the Senate according to guidelines prepared by Senate leadership. In general, the jurisdictions of both the Senate and Assembly Committees on Legislative Operations and Elections are parallel. In addition to election issues, the Committee will consider measures proposing interim studies and those bills amending permanent statutory committees. Moreover, measures regarding the following issues will likely be addressed: (1) legislative business and the LCB; (2) proposed amendments to the *Nevada Constitution*; and (3) certain resolutions expressing the opinion of the Legislature or urging action by the United States Congress. Topics typically considered by the Committee include:

- Campaign practices;
- Constitutional amendments;
- Elections;
- Ethics in government;
- Initiative and referendum petitions;
- State printing and publications;
- Statutory revisions
- The Commission on Uniform State Laws;
- The Nevada Legislature; and
- The State personnel system.

The table below shows the general jurisdiction of the Committee by *Nevada Revised Statutes* (NRS) title and chapter number as set forth in Senate Rule 40 of the 2025 Legislative Session.

NRS Title	NRS Chapter	Description
17—State Legislative Department	218A	Legislative Department Generally
	218B	Legislative Districts
	218C	Legislators' Retirement
	218D	Legislative Measures and Procedures
	218E	Legislative Investigations and Hearings; Legislative Commission and Other Committees
	218F	Legislative Counsel Bureau
	218G	Legislative Audits
	218H	Lobbying
	219	Commissioners on Uniform State Laws
	219A	Nevada Youth Legislature
	220	Revision of Statutes
23—Public Officers and Employees	281	General Provisions
	281A	Ethics in Government
	282	Official Bonds and Oaths
	283	Resignations, Vacancies and Removals
	284	State Human Resources System
	285	Awards to State Employees
24—Elections	293	Elections
	293B	Mechanical Voting Systems or Devices
	293C	City Elections
	293D	Uniformed Military and Overseas Absentee Voters Act
	294A	Campaign Practices
	295	Certain State and Local Ballot Questions
	298	Presidential Electors and Elections
	304	Election of United States Senators and Representatives
	306	Recall of Public Officers
29—State Printing and Publications	344	State Printing
	345	State Publications

*Partial jurisdiction of Title 23 of NRS. The remaining chapters of Title 23 are under the jurisdiction of the Senate Committee on Government Affairs.

Bills with significant fiscal impact may be concurrently referred to this Committee and the Senate Finance Committee. Although the Assembly and Senate Committees on Legislative Operations and Elections are referred many of the same measures, their jurisdictions are not always identical.

Additionally, since bills relating to carrying out the business of the Legislature are exempt from calendar deadlines (Joint Standing Rule 14.6), the Assembly and Senate Committees on Legislative Operations and Elections may be busier than other committees after the deadline for second house committee passage (May 16, 2025).

SENATE COMMITTEE ON LEGISLATIVE OPERATIONS AND ELECTIONS BILL STATISTICS FROM PREVIOUS SESSIONS

To help illustrate the Committee's potential workload, it is helpful to review bill statistics from previous legislative sessions. The table below highlights bill activity from the past nine legislative sessions:

Legislative Session	Total Bills and Resolutions Received	Senate Bills and Resolutions	Assembly Bills and Resolutions	Bills and Resolutions Reported to the Governor/Filed With the Secretary of State and Signed	Bills Vetoed by the Governor
2007	83	52	31	39	0
2009	59	36	23	30	3
2011	74	36	38	48	10
2013	55	37	18	28	4
2015	71	47	24	33	0
2017	70	45	25	41	4
2019	57	32	25	41	2
2021	47	29	18	29	1
2023	54	31	23	30	8*

*Five vetoed bills from the 2023 Session will be returned to the 2025 Session for consideration of an override:

- Assembly Bill 242 revises provisions relating to elections (Veto Message for AB 242);
- Assembly Bill 243 revises provisions relating to legislative affairs (Veto Message for AB 243);
- Assembly Bill 246 revises provisions governing elections (Veto Message for AB 246);
- Senate Bill 60 revises provisions relating to campaign practices (Veto Message for SB 60); and
- Senate Bill 443 revises provisions relating to voter registration (Veto Message for SB 443).

For a list of all measures referred to the Committee in 2023, view the bill status webpage of the 2023 Senate Committee on Legislative Operations and Elections on the Nevada Electronic Legislative Information System (NELIS).

MAJOR ISSUES CONSIDERED IN 2023

This Committee considered numerous bills and resolutions proposing interim studies for the 2023–2024 Legislative Interim, bills regarding legislative functions and operations, and joint resolutions proposing to amend the *Nevada Constitution* or urging action on various federal and State activities and issues.

