SENATE BILL NO. 478—COMMITTEE ON LEGISLATIVE OPERATIONS AND ELECTIONS

(ON BEHALF OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE)

MARCH 29, 2005

Referred to Committee on Legislative Operations and Elections

SUMMARY—Revises various provisions relating to elections. (BDR 24-573)

FISCAL NOTE: Effect on Local Government: No. Effect on the State: No.

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

AN ACT relating to elections; making various changes to the provisions governing initiative and referendum petitions; revising the date for conducting a primary election in the State; revising the provisions relating to proof of identity and residence when making a declaration of candidacy; providing for the procedure in the event of a tie vote for the determination of presidential electors; authorizing the Secretary of State to adopt regulations relating to the use of a mechanical voting system which directly records the votes electronically and which provides a record of the votes cast on that system on paper; eliminating obsolete references to mechanical voting systems that use a punch card; revising the provisions relating to restoration of the right to vote of a person convicted of a felony; revising provisions relating to withdrawal of a candidate; providing a civil penalty; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.



THE PEOPLE OF THE STATE OF NEVADA, REPRESENTED IN SENATE AND ASSEMBLY, DO ENACT AS FOLLOWS:

- Chapter 293 of NRS is hereby amended by adding thereto the provisions set forth as sections 2 to 5, inclusive, of this act.
- "Current and valid photographic identification" means identification that bears a recognizable photograph of the person presenting it as identification and which is not invalid or expired, including, but not limited to:
- 1. A driver's license or identification card issued by the Department of Motor Vehicles;
- 2. An identification card issued by a branch of the United States Armed Forces;
- 3. An identification card issued by a sheriff of a county in 12 Nevada to an employee as a condition of his employment by 13 14 certain business enterprises;
 - 4. An identification card issued by an agency of the State of Nevada, or political subdivision thereof, or the United States, including, but not limited to, a school, college or university;
 - 5. A United States passport; or

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- Any other article of identification which the county clerk or registrar of voters determines, in his discretion, to be a reliable indication of the true name and identity of a person, including, without limitation, a credit card, membership card or employee identification card of a business or financial institution located within the State of Nevada.
 - Sec. 3. "Full text of the measure" means:
- The complete text of any existing section of the Nevada Constitution, statute or ordinance that will be amended if the initiative or referendum is approved by the voters, including, without limitation, the identification of the existing text of the section of the Nevada Constitution, statute or ordinance, any text to be deleted from the section of the Nevada Constitution, statute or ordinance and any new text to be added to the section of the Nevada Constitution, statute or ordinance;
- The complete text of any new section to be added to the Nevada Constitution, new statute or new ordinance if the initiative or referendum is approved by the voters; and 36
- The complete text of any existing section of the Nevada 37 Constitution, statute or ordinance to be repealed in its entirety if 38 the initiative or referendum is approved by the voters. 39
- Sec. 4. 1. "Sufficient proof of residence and identity" 40 41 means:



(a) A copy of a current utility bill, bank statement, receipt for a rental or lease payment, or paycheck that indicates the name and street address of a person; or

- (b) A document issued by a governmental entity that indicates the name and street address of the person, including, without limitation, a check, income tax statement or vehicle registration.
- 2. The term does not include a document issued by an election official to a person in the course of administration of voter registration or an election, including, but not limited to, a voter registration card, sample ballot or receipt.
- Sec. 5. "Residence" or "resides" means the place where a person is legally domiciled and maintains a permanent habitation.
 - **Sec. 6.** NRS 293.010 is hereby amended to read as follows:
- 293.010 As used in this title, unless the context otherwise requires, the words and terms defined in NRS 293.013 to 293.121, inclusive, *and sections 2 to 5, inclusive, of this act* have the meanings ascribed to them in those sections.
 - **Sec. 7.** NRS 293.025 is hereby amended to read as follows:
- 293.025 "Ballot" means the record of a voter's preference of candidates and questions voted upon at an election. The term includes, without limitation, any paper given to a voter upon which he places his vote, [a punch eard which records the vote of a voter] and electronic storage tapes.
 - **Sec. 8.** NRS 293.040 is hereby amended to read as follows:
- 293.040 "Clerk" means the election board officer designated or assigned to make the record of the election in the [pollbook,] roster, tally list and challenge list in the precinct or district in which such officer is appointed.
 - **Sec. 9.** NRS 293.113 is hereby amended to read as follows:
- 293.113 "Tally list" [or "tally book"] means the forms furnished election board officers to be used in tallying or recording the number of votes cast for each candidate and question on the ballot. [as such votes are called in counting.]
- **Sec. 10.** NRS 293.127565 is hereby amended to read as follows:
- 293.127565 1. At each building that is open to the general public and occupied by the government of this State or a political subdivision of this State or an agency thereof, other than a building of a public elementary or secondary school, an area must be made available for the use of any person to gather signatures on a petition at any time that the building is open to the public. The area must be reasonable and may be inside or outside of the building. Each public officer or employee in control of the operation of a building governed by this subsection *or his designee* shall *be available at all times the building is open to the general public to* designate and



approve [the area required by this subsection] an area for the building [.] as required by this subsection.

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- 2. Before a person may use an area designated pursuant to subsection 1, the person must notify the public officer or employee in control of the operation of the building governed by subsection 1 of the dates and times that the person intends to use the area to gather signatures on a petition. The public officer or employee [may] or his designee:
- (a) Shall be available at all times the building is open to the general public to receive the notice required pursuant to this subsection;
- (b) Shall not require a person to provide the notice required pursuant to this subsection on a day before the day the person intends to use the area; and
 - (c) Shall not deny the person the use of the area.
- A person aggrieved by a decision made by a public officer or employee pursuant to subsection 1 or 2 may appeal the decision to the Secretary of State. The Secretary of State shall review the decision to determine whether the public officer or employee [designated a reasonable area as required by subsection 1.] violated a provision of this section. If the Secretary of State determines that a public officer or employee violated a provision of this section, the Secretary of State may impose on the public agency employing the public officer or employee a civil penalty of not more than \$5,000 per day for each violation of a provision of this section and payment of court costs and attorney's fees. The civil penalty must be recovered in a civil action brought in the name of the State of Nevada by the Secretary of State in the First Judicial District Court and deposited by the Secretary of State for credit to the State General Fund in the bank designated by the State Treasurer. Any penalty must be paid from the current annual operating budget of the public entity.
- 4. The decision of the Secretary of State is a final decision for the purposes of judicial review. The decision of the Secretary of State may only be appealed in the First Judicial District Court.
 - 5. The Secretary of State [may]:
- (a) Shall adopt regulations to specify the factors that a public officer or employee shall consider in designating an area pursuant to subsection 1.
- (b) May adopt regulations to carry out the provisions of subsection 3.



Sec. 11. NRS 293.12757 is hereby amended to read as 2 follows:

293.12757 A person may sign a petition required under the election laws of this State on or after the date he is deemed to be registered to vote pursuant to [subsection 5]:

- 1. Paragraph (a) of subsection 1 of NRS 293.517; or Isubsection 5 of
- 2. If the person submitted a copy of current and valid photographic identification or a copy of sufficient proof of residence and identity when registering to vote pursuant to NRS 293.5235.

Sec. 12. NRS 293.1277 is hereby amended to read as follows:

- 293.1277 1. If the Secretary of State finds that the total number of signatures submitted to all the county clerks is 100 percent or more of the number of registered voters needed to declare the petition sufficient, he shall immediately so notify the county clerks. Within 9 days, excluding Saturdays, Sundays and holidays, after notification, each of the county clerks shall determine the number of registered voters who have signed the documents submitted in his county.
- 2. If more than 500 names have been signed on the documents submitted to him, a county clerk shall examine the signatures by sampling them at random for verification. The random sample of signatures to be verified must be drawn in such a manner that every signature which has been submitted to the county clerk is given an equal opportunity to be included in the sample. The sample must include an examination of at least 500 or 5 percent of the signatures, whichever is greater.
- 3. In determining from the records of registration the number of registered voters who signed the documents, the county clerk may use the signatures contained in the file of applications to register to vote. If the county clerk uses that file, he shall ensure that every application in the file is examined, including any application in his possession which may not yet be entered into his records. The county clerk shall rely only on the appearance of the signature and the address and date included with each signature in making his determination.
- 4. Except as otherwise provided in subsection 6, upon completing the examination, the county clerk shall immediately attach to the documents a certificate properly dated, showing the result of his examination and transmit the documents with the certificate to the Secretary of State. A copy of this certificate must be filed in the clerk's office. When the county clerk transmits the certificate to the Secretary of State, the county clerk shall notify the Secretary of State of the number of requests to remove a name



received, on or before the date the petition was submitted for verification of signatures, by the county clerk pursuant to NRS 295.055 or 306.015.

- 5. A person who submits a petition to the county clerk which is required to be verified pursuant to NRS 293.128, 293.165, 293.172, 293.200, 295.056, 298.109, 306.035 or 306.110 must be allowed to witness the verification of the signatures. A public officer who is the subject of a recall petition must also be allowed to witness the verification of the signatures on the petition.
- 6. For any petition containing signatures which are required to be verified pursuant to the provisions of NRS 293.165, 293.200, 306.035 or 306.110 for any county, district or municipal office within one county, the county clerk shall not transmit to the Secretary of State the documents containing the signatures of the registered voters.
- 7. The Secretary of State may by regulation establish further procedures for carrying out the provisions of this section.
 - **Sec. 13.** NRS 293.1278 is hereby amended to read as follows:
 - 293.1278 1. If the certificates received by the Secretary of State from all the county clerks establish that the number of valid signatures is less than 90 percent of the required number of registered voters, the petition shall be deemed to have failed to qualify, and the Secretary of State shall immediately so notify the petitioners and the county clerks.
 - 2. If those certificates establish that the number of valid signatures is equal to or more than the sum of 100 percent of the number of registered voters needed to make the petition sufficient plus the total number of requests to remove a name received, on or before the date the petition was submitted for verification of signatures, by the county clerks pursuant to NRS 295.055 or 306.015, the petition shall be deemed to qualify as of the date of receipt by the Secretary of State of those certificates, and the Secretary of State shall immediately so notify the petitioners and the county clerks.
 - 3. If the certificates establish that the petitioners have 100 percent or more of the number of registered voters needed to make the petition sufficient but the petition fails to qualify pursuant to subsection 2, each county clerk who received, on or before the date the petition was submitted for verification of signatures, a request to remove a name pursuant to NRS 295.055 or 306.015 shall remove each name as requested, amend the certificate and transmit the amended certificate to the Secretary of State. If the amended certificates establish that the petitioners have 100 percent or more of the number of registered voters needed to make the petition sufficient, the petition shall be deemed to qualify as of the date of



receipt by the Secretary of State of the amended certificates, and the Secretary of State shall immediately so notify the petitioners and the county clerks.

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Sec. 14. NRS 293.1279 is hereby amended to read as follows: 293.1279 1. If the statistical sampling shows that the number of valid signatures filed is 90 percent or more, but less than the sum of 100 percent of the number of signatures of registered voters needed to declare the petition sufficient plus the total number of requests to remove a name received, on or before the date the petition was submitted for verification of signatures, by the county clerks pursuant to NRS 295.055 or 306.015, the Secretary of State shall order the county clerks to examine the signatures for verification. The county clerks shall examine the signatures for verification until they determine that 100 percent of the number of signatures of registered voters needed to declare the petition sufficient are valid. If, on or before the date the petition was submitted for verification of signatures, the county clerks received a request to remove a name pursuant to NRS 295.055 or 306.015, the county clerks may not determine that 100 percent of the number of signatures of registered voters needed to declare the petition sufficient are valid until they have removed each name [as] so requested pursuant to NRS 295.055 or 306.015.

- 2. If the statistical sampling shows that the number of valid signatures filed in any county is 90 percent or more but less than the sum of 100 percent of the number of signatures of registered voters needed to constitute 10 percent of the number of voters who voted at the last preceding general election in that county plus the total number of requests to remove a name received, on or before the date the petition was submitted for verification of signatures, by the county clerk in that county pursuant to NRS 295.055, [or 306.015, the Secretary of State may order the county clerk in that county to examine every signature for verification. If, on or before the date the petition was submitted for verification of signatures, the county clerk received a request to remove a name pursuant to NRS 295.055, for 306.015, the county clerk may not determine that 100 percent or more of the number of signatures of registered voters needed to constitute 10 percent of the number of voters who voted at the last preceding general election in that county are valid until he has removed each name [as] so requested pursuant to NRS 295.055 . [or 306.015.]
- 3. Within 12 days, excluding Saturdays, Sundays and holidays, after receipt of such an order, the county clerk shall determine from the records of registration what number of registered voters have signed the petition. If necessary, the board of county commissioners shall allow the county clerk additional assistants for examining the



signatures and provide for their compensation. In determining from the records of registration what number of registered voters have signed the petition, the county clerk must use the statewide voter registration list. The county clerk may rely on the appearance of the signature and the address and date included with each signature in determining the number of registered voters that signed the petition.

