



Connecting People to Policy

HOW STATEWIDE QUESTIONS QUALIFY FOR THE BALLOT

JOINT INTERIM STANDING COMMITTEE ON LEGISLATIVE OPERATIONS
AND ELECTIONS

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ISSUES ARE PLACED ON THE BALLOT IN TWO PRIMARY WAYS:

LEGISLATIVE REFERRAL

- An amendment to the *Nevada Constitution* proposed by the Legislature

Section 1 of Article 16 of the *Nevada Constitution*

CITIZEN INITIATIVE AND REFERENDUM PETITIONS

- Initiative petition to amend the *Nevada Constitution* (constitutional initiative)
- Initiative petition to enact a new law or amend an existing law (statutory initiative)*
- Referendum petition to approve or disapprove of an existing law

Article 19 of the *Nevada Constitution*

**Placed on ballot if rejected or not acted upon by the Legislature*

INITIATIVE AND REFERENDUM PROCESS

- File a copy of the initiative or referendum and a [notice of intent to circulate](#) with the Secretary of State
- Circulate the petition to collect signatures from a number of registered Nevada voters equal to 10 percent or more of the total number of voters at the last preceding general election → **102,362 signatures** for 2024 petitions
 - Equal number of signatures must be collected from each [petition district](#)
- Signature verification by county clerks of the counties in which the petition was circulated
- If a petition receives the required number of valid signatures, the petition is added to the ballot or transmitted to the Legislature, as appropriate

INITIATIVE AND REFERENDUM CIRCULATION PERIODS

Type of petition	First day to file copy of petition with SOS prior to circulation <i>(Article 19 of the Nevada Constitution)</i>	Last day to submit signatures for verification <i>(NRS 295.056)</i>	Total circulation period
Statutory Initiative	January 1 of the year before the regular session of the Legislature	15 th day following the general election	About 11 months Jan 2, 2024 – Nov 20, 2024
Constitutional Initiative	September 1 of the year before the general election	15 th day following the primary election	About 10 months Sept 1, 2023 – Jun 26, 2024
Referendum	August 1 of the year before the general election	15 th day following the primary election	About 11 months Aug 1, 2023 – Jun 26, 2024

FINAL APPROVAL OF BALLOT MEASURES

- **Legislative proposals to amend the *Nevada Constitution***: After passing two consecutive Legislatures in identical form, must be approved by voters in a general election
- **Constitutional initiatives**: Must be approved by voters in two subsequent general elections
- **Referendums**: Must be approved by voters in a general election
- ***Statutory initiatives**: If the Legislature does not enact the initiative without change within 40 days from when the regular session of the Legislature convenes, the question is submitted to the voters at the next general election for approval or disapproval
 - If the Legislature amends the initiative (and it is passed by the Legislature and signed by the Governor), both versions of the initiative will be added to the ballot at the next general election and the initiative with the highest number of votes in favor will become law

2024 STATEWIDE BALLOT QUESTIONS

LEGISLATIVE REFERRALS

- **Question 1** ([SJR 7](#) [2021]): Proposes to amend 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.
- **Question 2** ([AJR 1](#) [2021]): Proposes to amend 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.
- **Question 4** ([AJR 10](#) [2021]): Proposes to amend 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.
- **Question 5** ([SB 428](#) [2023]): Proposes to amend the Sales and Use Tax Act of 1955 to provide an exemption from the tax for child and adult diapers.

CITIZEN INITIATIVE AND REFERENDUM PETITIONS

- **Question 3** (approved by voters in 2022): Proposes to amend the *Nevada Constitution* to implement open primary elections and ranked choice voting.
- **2024 Initiative Petition** proposing to amend the *Nevada Constitution* to provide individuals with the fundamental right to abortion.
- **2024 Initiative Petition** proposing to amend the *Nevada Constitution* to require in-person voters to provide valid photo identification and for mail voters to provide a personally identifiable number alongside their signature.

ADDITIONAL RESOURCES

- 2024 Petitions & General Election Ballot Questions
 - <https://www.nvsos.gov/sos/elections/2024-petitions>
- Initiative & Referendum Guide
 - <https://www.nvsos.gov/sos/home/showpublisheddocument/8396/638265826815102355>