Additionally, the Committee considered and approved measures addressing the following election-related topics:

- Campaign practices;

- Election administrators;
- Election security;
- Language access in elections;
- Mail ballots and ballot drop boxes;
- Qualifications for certain public offices;
- The interim structure of the Nevada Legislature;
- Voter registration; and
- Voting.

CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENTS

Three joint resolutions to amend the *Nevada Constitution* were approved by the Legislature in 2023 and have been returned to the 2025 Session. If they are passed by the Legislature in identical form this session, they will be placed on the 2026 General Election ballot. The resolutions are:

- **Assembly Joint Resolution 5**, which proposes to amend the *Nevada Constitution* to revise provisions relating to lotteries and the sale of lottery tickets;
- **Assembly Joint Resolution 6**, which proposes to amend the *Nevada Constitution* to adopt the National Popular Vote Compact; and
- **Senate Joint Resolution 7**, which proposes to amend the *Nevada Constitution* to establish certain rights relating to reproductive health.

BALLOT QUESTIONS

Three measures from the 2021 Session were considered by this Committee in 2023 and were placed on the 2024 General Election ballot:

- Assembly Joint Resolution 1 (2021) amends the *Nevada Constitution* to add and revise terms relating to persons with certain conditions for whose benefit certain public entities are supported by the State (State Question 2);
- Assembly Joint Resolution 10 (2021) amends the *Ordinance of the Nevada Constitution* and the *Nevada Constitution* to remove language authorizing the use of slavery and involuntary servitude as a criminal punishment (State Question 4); and
- Senate Joint Resolution 7 (2021) amends the *Nevada Constitution* to remove the constitutional provisions governing the election and duties of the Board of Regents of the State University and to authorize the Legislature to provide by statute for the governance of the State University and for the auditing of public institutions of higher education in this State (State Question 1).

State Questions 2 and 4 passed, both with over 60 percent of the vote, and have become law. State Question 1 failed to pass, with 54.56 percent of voters in opposition.

The 2023 Legislature also enacted SB 428, which required the submission of a question to voters at the 2024 General Election of whether the Sales and Use Tax Act of 1955 should be amended to provide an exemption to sales and use taxes for all types of child and adult diapers. The question appeared as Question 5 on the ballot and passed with 68.5 percent of the vote.

Question 3, a 2022 initiative petition that would have become law if approved by voters at the 2024 General Election, proposed amending the *Nevada Constitution* to establish open primary elections and ranked-choice voting in general elections for the offices of the Governor, congressional representatives, state constitutional officers, and state legislators. Though 52.94 percent of voters approved of Question 3 in 2022, only 47.04 percent of voters approved of the measure in 2024.

Additionally, voters passed two initiative petitions at the 2024 General Election that will return to the 2026 General Election, where they must pass again before the proposed constitutional amendments take effect:

- Initiative Petition C-05-2023 amends the *Nevada Constitution* to create a constitutional right to abortion. The initiative petition appeared as Question 6 on the ballot and passed with 64.36 percent of the vote; and
- Initiative Petition C-02-2023 amends the *Nevada Constitution* to require in-person Nevada voters to present identification and mail ballot voters to provide certain information in order to cast a legal ballot. The initiative petition appeared as Question 7 on the ballot and passed with 73.23 percent of the vote.

2023–2024 JOINT INTERIM STANDING COMMITTEE ON LEGISLATIVE OPERATIONS AND ELECTIONS

Established in 2021 by AB 443, the Joint Interim Standing Committee on Legislative Operations and Elections held five meetings over the course of the 2023–2024 Interim that addressed several topics relating to legislative operations and elections, including:

- Election workers;
- Ethics in government;
- Language access in elections;
- Legislative modernization;
- The 2024 elections, including the presidential preference primary election;
- The Effective Absentee System for Elections;
- The interim structure of the Nevada Legislature;
- Voter registration, including automatic voter registration and the implementation and planning of the statewide voter registration system;
- Voting by members of tribal nations, eligible people in Nevada's detention facilities, and unhoused individuals; and
- Voting systems.

At its final meeting and work session, the Committee approved proposals for six bill draft requests (BDRs) to be considered by the 2025 Legislature, as follows:

1. BDR 24–360—Revises provisions relating to voter registration;
2. BDR 24–361—Establishes a filing fee for candidates at a presidential preference primary election;
3. BDR 24–362—Revises provisions relating to elections workers;

4. BDR 20–363—Authorizes any county to create an office of registrar of voters;
5. BDR 24–364—Makes various changes relating to language access in elections; and
6. BDR 17–365—Revises provisions relating to legislative affairs.