- 4. Except as otherwise provided in subsection 5, upon completing the examination, the county clerk shall immediately attach to the documents of the petition an amended certificate, properly dated, showing the result of the examination and shall immediately forward the documents with the amended certificate to the Secretary of State. A copy of the amended certificate must be filed in the county clerk's office.
- 5. For any petition containing signatures which are required to be verified pursuant to the provisions of NRS 293.165, 293.200, 306.035 or 306.110 for any county, district or municipal office within one county, the county clerk shall not forward to the Secretary of State the documents containing the signatures of the registered voters.
- 6. Except for a petition to recall a county, district or municipal officer, the petition shall be deemed filed with the Secretary of State as of the date on which he receives certificates from the county clerks showing the petition to be signed by the requisite number of voters of the State.
- 7. If the amended certificates received from all county clerks by the Secretary of State establish that the petition is still insufficient, he shall immediately so notify the petitioners and the county clerks. If the petition is a petition to recall a county, district or municipal officer, the Secretary of State shall also notify the officer with whom the petition is to be filed.
- **Sec. 15.** NRS 293.12793 is hereby amended to read as follows:
- 293.12793 1. If the Secretary of State determines that the total number of signatures that the county clerks have certified pursuant to NRS 293.1277 or 293.1279 is less than 100 percent of the number of registered voters needed to make the petition sufficient, the person who submitted the petition may contest the *determination*, *made pursuant to the process for the* verification of the signatures, *that a signature on the petition was not valid* by filing an appeal with the Secretary of State. The appeal must:
- (a) Be filed within 5 working days after receipt of notification of the determination of the Secretary of State;
 - (b) Include each reason for the appeal; and
- (c) Include a statement of the number of signatures, if any, that the county clerk determined were invalid.



2. The Secretary of State shall:

- (a) If the petition was circulated pursuant to chapter 306 of NRS, immediately notify the public officer who is the subject of the petition of the appeal by the person who submitted the petition; and
- (b) Consider the allegations and conduct an investigation, if necessary.
- **Sec. 16.** NRS 293.12795 is hereby amended to read as follows:
- 293.12795 1. If an appeal is based upon the results of the verification of signatures on a petition performed pursuant to NRS 293.1277 or 293.1279, the Secretary of State shall:
- (a) If he finds for the appellant, order the county clerk to recertify the petition, including as verified signatures all contested signatures which the Secretary of State determines are valid. If the county clerk has not yet removed each name as requested pursuant to NRS 295.055 or 306.015, the county clerk shall do so before recertifying the petition.
- (b) If he does not find for the appellant, notify the appellant and the county clerk that the petition remains insufficient.
- 2. If the Secretary of State is unable to make a decision on the appeal based upon the documents submitted to him, the Secretary of State may order the county clerk to reverify the signatures.
- 3. The decision of the Secretary of State is a final decision for the purposes of judicial review. The decision of the Secretary of State may only be appealed in the First Judicial District Court [...] and must be filed with the Court not later than 5 working days after receipt of notification of the finding by the Secretary of State pursuant to this section. The Court shall give priority to such a complaint over all other matters pending with the Court, except for criminal proceedings.
 - **Sec. 17.** NRS 293.128 is hereby amended to read as follows:
- 293.128 1. To qualify as a major political party, any organization must, under a common name:
- (a) On [January 1 preceding any] September 1 of the year immediately preceding a year in which a primary election [,] is held, have been designated as a political party on the applications to register to vote of at least 10 percent of the total number of registered voters in this State; or
- (b) File a petition with the Secretary of State not later than the last Friday in [April before any] December of the year immediately preceding a year in which a primary election is held that is signed by a number of registered voters equal to or more than 10 percent of the total number of votes cast at the last preceding general election for the offices of Representative in Congress.



- 2. If a petition is filed pursuant to paragraph (b) of subsection 1, the names of the voters need not all be on one document, but each document of the petition must be verified by the circulator thereof to the effect that the signers are registered voters of this State according to his best information and belief and that the signatures are genuine and were signed in his presence. Each document of the petition must bear the name of a county, and only registered voters of that county may sign the document. The documents which are circulated for signature must then be submitted for verification pursuant to NRS 293.1276 to 293.1279, inclusive, not later than 25 working days before the last Friday in [April] December of the year immediately preceding a year in which a primary election [.] is held.
- 3. In addition to the requirements set forth in subsection 1, each organization which wishes to qualify as a political party must file with the Secretary of State a certificate of existence which includes the:
 - (a) Name of the political party;

- (b) Names and addresses of its officers;
- (c) Names of the members of its executive committee; and
- (d) Name of the person who is authorized by the party to act as resident agent in this State.
- 4. A political party shall file with the Secretary of State an amended certificate of existence within 5 days after any change in the information contained in the certificate.
 - **Sec. 18.** NRS 293.165 is hereby amended to read as follows:
- 293.165 1. Except as otherwise provided in NRS 293.166, a vacancy occurring in a major or minor political party nomination for a partisan office may be filled by a candidate designated by the party central committee of the county or State, as the case may be, of the major political party or by the executive committee of the minor political party subject to the provisions of subsections 4 and 5.
- 2. A vacancy occurring in a nonpartisan nomination after the close of filing and on or before 5 p.m. of the second Tuesday in [July] March must be filled by filing a nominating petition that is signed by registered voters of the State, county, district or municipality who may vote for the office in question. The number of registered voters who sign the petition must not be less than 1 percent of the number of persons who voted for the office in question in the State, county, district or municipality at the last preceding general election. The petition must be filed not earlier than the first Tuesday in [July.] March. The petition may consist of more than one document. Each document must bear the name of one



county and must be signed only by a person who is a registered voter of that county and who may vote for the office in question. Each document of the petition must be submitted for verification pursuant to NRS 293.1276 to 293.1279, inclusive, to the county clerk of the county named on the document. A candidate nominated pursuant to the provisions of this subsection:

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- (a) Must file a declaration of candidacy or acceptance of candidacy and pay the statutory filing fee on or before the date the petition is filed; and
- (b) May be elected only at a general election, and his name must not appear on the ballot for a primary election.
- 3. A vacancy occurring in a nonpartisan nomination after 5 p.m. of the **[second]** *first* Tuesday in **[July]** *March* and on or before 5 p.m. of the second Tuesday in **[September]** *August* must be filled by the person who receives the next highest vote for the nomination in the primary.
- 4. No change may be made on the ballot for the general election after 5 p.m. of the second Tuesday in [September] August of the year in which the general election is held. If a nominee dies after that time and date, his name must remain on the ballot for the general election and, if elected, a vacancy exists.
- 5. All designations provided for in this section must be filed on or before 5 p.m. on the second Tuesday in [September.] August. In each case, the statutory filing fee must be paid and an acceptance of the designation must be filed on or before 5 p.m. on the date the designation is filed.

Sec. 19. NRS 293.166 is hereby amended to read as follows:

293.166 1. A vacancy occurring in a party nomination for the office of State Senator or Assemblyman from a legislative district comprising more than one county may be filled as follows, subject to the provisions of subsections 2 and 3. The county commissioners of each county, all or part of which is included within the legislative district, shall meet to appoint a person who is of the same political party as the former nominee and who actually, as opposed to constructively, resides in the district to fill the vacancy, under the chairmanship of the chairman of the board of county commissioners of the county whose population residing within the district is the greatest. Each board of county commissioners shall first meet separately and determine the single candidate it will nominate to fill the vacancy. Then, the boards shall meet jointly and the chairmen on behalf of the boards shall cast a proportionate number of votes according to the percent, rounded to the nearest whole percent, which the population of its county is of the population of the entire district. Populations must be determined by the last decennial census or special census conducted by the Bureau of the Census of the



United States Department of Commerce. The person who receives a plurality of these votes is appointed to fill the vacancy. If no person receives a plurality of the votes, the boards of county commissioners of the respective counties shall each as a group select one candidate, and the nominee must be chosen by drawing lots among the persons so selected.

- 2. No change may be made on the ballot *for a general election* after the second Tuesday in [September] *August* of the year in which the general election is held. If a nominee dies after that date, his name must remain on the ballot and, if elected, a vacancy exists.
- 3. The designation of a nominee pursuant to this section must be filed with the Secretary of State before 5 p.m. of the second Tuesday in [September,] August, and the statutory filing fee must be paid with the designation.
 - **Sec. 20.** NRS 293.1715 is hereby amended to read as follows:
- 293.1715 1. The names of the candidates for partisan office of a minor political party must not appear on the ballot for a primary election.
- 2. The names of the candidates for partisan office of a minor political party must be placed on the ballot for the general election if the party has filed a certificate of existence and a list of its candidates for partisan office pursuant to the provisions of NRS 293.1725 with the Secretary of State and:
- (a) At the last preceding general election, the minor political party polled for any of its candidates for partisan office a number of votes equal to or more than 1 percent of the total number of votes cast for the offices of Representative in Congress;
- (b) On [January] September 1 of the year immediately preceding a year in which a primary election [] is held, the minor political party has been designated as the political party on the applications to register to vote of at least 1 percent of the total number of registered voters in this State; or
- (c) Not later than the second Friday in August preceding the general election, files a petition with the Secretary of State which is signed by a number of registered voters equal to at least 1 percent of the total number of votes cast at the last preceding general election for the offices of Representative in Congress.
- 3. The name of a candidate for partisan office for a minor political party other than a candidate for the office of President or Vice President of the United States must be placed on the ballot for the general election if the party has filed:
 - (a) A certificate of existence;
- (b) A list of candidates for partisan office containing the name of the candidate pursuant to the provisions of NRS 293.1725 with the Secretary of State; and



(c) Not earlier than the first Monday in [May] January preceding the general election and not later than 5 p.m. on the second Friday after the first Monday in [May,] January, a petition on behalf of the candidate with the Secretary of State containing not less than:

- (1) Two hundred fifty signatures of registered voters if the candidate is to be nominated for a statewide office; or
- (2) One hundred signatures of registered voters if the candidate is to be nominated for any office except a statewide office.
- → A minor political party that places names of one or more candidates for partisan office on the ballot pursuant to this subsection may also place the names of one or more candidates for partisan office on the ballot pursuant to subsection 2.
- 4. The name of only one candidate of each minor political party for each partisan office may appear on the ballot for a general election.
- 5. A minor political party must file a copy of the petition required by paragraph (c) of subsection 2 or paragraph (c) of subsection 3 with the Secretary of State before the petition may be circulated for signatures.
 - **Sec. 21.** NRS 293.1725 is hereby amended to read as follows:
- 293.1725 1. Except as otherwise provided in subsection 4, a minor political party that wishes to place its candidates for partisan office on the ballot for a general election and:
- (a) Is entitled to do so pursuant to paragraph (a) or (b) of subsection 2 of NRS 293.1715;
- (b) Files a petition pursuant to paragraph (c) of subsection 2 of NRS 293.1715; or
- (c) Whose candidates are entitled to appear on the ballot pursuant to subsection 3 of NRS 293.1715,
- must file with the Secretary of State a list of its candidates for partisan office not earlier than the first Monday in [May] January preceding the election nor later than 5 p.m. on the second Friday after the first Monday in [May.] January. The list must be signed by the person so authorized in the certificate of existence of the minor political party before a notary public or other person authorized to take acknowledgments. The Secretary of State shall strike from the list each candidate who is not entitled to appear on the ballot pursuant to subsection 3 of NRS 293.1715 if the minor political party is not entitled to place candidates on the ballot pursuant to subsection 2 of NRS 293.1715. The list may be amended not later than 5 p.m. on the second Friday after the first Monday in [May.] January.



2. The Secretary of State shall immediately forward a certified copy of the list of candidates for partisan office of each minor political party to the filing officer with whom each candidate must file his declaration of candidacy.

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- 3. Each candidate on the list must file his declaration of candidacy with the appropriate filing officer and pay the fee required by NRS 293.193 not earlier than the date on which the list of candidates for partisan office of his minor political party is filed with the Secretary of State [nor] or later than 5 p.m. on the second Friday after the first Monday in [May.] January.
- 4. A minor political party that wishes to place candidates for the offices of President and Vice President of the United States on the ballot and has qualified to place the names of its candidates for partisan office on the ballot for the general election pursuant to subsection 2 of NRS 293.1715 must file with the Secretary of State a certificate of nomination for these offices not later than the first Tuesday in [September.] May.
 - **Sec. 22.** NRS 293.174 is hereby amended to read as follows:
- 293.174 1. If the qualification of a minor political party is challenged, all affidavits and documents in support of the challenge must be filed not later than 5 p.m. on the third Friday in August. Any judicial proceeding resulting from the challenge must be set for hearing not more than 5 days after the third Friday in August. A challenge pursuant to this subsection must be filed with the First Judicial District Court if the petition was filed with the Secretary of State.
- 2. If the qualification of a candidate of a minor political party other than a candidate for the office of President or Vice President of the United States is challenged, all affidavits and documents in support of the challenge must be filed not later than 5 p.m. on the fourth Monday in [May.] January. Any judicial proceeding resulting from the challenge must be set for hearing not more than 5 days after the fourth Monday in [May.] January. A challenge pursuant to this subsection must be filed with:
 - (a) The First Judicial District Court; or
- 36 (b) If a candidate who filed a declaration of candidacy with a 37 county clerk is challenged, the district court for the county where 38 the declaration of candidacy was filed.
 - **Sec. 23.** NRS 293.175 is hereby amended to read as follows:
 - 293.175 1. The primary election must be held on the first Tuesday of [September] *May* in each even-numbered year.
 - 2. Candidates for partisan office of a major political party and candidates for nonpartisan office must be nominated at the primary election.



- 3. Candidates for partisan office of a minor political party must be nominated in the manner prescribed pursuant to NRS 293.171 to 293.174, inclusive.
- 4. Independent candidates for partisan office must be nominated in the manner provided in NRS 293.200.
- 5. The provisions of NRS 293.175 to 293.203, inclusive, do not apply to:
 - (a) Special elections to fill vacancies.
 - (b) The nomination of the officers of incorporated cities.
- 10 (c) The nomination of district officers whose nomination is 11 otherwise provided for by statute.

