ASSEMBLY BILL NO. 235–COMMITTEE ON ELECTIONS, PROCEDURES, AND ETHICS

MARCH 4, 2003

Referred to Committee on Elections, Procedures, and Ethics

SUMMARY—Provides Voters' Bill of Rights. (BDR 24-270)

FISCAL NOTE: Effect on Local Government: Yes. Effect on the State: Yes.

CONTAINS UNFUNDED MANDATE (§ 4) (NOT REQUESTED BY AFFECTED LOCAL GOVERNMENT)

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

AN ACT relating to elections; providing a Voters' Bill of Rights; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

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 2, 3 and 4 of this act.

Sec. 2. Section 3 of this act may be cited as the Voters' Bill of Rights.

Sec. 3. The Legislature hereby declares that each voter has the right:

1. To receive and cast a ballot that:

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- (a) Is written in a format that allows the clear identification of candidates; and
- 10 (b) Accurately records the voter's preference in the selection of 11 candidates.
- 12 2. To have his questions concerning voting procedures 13 answered and to have an explanation of the procedures for voting 14 posted in a conspicuous place at the polling place.
 - 3. To vote without being intimidated.
- 4. To vote on election day if the voter is waiting in line at his polling place to vote before 7 p.m. and he has not already cast his vote in that election.



- 5. To return a spoiled ballot to the election board and receive another ballot in its place.
 - 6. To request assistance in voting, if necessary.

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- 7. To a sample ballot which is accurate, informative and delivered in a timely manner.
- 8. To receive instruction in the use of the equipment for voting during early voting or on election day.
- 9. To have nondiscriminatory equal access to the elections system, including, without limitation, a voter who is elderly, disabled, a member of a minority group, employed by the military or a citizen who is overseas.
- 10. To have a uniform, statewide system for counting and recounting all votes accurately.
- 14 11. To have complaints about elections and election contests resolved fairly, accurately and efficiently.
- 16 Sec. 4. The Secretary of State, each county clerk and each 17 city clerk shall:
 - 1. Make the Voters' Bill of Rights readily available to the public;
 - 2. Maintain a copy of the Voters' Bill of Rights in his office for reproduction and distribution to the public;
 - 3. Ensure that the Voters' Bill of Rights is printed on each sample ballot for each election; and
 - 4. Ensure that the Voters' Bill of Rights is posted in a conspicuous place, in at least 12-point type, at each polling place.
 - **Sec. 5.** The provisions of subsection 1 of NRS 354.599 do not apply to any additional expenses of a local government that are related to the provisions of this act.

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