For more information on the Committee's activities, discussion of testimony, and suggested legislation, view: *Bulletin 25-9: Joint Interim Standing Committee on Legislative Operations and Elections* (2025).

PREFILED BILLS FOR THE 2025 SESSION

The following bills were prefiled and referred to the Assembly and Senate Committees on Legislative Operations and Elections:

Senate Measure	Summary
SB 73	Revises provisions relating to elections. (BDR 24–455)
SB 74	Revises provisions relating to elections. (BDR 24–482)
SB 100	Revises provisions relating to elections. (BDR 24-197)
SB 102	Revises provisions relating to elections. (BDR 24-90)
SB 103	Revises provisions relating to mail ballots. (BDR 24-56)
SB 109	Revises provisions governing legislative measures that are authorized to be requested for a regular legislative session. (BDR 17-27)
SB 122	Revises provisions relating to elections. (BDR 24-606)
SB 143	Revises provisions relating to natural resources. (BDR 17-10)
SB 144	Revises provisions governing financial disclosure statements filed by certain public officers and candidates for public office. (BDR 23-176)
SJR 1	Urges Congress to enact legislation allowing the surviving spouse of a veteran to receive the military retirement pay of the veteran after the veteran's death. (BDR R-55)
SJR 3	Urges Congress to call a convention of the states to propose certain amendments to the United States Constitution. (BDR R-546)
SJR 5	Proposes to amend the Nevada Constitution to enact various government reforms. (BDR C-223)
Assembly Measure	**Summary**
AB 73	Establishes requirements for certain communications relating to an election. (BDR 24–487)

AB 79	Revises provisions relating to campaign finance. (BDR 24–483)
AB 92	Revises provisions relating to elections. (BDR 24–101)
AB 123	Revises provisions relating to elections communications. (BDR 24–733)
AB 124	Revises provisions relating to public office. (BDR 24–829)
AB 147	Requires proof of identity to vote. (BDR 24-624)
AB 148	Revises provisions relating to elections. (BDR 24-770)
AJR 2	Proposes to amend the Nevada Constitution to require that the language of a bill or joint resolution be made available to the public for at least 72 hours before a House may vote on the final passage of the bill or joint resolution. (BDR C–20)
AJR 3	Revises provisions relating to the Legislature. (BDR C-21)
AJR 4	Revises provisions relating to the legislative process. (BDR C-22)
AJR 5	Revises provisions relating to redistricting. (BDR C-802)
AJR 6	Urges Congress to extend the Social Security Fairness Act. (BDR R-32)
AJR 7	Proposes to amend the Nevada Constitution to revise provisions relating to the compensation of certain elected officers. (BDR C-654)

POSSIBLE ISSUES FOR THE 2025 SESSION

Elections Generally—Topics of interest include campaign finance, election certification, election security, election workers, mail-in ballots, and voting systems.

Ethics—The Commission on Ethics is responsible for enforcing the provisions of Chapter 281A of NRS.

Legislative Operations—Proposals relating to legislative operations include proposed interim studies, the interim committee structure of the Legislature, the allocation of legislative measures, the conducting of legislative business, and statements of interest or concern to the Nevada Legislature.

State Personnel—Topics include contracts for certain public employment, salaries of certain public employees, recruitment practices, harassment, and discrimination against State employees.

Voter Registration—Issues may include those relating to the implementation of automatic voter registration and the statewide voter registration database, as well as the maintenance of voter registration rolls and same-day voter registration.

PUBLICATIONS

The Research Division prepares publications on many major policy areas and current topics. In addition, publications providing background and historical information are available on the Research Division's website.

Three election-related publications were released by the Research Division, including:

- *Nevada's Election Process: Voter Registration*;
- *Nevada's Election Process: Voting in an Election*; and
- *Nevada's Election Process: After the Vote*.

CONCLUDING REMARKS

The mission of the Research Division is to serve the Nevada Legislature and its standing and interim committees—in a professional and nonpartisan manner—by providing policy analysis and research, assistance to constituents, and information to the public. The Research Division is available to provide the Committee and its members with assistance on any issue related to matters before the Committee.

In addition, the Research Division provides individual members of the Legislature with information and assistance, on a confidential basis, on any topic. The Research Division is located on the first floor of the Sedway Office Building and may be reached at (775) 684-6825 or at research@lcb.state.nv.us. The Research Division also maintains an office in Room 1122 of the Legislative Building.