Sec. 24. NRS 293.177 is hereby amended to read as follows:

- 293.177 1. Except as otherwise provided in NRS 293.165, 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 or an acceptance of candidacy, and has paid the fee required by NRS 293.193 not earlier than the first Monday in [May] January of the year in which the election is to be held nor later than 5 p.m. on the second Friday after the first Monday in [May.] January.
- 2. A declaration of candidacy or an acceptance of candidacy required to be filed by this section must be in substantially the following form:
 - (a) For partisan office:

DECLARATION OF CANDIDACY OF FOR THE OFFICE OF
State of Nevada
County of



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 by a court of competent jurisdiction; that I have not, in violation of the provisions of NRS 293.176, changed the designation of my political party or political 5 party affiliation on an official application to register to vote in any state since September 1 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 10 the coming election; that if nominated as a candidate of the Party at the ensuing election, I will accept that 11 nomination and not withdraw; that I will not knowingly violate any 12 13 election law or any law defining and prohibiting corrupt and fraudulent practices in campaigns and elections in this State; that I 14 will qualify for the office if elected thereto, including, but not 15 limited to, complying with any limitation prescribed by the 16 Constitution and laws of this State concerning the number of years 17 or terms for which a person may hold the office; and that I 18 understand that my name will appear on all ballots as designated in 19 this declaration. 20 21 22 23 (Designation of name) 24 25 26 (Signature of candidate for office) 27 Subscribed and sworn to before me 28 29 this day of the month of of the year 30 31 32 Notary Public or other person authorized to administer an oath 33 34 35 (b) For nonpartisan office: 36 37 DECLARATION OF CANDIDACY OF FOR THE 38 OFFICE OF 39 State of Nevada 40 41 42 County of 43 44 For the purpose of having my name placed on the official ballot as a 45 candidate 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 *that was* at least 30 days immediately preceding the date of the close of filing of declarations of candidacy for this office and that complies with any durational residency requirements required by law specifically 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 by a court of competent jurisdiction; 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; and my name will appear on all ballots as designated in this declaration.

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27	(Designation of name)
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30	(Signature of candidate for office)
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authorized to administer an oath

Subscribed and sworn to before me

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43 44 3. The address of a candidate which must be included in the declaration of candidacy or acceptance of candidacy pursuant to subsection 2 must be the street address of the residence where he actually, as opposed to constructively, resides in accordance with NRS 281.050, if one has been assigned. The declaration or acceptance of candidacy must not be accepted for filing if:



- (a) The candidate's address is listed as a post office box unless a street address has not been assigned to his residence; or
 - (b) The candidate does not 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 address; or
- (2) A current utility bill, bank statement, paycheck, or document issued by a governmental entity, including, without limitation, a check, which indicates the candidate's name and address.]

Current and valid photographic identification that indicates the street address of the residence of the candidate; or

- (2) If the current and valid photographic identification does not indicate the street address of the residence of the candidate, current and valid photographic identification and sufficient proof of residence and identity.
- 4. By filing the declaration or acceptance of candidacy, the candidate shall be deemed to have appointed the filing officer for the office as his 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 or acceptance 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 his 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.
- 5. If the filing officer receives credible evidence indicating that a candidate has been convicted of a felony and has not had his civil rights restored by a court of competent jurisdiction, the filing officer:
- (a) May conduct an investigation to determine whether the candidate has been convicted of a felony and, if so, whether he has had his civil rights restored by a court of competent jurisdiction; 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.
- 6. The receipt of information by the Attorney General or district attorney pursuant to subsection 5 must be treated as a challenge of a candidate pursuant to subsections 4 and 5 of NRS 293.182. If the ballots are printed before a court of competent



jurisdiction makes a determination that a candidate has been convicted of a felony and has not had his civil rights restored by a court of competent jurisdiction, the filing officer must post a notice at each polling place where the candidate's name will appear on the ballot informing the voters that the candidate is disqualified from entering upon the duties of the office for which the candidate filed the declaration of candidacy or acceptance of candidacy.

Sec. 25. NRS 293.180 is hereby amended to read as follows:

293.180 1. Ten or more registered voters may, not earlier than the first Monday in [April] December of the year immediately preceding a year in which a primary election is held nor later than 5 p.m. on the first Friday in [May,] January of the year in which a primary election is held, file a certificate of candidacy designating any registered voter as a candidate for his major political party's nomination for any partisan elective office, or as a candidate for nomination for any nonpartisan office. When the certificate has been filed, the officer in whose office it is filed shall notify the person named in the certificate. If the person named in the certificate files an acceptance of candidacy and pays the required fee, as provided by law, he is a candidate in the primary election in like manner as if he had filed a declaration of candidacy.

2. If a certificate of candidacy relates to a partisan office, all of the signers must be of the same major political party as the candidate designated.

Sec. 26. NRS 293.182 is hereby amended to read as follows:

293.182 1. After a person files a declaration of candidacy or an acceptance of candidacy to be a candidate for an office, and not later than [5] 12 days after the last day [the] that a person may [withdraw his] file for candidacy pursuant to NRS [293.202,] 293.177, an elector may file with the filing officer for the office a written challenge of the person on the grounds that the person fails to meet any qualification required for the office pursuant to the Constitution or a statute of this State, including, without limitation, a requirement concerning age or residency. Before accepting the challenge from the elector, the filing officer shall notify the elector that if the challenge is found by a court to be frivolous, the elector may be required to pay the reasonable attorney's fees and court costs of the challenged person.

- 2. A challenge filed pursuant to subsection 1 must:
- (a) Indicate each qualification the person fails to meet;
- (b) Have attached all documentation and evidence supporting the challenge; and
- 43 (c) Be in the form of an affidavit, signed by the elector under penalty of perjury.
 - 3. Upon receipt of a challenge pursuant to subsection 1:



(a) The Secretary of State shall immediately transmit the challenge to the Attorney General.

- (b) A filing officer other than the Secretary of State shall immediately transmit the challenge to the district attorney.
- 4. If the Attorney General or district attorney determines that probable cause exists to support the challenge, the Attorney General or district attorney shall, not later than 5 working days after receiving the challenge, petition a court of competent jurisdiction to order the person to appear before the court. Upon receipt of such a petition, the court shall enter an order directing the person to appear before the court at a hearing, at a time and place to be fixed by the court in the order, to show cause why the challenge is not valid. A certified copy of the order must be served upon the person. The court shall give priority to such proceedings over all other matters pending with the court, except for criminal proceedings.
- 5. If, at the hearing, the court determines by a preponderance of the evidence that the challenge is valid or that the person otherwise fails to meet any qualification required for the office pursuant to the Constitution or a statute of this State, or if the person fails to appear at the hearing:
- (a) The name of the person must not appear on any ballot for the election for the office for which he filed the declaration of candidacy or acceptance of candidacy; and
- (b) The person is disqualified from entering upon the duties of the office for which he filed the declaration of candidacy or acceptance of candidacy.
- 6. If, at the hearing, the court determines that the challenge is frivolous, the court may order the elector who filed the challenge to pay the reasonable attorney's fees and court costs of the challenged person.
 - **Sec. 27.** 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:
- (a) A copy of the petition of candidacy that he intends to subsequently circulate for signatures. The copy must be filed not earlier than [the January 2] September of the year immediately preceding the [date of] year in which the general election is held and not later than 25 working days before the last day to file the petition pursuant to subsection 4.
 - (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;

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- (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 25 working days before the last day to file the petition pursuant to subsection 4. Each person who signs the petition shall add to his signature the address of the place at which he actually resides, the date that he signs the petition and the name of the county where he 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 knowledge and belief and were signed in his 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 [May] *January* preceding the general election and not later than 5 p.m. on the second Friday after the first Monday in [May.] *January*.
- 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 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 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 Monday in [May.] *January*. Any judicial proceeding resulting from the challenge must be set for hearing not more than 5 days after the fourth Monday in [May.] *January*.

- 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. An independent candidate for partisan office must file a declaration of candidacy with the appropriate filing officer and pay the fee required by NRS 293.193 not earlier than the first Monday in [May] January of the year in which the election is held nor later than 5 p.m. on the second Friday after the first Monday in [May.] January.

Sec. 28. NRS 293.202 is hereby amended to read as follows:

293.202 A withdrawal of candidacy for office must be in writing and must be presented by the candidate in person [, within 7 days, excluding Saturdays, Sundays and holidays, after the last day for filing,] by the second Tuesday in March to the officer whose duty it is to receive filings for candidacy for that office.

Sec. 29. NRS 293.205 is hereby amended to read as follows:

- 293.205 1. Except as otherwise provided in NRS 293.208, on or before the third Wednesday in [May] January of every even-numbered year, the county clerk shall establish election precincts, define the boundaries thereof, abolish, alter, consolidate and designate precincts as public convenience, necessity and economy may require.
- 2. The boundaries of each election precinct must follow visible ground features or extensions of visible ground features, except where the boundary coincides with the official boundary of the State or a county or city.
- 3. Election precincts must be composed only of contiguous territory.
- 4. As used in this section, "visible ground feature" includes a street, road, highway, river, stream, shoreline, drainage ditch, railroad right-of-way or any other physical feature which is clearly visible from the ground.

Sec. 30. NRS 293.206 is hereby amended to read as follows:

293.206 1. On or before the last day in [May] January of every even-numbered year, the county clerk shall provide the Secretary of State and the Director of the Legislative Counsel Bureau with a copy or electronic file of a map showing the boundaries of all election precincts in the county.



- 2. If the Secretary of State determines that the boundaries of an election precinct do not comply with the provisions of NRS 293.205, he must provide the county clerk with a written statement of noncompliance setting forth the reasons the precinct is not in compliance. Within 15 days after receiving the notice of noncompliance, the county clerk shall make any adjustments to the boundaries of the precinct which are required to bring the precinct into compliance with the provisions of NRS 293.205 and he shall submit a corrected copy or electronic file of the precinct map to the Secretary of State and the Director of the Legislative Counsel Bureau.
- 3. If the initial or corrected election precinct map is not filed as required pursuant to this section or the county clerk fails to make the necessary changes to the boundaries of an election precinct pursuant to subsection 2, the Secretary of State may establish appropriate precinct boundaries in compliance with the provisions of NRS 293.205 to 293.213, inclusive. If the Secretary of State revises the map pursuant to this subsection, he shall submit a copy or electronic file of the revised map to the Director of the Legislative Counsel Bureau and the appropriate county clerk.
- 4. As used in this section, "electronic file" includes, without limitation, an electronic data file of a geographic information system.

Sec. 31. NRS 293.208 is hereby amended to read as follows:

- 293.208 1. Except as otherwise provided in subsections 2, 3 and 5 and in NRS 293.206, no election precinct may be created, divided, abolished or consolidated, or the boundaries thereof changed, during the period between the third Wednesday in [May] January of any year whose last digit is 6 and the time when the Legislature has been redistricted in a year whose last digit is 1, unless the creation, division, abolishment or consolidation of the precinct, or the change in boundaries thereof, is:
 - (a) Ordered by a court of competent jurisdiction;
- (b) Required to meet objections to a precinct by the Attorney General of the United States pursuant to the Voting Rights Act of 1965, 42 U.S.C. §§ 1971 and 1973 et seq., and any amendments thereto:
 - (c) Required to comply with subsection 2 of NRS 293.205;
 - (d) Required by the incorporation of a new city; or
- 40 (e) Required by the creation of or change in the boundaries of a special district.
 - As used in this subsection, "special district" means any general improvement district or any other quasi-municipal corporation organized under the local improvement and service district laws of this State as enumerated in title 25 of NRS which is required by law



to hold elections or any fire protection district which is required by law to hold elections.

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- 2. If a city annexes an unincorporated area located in the same county as the city and adjacent to the corporate boundary, the annexed area may be included in an election precinct immediately adjacent to it.
- 3. A new election precinct may be established at any time if it lies entirely within the boundaries of any existing precinct.
- 4. If a change in the boundaries of an election precinct is made pursuant to this section during the time specified in subsection 1, the county clerk must:
- (a) Within 15 days after the change to the boundary of a precinct is established by the county clerk or ordered by a court, send to the Director of the Legislative Counsel Bureau and the Secretary of State a copy or electronic file of a map showing the new boundaries of the precinct; and
- (b) Maintain in his office an index providing the name of the precinct and describing all changes which were made, including any change in the name of the precinct and the name of any new precinct created within the boundaries of an existing precinct.
- Cities of population categories two and three are exempt from the provisions of subsection 1.
- 6. As used in this section, "electronic file" includes, without limitation, an electronic data file of a geographic information system.
 - Sec. 32. NRS 293.247 is hereby amended to read as follows:
- The Secretary of State shall adopt regulations, not inconsistent with the election laws of this State, for the conduct of primary, general, special and district elections in all cities and counties. The Secretary of State shall prescribe the forms for a declaration of candidacy, certificate of candidacy, acceptance of candidacy and any petition which is filed pursuant to the general election laws of this State.
 - 2. The regulations must prescribe:
 - (a) The duties of election boards;
 - (b) The type and amount of election supplies;
- (c) The manner of printing ballots and the number of ballots to be distributed to precincts and districts; 38
- 39 (d) The method to be used in distributing ballots to precincts and 40 districts;
 - (e) The method of inspection and the disposition of ballot boxes;
 - (f) The form and placement of instructions to voters;
- 43 (g) The recess periods for election boards;
 - (h) The size, lighting and placement of voting booths;



- 1 (i) The amount and placement of guardrails and other furniture 2 and equipment at voting places;
 - (j) The disposition of election returns;

- (k) The procedures to be used for canvasses, ties, recounts and contests [;], including, without limitation, the appropriate use of a paper record created when a voter casts a ballot on a mechanical voting system that directly records the votes electronically;
- (1) The procedures to be used to ensure the security of the ballots from the time they are transferred from the polling place until they are stored pursuant to the provisions of NRS 293.391 or 293C.390;
- (m) The procedures to be used to ensure the security and accuracy of computer programs and tapes used for elections;
- (n) The procedures to be used for the testing, use and auditing of a mechanical voting system that directly records the votes electronically and that creates a paper record when a voter casts a ballot on the system;
- (o) The procedures to be used for the disposition of absent ballots in case of an emergency;
- [(o)] (p) The forms for applications to register to vote and any other forms necessary for the administration of this title; and
- [(p)] (q) Such other matters as determined necessary by the Secretary of State.
- 3. The Secretary of State may provide interpretations and take other actions necessary for the effective administration of the statutes and regulations governing the conduct of primary, general, special and district elections in this State.
- 4. The Secretary of State shall prepare and distribute to each county and city clerk copies of:
 - (a) Laws and regulations concerning elections in this State;
 - (b) Interpretations issued by the Secretary of State's Office; and
 - (c) Any Attorney General's opinions or any state or federal court decisions which affect state election laws or regulations whenever any of those opinions or decisions become known to the Secretary of State.
 - **Sec. 33.** NRS 293.250 is hereby amended to read as follows:
 - 293.250 1. The Secretary of State shall, in a manner consistent with the election laws of this State, prescribe:
 - (a) The form of all ballots, absent ballots, diagrams, sample ballots, certificates, notices, declarations, applications to register to vote, lists, applications, [pollbooks,] registers, rosters, statements and abstracts required by the election laws of this State.
- 42 (b) The procedure to be followed when a computer is used to register voters and to keep records of registration.
 - 2. The Secretary of State shall prescribe with respect to the matter to be printed on every kind of ballot:



(a) The placement and listing of all offices, candidates and measures upon which voting is statewide, which must be uniform throughout the State.

- (b) The listing of all other candidates required to file with him, and the order of listing all offices, candidates and measures upon which voting is not statewide, from which each county or city clerk shall prepare appropriate ballot forms for use in any election in his county.
- 3. The Secretary of State shall place the condensation of each proposed constitutional amendment or statewide measure near the spaces or devices for indicating the voter's choice.
- 4. The fiscal note for, explanation of, arguments for and against, and rebuttals to such arguments of each proposed constitutional amendment or statewide measure must be included on all sample ballots.
- 5. The condensations and explanations for constitutional amendments and statewide measures proposed by initiative or referendum must be prepared by the Secretary of State, upon consultation with the Attorney General. The arguments and rebuttals for or against constitutional amendments and statewide measures proposed by initiative or referendum must be prepared in the manner set forth in NRS 293.252. The fiscal notes for constitutional amendments and statewide measures proposed by initiative or referendum must be prepared by the Secretary of State, upon consultation with the Fiscal Analysis Division of the Legislative Counsel Bureau. The condensations, explanations, arguments, rebuttals and fiscal notes must be in easily understood language and of reasonable length, and whenever feasible must be completed by August 1 of the year in which the general election is to be held.
- Except as otherwise provided in this subsection, the legal sufficiency of a condensation, explanation, argument, rebuttal or fiscal note may be challenged by filing a complaint in the First Judicial District Court not later than 5 days after the condensation, explanation, argument, rebuttal or fiscal note is prepared or accepted by the Secretary of State. All affidavits and documents in support of the challenge must be filed with the complaint. The Court shall set the matter for hearing not later than 5 days after the complaint is filed and shall give priority to such a complaint over all other matters pending with the Court, except for criminal proceedings. If a decision of the First Judicial District Court is appealed, to the extent consistent with the Nevada Rules of Appellate Procedure, the Supreme Court shall expedite such an appeal. A committee that appealed the rejection of a statement pursuant to subsection 7 of NRS 293.252 may not appeal again pursuant to this subsection.



- 7. The names of candidates for township and legislative or special district offices must be printed only on the ballots furnished to voters of that township or district.
 - [7.] 8. A county clerk:

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- (a) May divide paper ballots into two sheets in a manner which provides a clear understanding and grouping of all measures and candidates.
- (b) Shall prescribe the color or colors of the ballots and voting receipts used in any election which the clerk is required to conduct.
 - **Sec. 34.** NRS 293.252 is hereby amended to read as follows:
- 293.252 1. For each constitutional amendment or statewide measure proposed by initiative or referendum to be placed on the ballot by the Secretary of State, the Secretary of State shall, pursuant to subsection 4, appoint two committees. Except as otherwise provided in subsection 2, one committee must be composed of three persons who favor approval by the voters of the initiative or referendum and the other committee must be composed of three persons who oppose approval by the voters of the initiative or referendum.
- 2. If the Secretary of State is unable to appoint three persons who are willing to serve on a committee, he may appoint fewer than three persons to that committee, but he must appoint at least one person to each committee appointed pursuant to this section.
- 3. With respect to a committee appointed pursuant to this section:
- (a) A person may not serve simultaneously on the committee that favors approval by the voters of an initiative or referendum and the committee that opposes approval by the voters of that initiative or referendum.
 - (b) Members of the committee serve without compensation.
- (c) The term of office for each member commences upon appointment and expires upon the publication of the sample ballot containing the initiative or referendum.
- The Secretary of State shall consider appointing to a committee pursuant to this section:
- (a) Any person who has expressed an interest in serving on the committee; and
- 38 (b) A person who is a member of an organization that has expressed an interest in having a member of the organization serve 39 40 on the committee.
 - A committee appointed pursuant to this section:
 - (a) Shall elect a chairman for the committee;
- (b) Shall meet and conduct its affairs as necessary to fulfill the 43 44 requirements of this section; 45
 - (c) May seek and consider comments from the general public;



(d) Shall, based on whether the members were appointed to advocate or oppose approval by the voters of the initiative or referendum, prepare an argument either advocating or opposing approval by the voters of the initiative or referendum;

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- (e) Shall prepare a rebuttal to the argument prepared by the other committee appointed pursuant to this section;
- (f) Shall address in the argument and rebuttal prepared pursuant to paragraphs (d) and (e):
 - (1) The fiscal impact of the initiative or referendum;
- (2) The environmental impact of the initiative or referendum; and
- (3) The impact of the initiative or referendum on the public health, safety and welfare; and
- (g) Shall submit the argument and rebuttal prepared pursuant to paragraphs (d), (e) and (f) to the Secretary of State not later than the date prescribed by the Secretary of State pursuant to subsection 6.
 - 6. The Secretary of State shall provide, by rule or regulation:
- (a) The maximum permissible length of an argument and rebuttal prepared pursuant to this section; and
- (b) The date by which an argument and rebuttal prepared pursuant to this section must be submitted by a committee to the Secretary of State.
- 7. Upon receipt of an argument or rebuttal prepared pursuant to this section, the Secretary of State:
- (a) May consult with persons who are generally recognized by a national or statewide organization as having expertise in the field or area to which the initiative or referendum pertains; and
- (b) Shall reject each statement in the argument or rebuttal that he believes is libelous or factually inaccurate.
- Not later than 5 days after the Secretary of State rejects a statement pursuant to this subsection, the committee that prepared the statement may appeal that rejection [to the Attorney General. The Attorney General shall review the statement and the reasons for its rejection and may receive evidence, documentary or testimonial, to aid him in his decision. Not later than 3 business days after the appeal by the committee, the Attorney General shall issue his decision rejecting or accepting the statement. The decision of the Attorney General is a final decision for the purposes of judicial review.] in the First Judicial District Court. The First Judicial District Court shall set the matter for hearing not later than 5 days after the appeal is filed and shall give priority to such a complaint over all other matters pending with the Court, except for criminal proceedings. If a decision of the First Judicial District Court is appealed, to the extent consistent with the Nevada Rules of



Appellate Procedure, the Supreme Court shall expedite such an appeal.

- 8. The Secretary of State may revise the language submitted by a committee pursuant to this section so that it is clear, concise and suitable for incorporation in the sample ballot, but shall not alter the meaning or effect of the language without the consent of the committee.
 - **Sec. 35.** NRS 293.262 is hereby amended to read as follows:
- 293.262 An absent ballot or a ballot voted by a voter who resides in a mailing precinct must be voted:
 - 1. On a paper ballot [:
- 2. On a ballot which is voted by punching a card; or
- -3.]; or

- 2. By any other system authorized by state or federal law.
- **Sec. 36.** NRS 293.2693 is hereby amended to read as follows:
- 293.2693 If a county or city uses paper ballots [or punch cards] in an election, including, without limitation, for absent ballots and ballots voted in a mailing precinct, the county or city clerk shall provide a voter education program specific to the voting system used by the county or city. The voter education program must include, without limitation, information concerning the effect of overvoting and the procedures for correcting a vote on a ballot before it is cast and counted and for obtaining a replacement ballot.
 - Sec. 37. NRS 293.2696 is hereby amended to read as follows:
- 293.2696 The Secretary of State and each county and city clerk shall ensure that each voting system used in this State:
- 1. Secures to each voter privacy and independence in the act of voting, including, without limitation, confidentiality of the ballot of the voter;
- 2. Allows each voter to verify privately and independently the votes selected by the voter on the ballot before the ballot is cast and counted;
 - 3. Provides each voter with the opportunity, in a private and independent manner, to change the ballot and to correct any error before the ballot is cast and counted, including, without limitation, the opportunity to correct an error through the issuance of a replacement ballot if the voter is otherwise unable to change the ballot or correct the error;
- 4. Provides a permanent paper record with a manual audit capacity which must be **[available]**:
 - (a) Printed when the voter casts the ballot; and
 - (b) Available as an official record for a recount; and
- 5. Meets or exceeds the standards for voting systems established by the Federal Election Commission, including, without limitation, the error rate standards.



Sec. 38. NRS 293.2725 is hereby amended to read as follows:

- 293.2725 1. Except as otherwise provided in subsection 2, in NRS 293.3081 and 293.3083 and in federal law, a person who registers by mail to vote in this State and who has not previously voted in an election for federal office in this State:
- (a) May vote at a polling place only if the person presents to the election board officer at the polling place:
- (1) A current and valid [photo] photographic identification of the person; or
- (2) A copy of [a current utility bill, bank statement, paycheck, or document issued by a governmental entity, including, without limitation, a check, which indicates the name and address of the person;] sufficient proof of residence and identity; and
- (b) May vote by mail only if the person provides to the county or city clerk [:] with his ballot:
- (1) A copy of a current and valid [photo] photographic identification of the person; or
- (2) A copy of [a current utility bill, bank statement, paycheck, or document issued by a governmental entity, including, without limitation, a check, which indicates the name and address of the person.] sufficient proof of residence and identity.
 - 2. The provisions of this section do not apply to a person who:
- (a) Registers to vote by mail and submits with his application to register to vote:
- (1) A copy of a current and valid [photo] photographic identification; or
- (2) A copy of [a current utility bill, bank statement, paycheck, or document issued by a governmental entity, including, without limitation, a check, which indicates the name and address of the person;] sufficient proof of residence and identity;
- (b) Registers to vote by mail and submits with his application to register to vote a driver's license number or at least the last four digits of his social security number, if a state or local election official has matched that information with an existing identification record bearing the same number, name and date of birth as provided by the person in his application;
- (c) Is entitled to vote an absent ballot pursuant to the Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act, 42 U.S.C. §§ 1973ff et seq.:
- (d) Is provided the right to vote otherwise than in person under the Voting Accessibility for the Elderly and Handicapped Act, 42 U.S.C. §§ 1973ee et seq.; or
- 43 (e) Is entitled to vote otherwise than in person under any other federal law.



- **Sec. 39.** NRS 293.277 is hereby amended to read as follows:
- 2 293.277 1. Except as otherwise provided in NRS 293.541, if 3 a person's name appears in the election board register or if he 4 provides an affirmation pursuant to NRS 293.525, he is entitled to 5 vote and must sign his name in the [election board register] roster when he applies to vote. [His] Except as otherwise provided in NRS 7 293.2725, his signature must be compared by an election board 8 officer with the signature or a facsimile thereof on his original 9 application to register to vote or fone of the forms of identification listed in subsection 2. 10
- 11 2. Except as otherwise provided in NRS 293.2725, the forms of identification which may be used individually to identify a voter at the polling place are:
 - (a) The card issued to the voter at the time he registered to vote;
- 15 (b) A driver's license;

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- 16 (c) An identification card issued by the Department of Motor
 17 Vehicles:
 - (d) A military identification card; or
- 19 (e) Any other form of identification issued by a governmental 20 agency] the current and valid photographic identification which 21 contains the voter's signature. [and physical description or picture.]

Sec. 40. NRS 293.285 is hereby amended to read as follows:

- 293.285 [1.] A registered voter applying to vote shall state his name to the election board officer in charge of the election board register and the officer shall immediately announce the name and take the registered voter's signature. [After a registered voter is properly identified at a polling place where paper ballots are used, one partisan ballot and, if required, one nonpartisan ballot, correctly folded must be given to the voter and the number of the ballot or ballots must be written by an election board officer upon the pollbook, opposite the name of the registered voter receiving the ballot or ballots.
- 2. In pollbooks in which voters' names have been entered,
 election officers may indicate the application to vote without writing
 the name.]
 - **Sec. 41.** NRS 293.297 is hereby amended to read as follows:
 - 293.297 [1. Except as otherwise provided in subsection 2:
- 38 (a) Any voter who spoils his ballot may return the spoiled ballot to the election board and receive another in its place.
- 40 (b) The election board officers shall indicate in the pollbook that 41 the ballot is spoiled and shall enter the number of the ballot issued in 42 its place.
- 43 (c) Each spoiled ballot returned must be cancelled by writing the 44 word "Cancelled" across the back of the ballot. A spoiled paper
- 45 ballot must be cancelled without unfolding it.



— (d) A record must be made of those cancelled ballots at the closing of the polls and before counting. The ballots must be placed in a separate envelope and returned to the appropriate county clerk with the election supplies.

- 2. If ballots which are voted on a A mechanical recording device which directly records the votes electronically [are used,] must allow the voter [must be able] to change his vote before the mechanical recording device permanently records that vote.
 - Sec. 42. NRS 293.303 is hereby amended to read as follows:
 - 293.303 1. A person applying to vote may be challenged:
- (a) Orally by any registered voter of the precinct or district upon the ground that he is not the person entitled to vote as claimed or has voted before at the same election; or
- (b) On any ground set forth in a challenge filed with the county clerk pursuant to the provisions of NRS 293.547.
- 2. If a person is challenged, an election board officer shall tender the challenged person the following oath or affirmation:
- (a) If the challenge is on the ground that he does not belong to the political party designated upon the register, "I swear or affirm under penalty of perjury that I belong to the political party designated upon the register";
- (b) If the challenge is on the ground that the register does not show that he designated the political party to which he claims to belong, "I swear or affirm under penalty of perjury that I designated on the application to register to vote the political party to which I claim to belong";
- (c) If the challenge is on the ground that he does not reside at the residence for which the address is listed in the election board register, "I swear or affirm under penalty of perjury that I reside at the residence for which the address is listed in the election board register";
- (d) If the challenge is on the ground that he previously voted a ballot for the election, "I swear or affirm under penalty of perjury that I have not voted for any of the candidates or questions included on this ballot for this election"; or
- (e) If the challenge is on the ground that he is not the person he claims to be, "I swear or affirm under penalty of perjury that I am the person whose name is in this election board register."
 - → The oath or affirmation must be set forth on a form prepared by the Secretary of State and signed by the challenged person under penalty of perjury.
 - 3. Except as otherwise provided in subsection 4, if the challenged person refuses to execute the oath or affirmation so tendered, he must not be issued a ballot, and the officer in charge of



the election board register shall write the words "Challenged" opposite his name in the election board register.

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- 4. If the challenged person refuses to execute the oath or affirmation set forth in paragraph (a) or (b) of subsection 2, the election board officers shall issue him a nonpartisan ballot.
- 5. If the challenged person refuses to execute the oath or affirmation set forth in paragraph (c) of subsection 2, the election board officers shall inform him that he is entitled to vote only in the manner prescribed in NRS 293.304.
- 6. If the challenged person executes the oath or affirmation and the challenge is not based on the ground set forth in paragraph (e) of subsection 2, the election board officers shall issue him a partisan ballot.
- If the challenge is based on the ground set forth in paragraph (c) of subsection 2, and the challenged person executes the oath or affirmation, the election board shall not issue the person a ballot until he furnishes [satisfactory]:
- (a) Current and valid photographic identification which [contains proof of] indicates the address at which he actually resides \Box ; or
 - (b) Sufficient proof of residence and identity.
- 8. If the challenge is based on the ground set forth in paragraph (e) of subsection 2 and the challenged person executes the oath or affirmation, the election board shall not issue the person a ballot unless he:
- (a) Furnishes [official identification which contains] photograph of himself, such as his driver's license or other official document: 1:
 - (1) Current and valid photographic identification; or
 - (2) Sufficient proof of residence and identity; or
- (b) Brings before the election board officers a person who is at least 18 years of age who:
 - (1) Furnishes [official identification which contains photograph of himself, such as his driver's license or other official document:1:
 - (I) Current and valid photographic identification; or
 - (II) Sufficient proof of residence and identity; and
 - (2) Executes an oath or affirmation under penalty of perjury that the challenged person is who he swears he is.
 - 9. The election board officers shall:
 - (a) Record on the challenge list:
 - (1) The name of the challenged person;
- (2) The name of the registered voter who initiated the 43 44 challenge; and 45
 - (3) The result of the challenge; and



- (b) If possible, orally notify the registered voter who initiated the challenge of the result of the challenge.
 - **Sec. 43.** NRS 293.304 is hereby amended to read as follows:
 - 1. If a person is successfully challenged on the 293.304 ground set forth in paragraph (c) of subsection 2 of NRS 293.303 or if a person refuses to provide an affirmation pursuant to NRS 293.525, the election board shall instruct the voter that he may vote only at the special polling place in the manner set forth in this section.
 - 2. The county clerk of each county shall maintain a special polling place in his office and at such other locations as he deems necessary during each election. The ballots voted at the special polling place must be kept separate from the ballots of voters who have not been so challenged or who have provided an affirmation pursuant to NRS 293.525 in [+
- (a) A special ballot box if the ballots are paper ballots or ballots which are voted by punching a card; or
- (b) Al a special sealed container if the ballots are ballots which are voted on a mechanical recording device which directly records the votes electronically.
- 3. A person who votes at a special polling place may place his 22 vote only for the following offices and questions:
 - (a) President and Vice President of the United States;
 - (b) United States Senator:

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- (c) All state officers for whom all voters in the State may vote;
- (d) All officers for whom all voters in the county may vote; and
- (e) Questions which have been submitted to all voters of the county or State.
- 29 The ballots voted at the special polling place must be 30 counted when other ballots are counted and [:
 - (a) If the ballots are paper ballots or ballots which are voted by punching a card, maintained in a separate ballot box; or
 - (b) If the ballots are ballots which are voted on a mechanical recording device which directly records the votes electronically, maintained in a separate sealed container [-
 - → until any contest of election is resolved or the date for filing a contest of election has passed, whichever is later.
 - **Sec. 44.** NRS 293.309 is hereby amended to read as follows:
 - The county clerk of each county shall prepare an absent ballot for the use of registered voters who have requested county clerk shall absent ballots. The make reasonable accommodations for the use of the absent ballot by an elderly or disabled person, including, without limitation, by providing, upon request, the absent ballot in 12-point type to an elderly or disabled person.



- 1 2. The ballot must be prepared and ready for distribution to a 2 registered voter who:
 - (a) Resides within the State, not later than 20 days before the election in which it is to be used; or
 - (b) Resides outside the State, not later than [40] 45 days before a primary or general election, if possible.
 - 3. Any legal action which would prevent the ballot from being issued pursuant to subsection 2 is moot and of no effect.
 - **Sec. 45.** NRS 293.313 is hereby amended to read as follows:
 - 293.313 1. Except as otherwise provided in NRS [293.272 and] 293.502, a registered voter who provides sufficient written notice to the county clerk may vote an absent ballot as provided in this chapter.
 - 2. A registered voter who:

- (a) Is at least 65 years of age; or
- 16 (b) Has a physical disability or condition which substantially impairs his ability to go to the polling place,
- 18 → may request an absent ballot for all elections held during the year 19 he requests an absent ballot.
 - 3. As used in this section, "sufficient written notice" means a:
 - (a) Written request for an absent ballot which is signed by the registered voter and returned to the county clerk in person or by mail or facsimile machine;
 - (b) Form prescribed by the Secretary of State which is completed and signed by the registered voter and returned to the county clerk in person or by mail or facsimile machine; or
 - (c) Form provided by the Federal Government.
 - 4. A county clerk shall consider a request from a voter who has given sufficient written notice on a form provided by the Federal Government as a request for an absent ballot for the two primary and general elections immediately following the date on which the county clerk received the request.
 - 5. It is unlawful for a person fraudulently to request an absent ballot in the name of another person or to induce or coerce another person fraudulently to request an absent ballot in the name of another person. A person who violates this subsection is guilty of a category E felony and shall be punished as provided in NRS 193.130.
 - **Sec. 46.** NRS 293.323 is hereby amended to read as follows:
 - 293.323 1. Except as otherwise provided in subsection 2, if the request for an absent ballot is made by mail or facsimile machine, the county clerk shall, as soon as the official absent ballot for the precinct or district in which the applicant resides has been printed, send to the voter by first-class mail if the absent voter is within the boundaries of the United States, its territories or



1 possessions or on a military base, or by air mail if the absent voter is 2 in a foreign country but not on a military base:

- (a) [Except as otherwise provided in paragraph (b):
- (1) An absent ballot;

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- $\frac{(2)}{(b)}$ (b) A return envelope;
 - (c) Supplies for marking the ballot;
- [(4)] (d) An envelope or similar device into which the ballot is inserted to ensure its secrecy; and
 - (5) Instructions.
- 10 (b) In those counties using a mechanical voting system whereby 11 a vote is east by punching a card:
- 12 (1) A card attached to a sheet of foam plastic or similar 13 backing material;
- 14 (2) A return envelope;
- 15 <u>(3) A punching instrument;</u>
 - (4) A sample ballot;
- 17 (5) An envelope or similar device into which the card is inserted to ensure its secrecy; and
- 19 <u>(6)</u> (*e*) Instructions.
 - 2. If the county clerk fails to send an absent ballot pursuant to subsection 1 to a voter who resides within the continental United States, the county clerk may use a facsimile machine to send an absent ballot and instructions to the voter. The voter shall mail his absent ballot to the county clerk.
 - 3. The return envelope sent pursuant to subsection 1 must include postage prepaid by first-class mail if the absent voter is within the boundaries of the United States, its territories or possessions or on a military base.
 - 4. Nothing may be enclosed or sent with an absent ballot except as required by subsection 1 or 2.
 - 5. Before depositing a ballot in the mails or sending a ballot by facsimile machine, the county clerk shall record the date the ballot is issued, the name of the registered voter to whom it is issued, his precinct or district, his political affiliation, if any, the number of the ballot and any remarks he finds appropriate.
 - 6. The Secretary of State shall adopt regulations to carry out the provisions of subsection 2.
 - **Sec. 47.** NRS 293.330 is hereby amended to read as follows:
 - 293.330 1. Except as otherwise provided in NRS 293.3157 and subsection 2 of NRS 293.323 and any regulations adopted pursuant thereto, when an absent voter receives his ballot, he must mark and fold it [, if it is a paper ballot, or punch it, if the ballot is voted by punching a card,] in accordance with the instructions, deposit it in the return envelope, seal the envelope, affix his



signature on the back of the envelope in the space provided therefor and mail the return envelope.

- 2. Except as otherwise provided in subsection 3, if an absent voter who has requested a ballot by mail applies to vote the ballot in person at:
- (a) The office of the county clerk, he must mark [or punch] the ballot, seal it in the return envelope and affix his signature in the same manner as provided in subsection 1, and deliver the envelope to the clerk.
- (b) A polling place, including, without limitation, a polling place for early voting, he must surrender the absent ballot and provide [satisfactory identification] current and valid photographic identification or sufficient proof of residence and identity before being issued a ballot to vote at the polling place. A person who receives a surrendered absent ballot shall mark it "Cancelled."
- 3. If an absent voter who has requested a ballot by mail applies to vote in person at the office of the county clerk or a polling place, including, without limitation, a polling place for early voting, and the voter does not have the absent ballot to deliver or surrender, the voter must be issued a ballot to vote if the voter:
- (a) Provides [satisfactory identification;] current and valid photographic identification or sufficient proof of residence and identity;
 - (b) Is a registered voter who is otherwise entitled to vote; and
- (c) Signs an affirmation under penalty of perjury on a form prepared by the Secretary of State declaring that the voter has not voted during the election.
- 4. Except as otherwise provided in NRS 293.316, it is unlawful for any person to return an absent ballot other than the voter who requested the absent ballot or, at the request of the voter, a member of his family. A person who returns an absent ballot and who is a member of the family of the voter who requested the absent ballot shall, under penalty of perjury, indicate on a form prescribed by the county clerk that he is a member of the family of the voter who requested the absent ballot and that the voter requested that he return the absent ballot. A person who violates the provisions of this subsection is guilty of a category E felony and shall be punished as provided in NRS 193.130.

Sec. 48. NRS 293.333 is hereby amended to read as follows:

293.333 On the day of an election, the precinct or district election boards receiving the absent voters' ballots from the county clerk shall, in the presence of a majority of the election board officers, remove the ballots from the ballot box and the containers in which the ballots were transported pursuant to NRS 293.325 and deposit the ballots in the regular ballot box in the following manner:



- The name of the voter, as shown on the return envelope, must be called and checked as if the voter were voting in person;
- The signature on the back of the return envelope must be compared with that on the original application to register to vote;
- 3. If the board determines that the absent voter is entitled to cast his ballot, the envelope must be opened, the numbers on the ballot and envelope compared, the number strip or stub detached from the ballot, and, if the numbers are the same, the ballot deposited in the regular ballot box; and
- 10 4. The election board officers shall mark in the [pollbook] 11 **roster** opposite the name of the voter the word "Voted."
 - **Sec. 49.** NRS 293.345 is hereby amended to read as follows:
 - 293.345 The county clerk shall mail to each registered voter in each mailing precinct and in each absent ballot mailing precinct, before 5 p.m. on the third Thursday in [August] April and before 5 p.m. on the fourth Tuesday in October of any year in which a general election is to be held, an official mailing ballot to be voted by him at the election.
 - **Sec. 50.** NRS 293.350 is hereby amended to read as follows: 293.350 1. The county clerk shall:
- 21 (a) Make certain of the names and addresses of all voters 22 registered to vote in mailing precincts and absent ballot mailing 23 precincts;
 - (b) Enroll the name and address of each voter found eligible to vote in those precincts in the mailing precinct record book;
 - (c) Mark the number of the ballot on the return envelope; and
 - (d) Mail the ballot to the registered voter.
 - 2. Except as otherwise provided in subsection 3, the The ballot must be accompanied by:
 - (a) Supplies for marking the ballot;
 - (b) A return envelope;

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- (c) An envelope or similar device into which the ballot is 32 33 inserted to ensure its secrecy;
 - (d) A sample ballot; and
- 35 (e) Instructions regarding the manner of marking and returning 36
- [3. In those counties using a mechanical voting system whereby a vote is cast by punching a card, the ballot must be 38 39 accompanied by:
- (a) A sheet of foam plastic or similar backing material attached 40 41 to the card:
- 42 (b) A punching instrument;
- 43 (c) A return envelope;
- 44 (d) An envelope or similar device into which the card is inserted 45 to ensure its secrecy:



1 (e) A sample ballot; and

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- (f) Instructions regarding the manner of punching and returning the card.]
 - **Sec. 51.** NRS 293.353 is hereby amended to read as follows:
- 293.353 Upon receipt of a mailing ballot from the county clerk, the registered voter must:
 - 1. [Except as otherwise provided in subsection 2:
- 8 (a)] Immediately after opening the envelope, mark and fold the ballot;
 - [(b)] 2. Place the ballot in the return envelope;
 - (e) 3. Affix his signature on the back of the envelope; and
- 12 [(d)] 4. Mail or deliver the envelope to the county clerk.
- 13 [2. In those counties using a mechanical voting system whereby a vote is cast by punching a card:
- 15 (a) Immediately after opening the envelope, punch the card;
- 16 (b) Place the unfolded card in the return envelope;
 - (c) Affix his signature on the back of the envelope; and
 - (d) Mail or deliver the envelope to the county clerk.
 - Sec. 52. NRS 293.356 is hereby amended to read as follows:
 - 293.356 If a request is made to vote early by a registered voter in person, the election board shall issue a ballot for early voting to the voter. Such a ballot must be voted on the premises of a polling place for early voting established pursuant to NRS 293.3564 or 293.3572. [and returned to the election board. If the ballot is a paper ballot, a ballot which is voted by punching a card or a ballot which is voted by any other system authorized by state or federal law, the election board shall follow the same procedure as in the case of absent ballots received by mail.]
 - **Sec. 53.** NRS 293.3585 is hereby amended to read as follows:
 - 293.3585 1. Upon the appearance of a person to cast a ballot for early voting, the deputy clerk for early voting shall:
 - (a) Determine that the person is a registered voter in the county;
 - (b) Instruct the voter to sign the roster for early voting; and
- (c) Verify the signature of the voter against that contained on the original application to register to vote or facsimile thereof, the card issued to the voter at the time of registration or [some other piece of official identification.] the current and valid photographic identification or sufficient proof of residence and identity.

 2. The county clerk shall prescribe a procedure, approved by
 - 2. The county clerk shall prescribe a procedure, approved by the Secretary of State, to determine that the voter has not already voted pursuant to this section.
 - 3. The roster for early voting must contain:
- 43 (a) The voter's name, the address where he is registered to vote, 44 his voter identification number and a place for the voter's signature;
 - (b) The voter's precinct or voting district number; and



(c) The date of voting early in person.

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- When a voter is entitled to cast his ballot and has identified himself to the satisfaction of the deputy clerk for early voting, he is entitled to receive the appropriate ballot or ballots, but only for his own use at the polling place for early voting.
- 5. [If the ballot is voted by punching a card, the deputy clerk for early voting shall:
- 8 (a) Ensure that the voter's precinct or voting district and the form of ballot are indicated on the card;
- 10 (b) Direct the voter to the appropriate mechanical recording 11 device for his form of ballot; and
 - (c) Allow the voter to place his voted ballot in the ballot box.
- 6. If the ballot is voted on a mechanical recording device which 14 directly records the votes electronically, the The deputy clerk for 15 early voting shall:
 - (a) Prepare the mechanical recording device for the voter;
 - (b) Ensure that the voter's precinct or voting district and the form of ballot are indicated on each part of the voting receipt;
 - (c) Retain one part of the voting receipt for the election board and return the other part of the voting receipt to the voter; and
 - (d) Allow the voter to cast his vote.
- A voter applying to vote early by personal appearance [7.] 6. may be challenged pursuant to NRS 293.303. 23
 - **Sec. 54.** NRS 293.3625 is hereby amended to read as follows:
 - 293.3625 The county clerk shall make a record of the receipt at the central counting place of each sealed container used to transport official ballots pursuant to NRS 293.304, 293.325, [293.3602,] 293B.330 and 293B.335. The record must include the numbers indicated on the container and its seal pursuant to NRS 293.462.
 - Sec. 55. NRS 293.363 is hereby amended to read as follows:
 - 293.363 When the polls are closed, the counting board shall prepare to count the ballots voted. The counting procedure must be public and continue without adjournment until completed. If the ballots are paper ballots, for ballots which are voted by punching a eard, the counting board shall prepare in the following manner:
 - The pollbooks must be compared and errors corrected until the books agree.
 - 2. 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 [, on comparison of the count with the pollbook, 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.

- [3.] 2. If the ballots in the container or box are found to exceed in number the number of names *indicated* on the [pollbooks,] roster as having voted, the ballots must be replaced in the container or box, and a counting board officer, with his 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.
- [4.] 3. When it has been ascertained that [the pollbook and] the number of ballots agree 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. 56. NRS 293.367 is hereby amended to read as follows:

- 293.367 1. The basic factor to be considered by an election board when making a determination of whether a particular ballot must be rejected is whether any identifying mark appears on the ballot which, in the opinion of the election board, constitutes an identifying mark such that there is a reasonable belief entertained in good faith that the ballot has been tampered with and, as a result of the tampering, the outcome of the election would be affected.
- 2. The regulations for counting ballots must include provisions that:
- (a) An error in marking one or more votes on a ballot does not invalidate any votes properly marked on that ballot.
- (b) A soiled or defaced ballot may not be rejected if it appears that the soiling or defacing was inadvertent and was not done purposely to identify the ballot.
- (c) Only devices provided for in this chapter or chapter 293B of NRS may be used in marking ballots.
- (d) It is unlawful for any election board officer to place any mark upon any ballot other than a spoiled ballot.
- (e) When an election board officer rejects a ballot for any alleged defect or illegality, the officer shall seal the ballot in an envelope and write upon the envelope a statement that it was rejected and the reason for rejecting it. Each election board officer shall sign the envelope.
- [(f) In counties where mechanical voting systems are used whereby a vote is cast by punching a card, a superfluous punch into any card does not constitute grounds for rejection of the ballot



unless the election board determines that the condition of the ballot justifies its exclusion pursuant to subsection 1.1

 Sec. 57. 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.
- 2. [Except as otherwise provided in subsection 1, in an election in which a paper ballot is used whereby a vote is cast by placing a cross in the designated square on the paper ballot, a vote on the ballot must not be counted unless indicated by a cross in the designated square.
- 13 3. Except as otherwise provided in subsection 1, in an election
 14 in which a mechanical voting system is used whereby a vote is cast
 15 by punching a card:
 - (a) A chip on the card must be counted as a vote if:
- 19 (2) The fibers of paper on at least one edge of the chip are 20 broken in a way that permits unimpeded light to be seen through the 21 card.
 - (b) A writing or other mark on the card, including, without limitation, a cross, check, tear or scratch, may not be counted as a vote. The remaining votes on such a card must be counted unless the ballot is otherwise disgualified.
- 26 4.] Except as otherwise provided in subsection 1, in an election 27 in which a mechanical voting system is used whereby a vote is cast 28 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.
 - [5.] 3. The Secretary of State:
 - (a) May adopt regulations establishing additional uniform, statewide standards, not inconsistent with this section, for counting a vote cast by [a] the method of voting described in subsection 2; [, 3 or 4:] 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, [, 3 or 4,] including, without limitation, a vote cast on a mechanical recording device which directly records the votes electronically.



- **Sec. 58.** NRS 293.368 is hereby amended to read as follows:
- 293.368 1. Whenever a candidate whose name appears upon the ballot at a primary election dies after 5 p.m. of the second Tuesday in [July,] *March*, his name must remain on the ballot and the votes cast for the deceased candidate must be counted in determining the nomination for the office for which the decedent was a candidate.
- 2. If the deceased candidate on the ballot at the primary election receives the number of votes required to receive the nomination to the office for which he was a candidate, except as otherwise provided in subsection 3 of NRS 293.165, he shall be deemed nominated and there shall be a vacancy in the nomination that must be filled as provided in NRS 293.165 or 293.166. If the deceased person was a candidate for a nonpartisan office, the nomination must be filled pursuant to subsection 2 of NRS 293.165.
- 3. Whenever a candidate whose name appears upon the ballot at a general election dies after 5 p.m. of the second Tuesday in [September,] August, the votes cast for the deceased candidate must be counted in determining the results of the election for the office for which the decedent was a candidate.
- 4. If the deceased candidate on the ballot at the general election receives the majority of the votes cast for the office, he shall be deemed elected and the office to which he was elected shall be deemed vacant at the beginning of the term for which he was elected. The vacancy thus created must be filled in the same manner as if the candidate had died after taking office for that term.
 - **Sec. 59.** NRS 293.370 is hereby amended to read as follows:
- 293.370 1. When all the votes have been [tallied,] counted, the counting board officers shall enter on the tally lists by the name of each candidate the number of votes he received. The number must be expressed in words and figures. The vote for and against any question submitted to the electors must be entered in the same manner.
- 2. The tally lists must show the number of votes, other than absentee votes and votes in a mailing precinct, which each candidate received in each precinct at:
 - (a) A primary election held in an even-numbered year; or
 - (b) A general election.

- **Sec. 60.** NRS 293.373 is hereby amended to read as follows:
- 293.373 If paper ballots [or ballots which are voted by punching a card] are used:
- 1. After the tally lists have been completed, the voted ballots, rejected ballots, tally lists for regular ballots, tally list for rejected ballots, challenge list, stubs of used ballots, spoiled ballots and



unused ballots must be sealed under cover by the counting board officers and addressed to the county clerk.

2. The other [pollbooks,] tally lists and election board register must be returned to the county clerk.

- **Sec. 61.** NRS 293.385 is hereby amended to read as follows:
- 293.385 1. After 8 a.m. on election day, the counting board, if it is responsible for counting absent ballots, or the absent ballot central counting board shall withdraw from the appropriate ballot boxes or containers all the ballots received the previous day and ascertain that each box or container has the required number of ballots according to the county clerk's absent voters' ballot record.
- 2. If any absent ballots are received by the county clerk on election day pursuant to NRS 293.316, the county clerk shall deposit the absent ballots in the appropriate ballot boxes or containers.
- 3. After 8 a.m. on election day, the appropriate board shall count in public the votes cast on the absent ballots.
- 4. If paper ballots are used, the results of the absent ballot vote in each precinct must be certified and submitted to the county clerk who shall have the results added to the regular votes of the precinct. [If a mechanical voting system is used in which a voter casts his ballot by punching a card which is counted by a computer, the absent ballots may be counted with the regular votes of the precinct.] The returns of absent ballots must be reported separately from the regular votes of the precinct, unless reporting the returns separately would violate the secrecy of a voter's ballot. The county clerks shall develop a procedure to ensure that each ballot is kept secret.
- 5. Any person who disseminates to the public in any way information pertaining to the count of absent ballots before the polls close is guilty of a misdemeanor.
 - **Sec. 62.** NRS 293.391 is hereby amended to read as follows:
- 293.391 1. The *rosters*, voted ballots, rejected ballots, spoiled ballots, challenge lists, voting receipts, records printed on paper of voted ballots collected pursuant to NRS 293B.400, 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 [and pollbooks] collected pursuant to NRS 293B.400 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 **[pollbooks]** *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.
- 5. The voted ballots deposited with the county clerk are not subject to the inspection of anyone, except in cases of 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.
- **Sec. 63.** 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, 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 chairman 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 chairman of the recount board. If a registrar of voters has not been appointed for the county, the chairman of the board of county commissioners, if he is not a candidate on the ballot, shall act as chairman 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 chairman of the board of county commissioners is a candidate on the ballot, the chairman 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 chairman 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 chairman of the recount board unless the recount is for the office of city clerk, in which case the mayor of the city, if he is not a candidate on the ballot, shall act as



chairman 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 chairman 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.

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- 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. [Except in counties or cities using a mechanical voting system, the recount must include a count and inspection of all ballots, including rejected ballots, and must determine whether those ballots are marked as required by law.
- —4.] If a recount is demanded in a county or city using a mechanical voting system, the person who demanded the recount shall select the ballots for the office or ballot question affected from 5 percent of the precincts, but in no case fewer than three precincts, after notification to each candidate for the office or his authorized representative. The recount board shall examine the selected ballots, including any duplicate or rejected ballots, shall determine whether the ballots have been voted in accordance with this title and shall count the valid ballots by hand. In addition, a recount by computer must be made of all the selected ballots. If the count by hand or the recount by computer of the selected ballots shows a discrepancy equal to or greater than 1 percent or five votes, whichever is greater, for the candidate demanding the recount or the candidate who won the election according to the original canvass of the returns, or in favor of or against a ballot question, according to the original canvass of the returns, the county or city clerk shall order a count by hand of all the ballots for that office or ballot question. Otherwise, the county or city clerk shall order a recount by computer of all the ballots for all candidates for the office or all the ballots for the ballot question.
- [5.] 4. The county or city clerk shall unseal and give to the recount board all ballots to be counted.
- [6.] 5. In the case of a demand for a recount affecting more than one county, the demand must be made to the Secretary of State, who shall notify the county clerks to proceed with the recount.
 - **Sec. 64.** NRS 293.462 is hereby amended to read as follows:
- 293.462 1. Each container used to transport official ballots pursuant to NRS 293.304, 293.325, [293.3602,] 293B.330 and 293B.335 must:
 - (a) Be constructed of metal or any other rigid material; and



(b) Contain a seal which is placed on the container to ensure detection of any opening of the container.

- 2. The container and seal must be separately numbered for identification.
 - **Sec. 65.** NRS 293.481 is hereby amended to read as follows:
- 293.481 1. Except as otherwise provided in subsection 2 or NRS 295.121 or 295.217, every governing body of a political subdivision, public or quasi-public corporation, or other local agency authorized by law to submit questions to the qualified electors or registered voters of a designated territory, when the governing body decides to submit a question:
- (a) At a general election, shall provide to each county clerk within the designated territory on or before the third Monday in July preceding the election:
- (1) A copy of the question, including an explanation of the question;
 - (2) Arguments for and against the question; and
- (3) If the question is an advisory question that proposes a bond, tax, fee or expense, a fiscal note prepared by the governing body in accordance with subsection 4 of NRS 293.482.
- (b) At a primary election, shall provide to each county clerk within the designated territory on or before the second Friday after the first Monday in [May] January preceding the election:
- (1) A copy of the question, including an explanation of the question;
 - (2) Arguments for and against the question; and
- (3) If the question is an advisory question that proposes a bond, tax, fee or expense, a fiscal note prepared by the governing body in accordance with subsection 4 of NRS 293.482.
- (c) At any election other than a primary or general election at which the county clerk gives notice of the election or otherwise performs duties in connection therewith other than the registration of electors and the making of records of registered voters available for the election, shall provide to each county clerk at least 60 days before the election:
- (1) A copy of the question, including an explanation of the question;
 - (2) Arguments for and against the question; and
- (3) If the question is an advisory question that proposes a bond, tax, fee or expense, a fiscal note prepared by the governing body in accordance with subsection 4 of NRS 293.482.
- (d) At any city election at which the city clerk gives notice of the election or otherwise performs duties in connection therewith, shall provide to the city clerk at least 60 days before the election:



- 1 (1) A copy of the question, including an explanation of the 2 question;
 - (2) Arguments for and against the question; and

- (3) If the question is an advisory question that proposes a bond, tax, fee or expense, a fiscal note prepared by the governing body in accordance with subsection 4 of NRS 293.482.
 - 2. A question may be submitted after the dates specified in subsection 1 if the question is expressly privileged or required to be submitted pursuant to the provisions of Article 19 of the Constitution of the State of Nevada, or pursuant to the provisions of chapter 295 of NRS or any other statute except NRS 293.482, 354.59817, 354.5982, 387.3285 or 387.3287 or any statute that authorizes the governing body to issue bonds upon the approval of the voters.
 - 3. A county or city clerk may charge any political subdivision, public or quasi-public corporation, or other local agency which submits a question a reasonable fee sufficient to pay for the increased costs incurred in including the question, explanation, arguments and fiscal note on the ballot.
 - **Sec. 66.** NRS 293.501 is hereby amended to read as follows: 293.501 Notwithstanding any other provisions of this title:
 - 1. Any elector of this State who resides outside this State may [use the form] register to vote in this State using the:
 - (a) Form provided by the Federal Government pursuant to the provisions of the Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act of 1986, 42 U.S.C. [§ 1973, to register to vote in this State.] §§ 1973ff et seq.; or
- 28 (b) National Mail Voter Registration Form developed by the 29 Federal Government pursuant to the provisions of the National 30 Voter Registration Act, 42 U.S.C. §§ 1973gg et. seq.
 - 2. The county clerk shall not register a voter who submits the form from any location within this State.
 - 3. If an elector registers to vote pursuant to the provisions of subsection 1, he shall be deemed to be registered as of the date that the form or the envelope containing the form is postmarked.
 - **Sec. 67.** NRS 293.505 is hereby amended to read as follows:
 - 293.505 1. All justices of the peace, except those located in county seats, are ex officio field registrars to carry out the provisions of this chapter.
 - 2. The county clerk shall appoint at least one registered voter to serve as a field registrar of voters who, except as otherwise provided in NRS 293.5055, shall register voters within the county for which he is appointed. Except as otherwise provided in subsection 1, a candidate for any office may not be appointed or serve as a field



registrar. A field registrar serves at the pleasure of the county clerk and shall perform his duties as the county clerk may direct.

A field registrar shall demand of any person who applies for registration all information required by the application to register to vote and shall administer all oaths required by this chapter.

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- When a field registrar has in his possession five or more completed applications to register to vote, he shall forward them to the county clerk, but in no case may he hold any number of them for more than 10 days.
- Each field registrar shall forward to the county clerk all completed applications in his possession immediately after the fifth Sunday preceding an election. Within 5 days after the fifth Sunday preceding any general election or general city election, a field registrar shall return all unused applications in his possession to the county clerk. If all of the unused applications are not returned to the county clerk, the field registrar shall account for the unreturned applications.
- Each field registrar shall submit to the county clerk a list of the serial numbers of the completed applications to register to vote and the names of the electors on those applications. The serial numbers must be listed in numerical order.
- Each field registrar shall post notices sent to him by the county clerk for posting in accordance with the election laws of this
- A field registrar, employee of a voter registration agency or 8. person assisting a voter pursuant to subsection 12 of NRS 293.5235
 - (a) Delegate any of his duties to another person; or
- (b) Refuse to register a person on account of that person's political party affiliation.
- A person shall not hold himself out to be or attempt to exercise the duties of a field registrar unless he has been so appointed.
- 10. A county clerk, field registrar, employee of a voter 35 registration agency or person assisting a voter pursuant to subsection 12 of NRS 293.5235 shall not:
 - (a) Solicit a vote for or against a particular question or candidate:
 - (b) Speak to a voter on the subject of marking his ballot for or against a particular question or candidate; or
- (c) Distribute any petition or other material concerning a 41 42 candidate or question which will be on the ballot for the ensuing 43 election.
- 44 → while he is registering an elector.



- 11. When the county clerk receives applications to register to vote from a field registrar, he shall issue a receipt to the field registrar. The receipt must include:
 - (a) The number of persons registered; and

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- (b) The political party of the persons registered.
- 12. A county clerk, field registrar, employee of a voter registration agency or person assisting a voter pursuant to subsection 12 of NRS 293.5235 shall not:
- (a) Knowingly register a person who is not a qualified elector or a person who has filed a false or misleading application to register to vote:
- (b) Alter or deface an application to register to vote that has been signed by an elector except to correct information contained in the application after receiving notice from the elector that a change in or addition to the information is required; or
- (c) Register a person who fails to provide [satisfactory proof of identification and the address at which he actually resides.] current and valid photographic identification or sufficient proof of residence and identity.
- 13. If a field registrar violates any of the provisions of this section, the county clerk shall immediately suspend the field registrar and notify the district attorney of the county in which the violation occurred.
- A person who violates any of the provisions of subsection 8, 9, 10 or 12 is guilty of a category E felony and shall be punished 26 as provided in NRS 193.130.

NRS 293.517 is hereby amended to read as follows: Sec. 68. 1. Any elector residing within the county may 293.517 register:

(a) Except as otherwise provided in NRS 293.560 and 293C.527, by appearing before the county clerk, a field registrar or a voter registration agency, completing the application to register to vote, giving true and satisfactory answers to all questions relevant to his identity and right to vote. [, and providing proof of his residence and identity; The county clerk, field registrar or voter registration agency shall require a person to provide a copy of current and valid photographic identification or a copy of sufficient proof of residence and identity, as proof of residence and identity, before registering the person to vote. An elector who registers to vote pursuant to this paragraph shall be deemed to be registered after he completes the application to register to vote and provides a copy of current and valid photographic identification or a copy of sufficient proof of residence and identity, as proof of his residence and identity.



(b) By completing and mailing or personally delivering to the county clerk an application to register to vote pursuant to the provisions of NRS 293.5235.

- (c) Pursuant to the provisions of NRS 293.501 or 293.524. [; or]
- (d) At his residence with the assistance of a field registrar pursuant to NRS 293.5237.
- The county clerk shall require a person to submit official identification as proof of residence and identity, such as a driver's license or other official document, before registering him. If the
- 2. If an applicant registers to vote pursuant to [this subsection] subsection 1 and fails to provide proof of his residence and identity, the applicant must provide proof of his residence and identity before [casting]:
- (a) Signing a petition required under the election laws of this State; or
- **(b)** Casting a ballot in person or by mail or after casting a provisional ballot pursuant to NRS 293.3081 or 293.3083.
- [2.] 3. The application to register to vote must be signed and verified under penalty of perjury by the elector registering.
- [3.] 4. Each elector who is or has been married must be registered under his own given or first name, and not under the given or first name or initials of his spouse.
- [4.] 5. An elector who is registered and changes his name must complete a new application to register to vote. He may obtain a new application:
 - (a) At the office of the county clerk or field registrar;
- (b) By submitting an application to register to vote pursuant to the provisions of NRS 293.5235;
- (c) By submitting a written statement to the county clerk requesting the county clerk to mail an application to register to vote; or
 - (d) At any voter registration agency.
- → If the elector fails to register under his new name, he may be challenged pursuant to the provisions of NRS 293.303 or 293C.292 and may be required to furnish proof of identity and subsequent change of name.
- [5. An elector who registers to vote pursuant to paragraph (a) of subsection 1 shall be deemed to be registered upon the completion of his application to register to vote.]
- 6. After the county clerk determines that the application to register to vote of a person is complete and that the person is eligible to vote, he shall issue a voter registration card to the voter which contains:
- (a) The name, address, political affiliation and precinct number of the voter;



(b) The date of issuance; and

(c) The signature of the county clerk.

Sec. 69. NRS 293.5235 is hereby amended to read as follows:

293.5235 1. Except as otherwise provided in NRS 293.502, a person may register to vote by mailing [an] a completed application to register to vote to the county clerk of the county in which he resides. A person may include a copy of current and valid photographic identification or a copy of sufficient proof of residence and identity with a completed application to register to vote mailed to a county clerk. The county clerk shall, upon request, mail an application to register to vote to an applicant. The county clerk shall make the applications available at various public places in the county. An application to register to vote may be used to correct information in the registrar of voters' register.

- 2. An application to 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.
- 3. The applicant must complete the application, including, without limitation, checking the boxes described in paragraphs (b) and (c) of subsection 9 and signing the application.
- 4. The county clerk shall, upon receipt of an application, determine whether the application is complete.
- 5. If he determines that the application is complete, he shall, within 10 days after he receives the application, mail to the applicant:
- (a) A notice informing him that he is registered to vote and a voter registration card as required by subsection 6 of NRS 293.517; or
- 32 (b) A notice informing him that the registrar of voters' register 33 has been corrected to reflect any changes indicated on the 34 application.
 - The applicant shall be deemed to be registered or to have corrected the information in the register as of the date the application is postmarked or personally delivered.
 - 6. Except as otherwise provided in subsection 5 of NRS 293.518, if the county clerk determines that the application is not complete, he shall, as soon as possible, mail a notice to the applicant informing him 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 he receives the information, mail to the applicant:



- (a) A notice informing him that he is registered to vote and a voter registration card as required by subsection 6 of NRS 293.517; or
- (b) A notice informing him that the registrar of voters' register has been corrected to reflect any changes indicated on the application.
- The applicant shall be deemed to be registered or to have corrected the information in the register as of the date the application is postmarked or personally delivered. If the applicant does not provide the additional information within the prescribed period, the application is void.
- 7. If the applicant fails to check the box described in paragraph (b) of subsection 9, 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 his assigned polling place.
- 8. The Secretary of State shall prescribe the form for an application to register to vote by mail which must be used to register to vote by mail in this State.
 - 9. The application to 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 register to vote 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 registered to vote. Please retain the duplicate copy or receipt from your application to 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) 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 paragraph (b) or (c).
- (e) A statement informing the applicant that if the application is submitted by mail and the applicant is 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.

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- 10. Except as otherwise provided in subsection 5 of NRS 293.518, the county clerk shall not register a person to vote pursuant to this section unless that person has provided all of the information required by the application.
- The county clerk shall mail, by postcard, the notices required pursuant to subsections 5 and 6. 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 his application to register to vote in the manner set forth in NRS 293.530.
- A person who, by mail, registers to vote pursuant to this section may be assisted in completing the application to 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.
- An application to register to vote must be made available to all persons, regardless of political party affiliation.
- 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.
- A person who willfully violates any of the provisions of subsection 12, 13 or 14 is guilty of a category E felony and shall be punished as provided in NRS 193.130.
- The Secretary of State shall adopt regulations to carry out the provisions of this section.
 - Sec. 70. NRS 293.540 is hereby amended to read as follows:

293.540 The county clerk shall cancel the registration:

- 1. If he has personal knowledge of the death of the person registered, or if an authenticated certificate of the death of any elector is filed in his office.
- 2. If the insanity or mental incompetence of the person registered is legally established.
- Upon the determination that the person registered has been 39 convicted of a felony , *unless*:
 - (a) If the person registered was convicted of a felony in this State, the person provides satisfactory proof that:
 - (1) His conviction was overturned; or
 - (2) His right to vote has been restored pursuant to the provisions of NRS 176A.850, 179.285, 213.090, 213.155 or 213,157.



- (b) If the person registered was convicted of a felony in another state, the person provides satisfactory proof that:
 - (1) His conviction was overturned; or

- (2) His right to vote has been restored pursuant to the laws of the state in which the person was convicted.
- 4. Upon the production of a certified copy of the judgment of any court directing the cancellation to be made.
- 5. Upon the request of any registered voter to affiliate with any political party or to change his affiliation, if that change is made before the end of the last day to register to vote in the election.
 - 6. At the request of the person registered.
- 7. If he has discovered an incorrect registration pursuant to the provisions of NRS 293.5235, 293.530, or 293.535 and the elector has failed to respond or appear to vote within the required time.
 - 8. As required by NRS 293.541.
- 9. Upon verification that the application to register to vote is a duplicate if he has the original or another duplicate of the application on file in his office.
 - Sec. 71. NRS 293.541 is hereby amended to read as follows:
- 293.541 1. The county clerk shall cancel the registration of a voter, if:
- (a) After consultation with the district attorney, the district attorney determines that there is probable cause to believe that information in the registration concerning the identity or residence of the voter is fraudulent;
- (b) The county clerk provides a notice as required pursuant to subsection 2 or executes an affidavit of cancellation pursuant to subsection 3; and
- (c) The voter fails to present satisfactory proof of his identity and residence pursuant to subsection 2, 4 or 5.
- 2. Except as otherwise provided in subsection 3, the county clerk shall notify the voter by registered or certified mail, return receipt requested, of a determination made pursuant to subsection 1. The notice must set forth the grounds for cancellation. Unless the voter, within 15 days after the return receipt has been filed in the office of the county clerk, presents [satisfactory proof of his identity and residence] current and valid photographic identification or sufficient proof of residence and identity to the county clerk, the county clerk shall cancel his registration.
 - 3. If insufficient time exists before a pending election to provide the notice required by subsection 2, the county clerk shall execute an affidavit of cancellation and file the affidavit of cancellation with the registrar of voters' register and:

ancenation with the registrar of voters register and:



(a) In counties where records of registration are not kept by computer, the county clerk shall attach a copy of the affidavit of cancellation in the election board register.

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- (b) In counties where records of registration are kept by computer, the county clerk shall have the affidavit of cancellation printed on the computer entry for the registration and add a copy of it to the election board register.
- 4. If a voter appears to vote at the election next following the date that an affidavit of cancellation was executed for the voter pursuant to this section, the voter must be allowed to vote only if he furnishes:
- (a) [Official identification which contains a photograph of himself, including, without limitation, a driver's license or other official document; and
- (b) Satisfactory identification that contains proof of the address at which he actually resides and that address is consistent with the address listed on the election board register.] Current and valid photographic identification; or
 - (b) Sufficient proof of residence and identity.
- 5. If a determination is made pursuant to subsection 1 concerning information in the registration to vote of a voter and an absent ballot or a ballot voted by a voter who resides in a mailing precinct is received from the voter, the ballot must be kept separate from other ballots and must not be counted unless the voter presents satisfactory proof to the county clerk of his identity and residence before such ballots are counted on election day.
 - **Sec. 72.** NRS 293.543 is hereby amended to read as follows:
- 293.543 1. If the registration of an elector is cancelled pursuant to subsection 2 of NRS 293.540, the county clerk shall reregister the elector upon notice from the clerk of the district court that the elector has been declared sane or mentally competent by the district court.
- 2. If the registration of an elector is cancelled pursuant to subsection 3 of NRS 293.540, the elector may reregister after he presents [written evidence from a court or governmental agency of this State] satisfactory evidence which demonstrates that:
 - (a) His conviction has been overturned; or
 - (b) His civil rights have been restored [.]:
- (1) If he was convicted in this State, pursuant to the provisions of NRS 176A.850, 179.285, 213.090, 213.155 or 213.157.
- 42 (2) If he was convicted in another state, pursuant to the laws of the state in which he was convicted.



3. If the registration of an elector is cancelled pursuant to the provisions of subsection 5 of NRS 293.540, the elector may reregister immediately.

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- 4. If the registration of an elector is cancelled pursuant to the provisions of subsection 6 of NRS 293.540, after the close of registration for a primary election, the elector may not reregister until after the primary election.
 - **Sec. 73.** NRS 293B.032 is hereby amended to read as follows: 293B.032 "Mechanical recording device" means a device [:
- 1. Which which mechanically or electronically compiles a total of the number of votes cast for each candidate and for or against each measure voted on. F: or
 - 2. To which a list of offices and candidates and the statements of measures to be voted on may be affixed and into which a card may be inserted so that the votes cast for each candidate and for or against each measure may be indicated by punching the card with reference to the list.]
 - **Sec. 74.** NRS 293B.033 is hereby amended to read as follows: 293B.033 "Mechanical voting system" means a system of voting whereby a voter may cast his vote:
- 1. On a device which mechanically or electronically compiles a total of the number of votes cast for each candidate and for or against each measure voted on; or
- 2. By [punching a card or] marking a paper ballot which is 24 25 subsequently counted on an electronic tabulator, counting device or 26 computer. 27
 - **Sec. 75.** NRS 293B.103 is hereby amended to read as follows:
 - 293B.103 [1. If a mechanical voting system is used whereby votes are cast by punching a card:
- 30 (a) The cards to be used must have two detachable stubs.
- 31 (b) Each of the stubs attached to a particular card must bear the 32 number of that card.
- (c) One of the stubs must be detached and given to the voter 33 when he returns his voted ballot, and the other stub must be retained 34 35 by the election board.
- 36 2. If a mechanical voting system is used whereby votes are 37 directly recorded electronically:
 - [(a)] 1. A voting receipt which has two parts must be used.
- 39 [(b)] 2. Each part of the voting receipt must bear the same number for identification. 40
- 41 (c) 3. One part of the voting receipt must be given to the 42 voter when he votes and the other part of the voting receipt must be retained by the election board. 43



Sec. 76. NRS 293B.155 is hereby amended to read as follows: 293B.155 1. The tests prescribed by NRS 293B.150 and 293B.165 must be conducted by processing a preaudited group of logic and accuracy test ballots so [punched,] voted or marked as to record a predetermined number of valid votes for each candidate and on each measure, and must include for each office one or more ballots which have votes in excess of the number allowed by law in order to test the ability of the mechanical recording device or the automatic tabulating equipment and programs to reject those votes.

- 2. If any error is detected, the cause therefor must be ascertained and corrected and an errorless count must be made before the mechanical recording device or the automatic tabulating equipment and programs are approved.
- 3. When satisfied with the accuracy of the mechanical recording device or automatic tabulating equipment and computer program, the accuracy certification board and the county or city clerk shall date and sign all reports, and seal the program, if any, and the reports and all test material in an appropriate container. The container must be kept sealed by the clerk.
- 4. Except as otherwise provided in this subsection, the contents of such a sealed container are not subject to the inspection of anyone except in the case 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 that judge, body or board. For the period set forth in NRS 293.413 during which a candidate may file a statement of contest, the results of the test must be made available in the clerk's office for public inspection.
- **Sec. 77.** NRS 293B.305 is hereby amended to read as follows: 293B.305 Unless a major political party allows a nonpartisan voter to vote for its candidates:
- 1. In a primary election, a member of the election board for a precinct shall issue each nonpartisan voter a ballot with a distinctive code and printed designation identifying it as a nonpartisan ballot.
 - 2. If a mechanical voting system is used in a primary election whereby votes are directly recorded electronically, a member of the election board shall, in addition to the ballot described in subsection 1, issue the nonpartisan voter a voting receipt with a printed designation identifying it as a nonpartisan ballot.
 - 3. The member of the election board shall:
 - (a) Direct the nonpartisan voter to a mechanical recording device containing a list of offices and candidates setting forth only the nonpartisan ballot; *or*
- (b) Direct the nonpartisan voter to a mechanical recording device containing a list of offices and candidates arranged for a



partisan ballot, instruct the voter to vote only the nonpartisan section of the list and advise the voter that any votes he may cast in the partisan section will not be counted. [; or

(c) Issue a nonpartisan ballot attached to a sheet of foam plastic or similar backing material, a punching instrument, a sample nonpartisan ballot and an instruction sheet to the nonpartisan voter and instruct him to punch his ballot by reference to the sample ballot.]

Sec. 78. NRS 293B.330 is hereby amended to read as follows: 293B.330 1. Upon closing of the polls, the election board all:

- (a) Secure all mechanical recording devices against further voting.
- (b) [If a mechanical voting system is used whereby votes are cast by punching a card:
 - (1) Count the number of ballots in the ballot boxes.
 - (2) Account for all ballots on the statement of ballots.
- (3) Place all official ballots, the ballot statement and any other records, reports and materials as directed by the county clerk into the container provided by him to transport those items to a central counting place and seal the container.
- (e)] If a mechanical voting system is used whereby votes are directly recorded electronically:
 - (1) Ensure that each mechanical recording device:
- (I) Provides a record printed on paper of the total number of votes recorded on the device for each candidate and for or against each measure; and
- (II) Transfers the ballots voted on that device to the storage device required pursuant to NRS 293B.084.
 - (2) Count the number of ballots voted at the polling place.
 - (3) Account for all ballots on the statement of ballots.
- (4) Place all records printed on paper provided by the mechanical recording devices, all storage devices which store the ballots voted on the mechanical recording devices, and any other records, reports and materials as directed by the county clerk into the container provided by him to transport those items to a central counting place and seal the container.
- [(d)] (c) Record the number of voters on a form provided by the county clerk.
- 2. If a difference exists between the number of voters and the number of ballots voted, the election board shall report the difference and any known reasons for the difference, in writing, to the county clerk.
 - 3. After closing the polls, the election board shall:



- (a) Compare the quantity of the supplies furnished by the county 1 2 clerk with the inventory of those supplies; and
 - (b) Note any shortages.

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The county clerk shall allow members of the general public to observe the handling of the ballots pursuant to subsection 1 if those members do not interfere with the handling of the ballots.

Sec. 79. NRS 293B.354 is hereby amended to read as follows: 293B.354 1. The county clerk shall, not later than [July] **March** 1 of each year in which a general election is held, submit to

10 the Secretary of State for his approval a written plan for the accommodation of members of the general public who observe the 11 12 delivery, counting, handling and processing of ballots at a polling place, receiving center or central counting place.

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- The city clerk shall, not later than January 1 of each year in which a general city election is held, submit to the Secretary of State for his approval a written plan for the accommodation of members of the general public who observe the delivery, counting, handling and processing of the ballots at a polling place, receiving center or central counting place.
 - 3. Each plan must include:
- (a) The location of the central counting place and of each polling place and receiving center;
- (b) A procedure for the establishment of areas within each polling place and receiving center and the central counting place from which members of the general public may observe the activities set forth in subsections 1 and 2:
- (c) The requirements concerning the conduct of the members of the general public who observe the activities set forth in subsections 1 and 2: and
- (d) Any other provisions relating to the accommodation of members of the general public who observe the activities set forth in subsections 1 and 2 which the county or city clerk considers appropriate.
 - **Sec. 80.** NRS 293B.365 is hereby amended to read as follows: 293B.365 The central ballot inspection board shall:
 - Receive the ballots in sealed containers.
- Inspect the containers, record the number indicated on each container and its seal pursuant to NRS 293.462 and remove the ballots or storage devices which store the ballots voted on mechanical recording devices which directly record votes electronically.
 - Register the numbers of ballots by precinct.
- Deliver any damaged ballots to the ballot duplicating board. 43 44

[, if the ballots were voted by punching a card.]



5. Receive duplicates of damaged ballots from the ballot duplicating board and place the duplicates with the voted ballots of the appropriate precinct. [, if the ballots were voted by punching a card.]

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- 6. Place each damaged original ballot in a separate envelope and note on the outside of the envelope the appropriate number of the precinct. [, if the ballot was voted by punching a card.]
- 7. Reject any ballot that has been marked in a way that identifies the voter.
- 8. Place each rejected ballot in a separate envelope and note on the outside of the envelope the appropriate number of the precinct and the reason for the board's rejection of the ballot. [, if the ballot was voted by punching a card.]
- Sec. 81. NRS 293B.375 is hereby amended to read as follows: 293B.375 [If ballots which are voted by punching a card are used, the] *The* ballot duplicating board shall:
- 1. Receive damaged ballots, including ballots which have been torn, bent or mutilated.
 - 2. [Receive cards with incompletely punched chips.
- 20 3.] Prepare on a distinctly colored, serially numbered ballot 21 marked "duplicate" an exact copy of each damaged ballot.
 - [4. In the case of a card with an incompletely punched chip:
 - (a) Remove the incompletely punched chip if:
 - (1) The chip has at least one corner that is detached from the card; or
 - (2) The fibers of paper on at least one edge of the chip are broken in a way that permits unimpeded light to be seen through the card; or
- 29 (b) Duplicate the card without punching the location of the 30 incompletely punched chip if:
- 31 (1) The chip does not have at least one corner that is detached from the card; and
- 33 (2) The fibers of paper on no edge of the chip are broken in a way that permits unimpeded light to be seen through the card.
 - 5.] 3. Record the serial number of the duplicate ballot on the damaged original ballot and return the damaged and duplicate ballots to the appropriate ballot inspection board.
- 38 **[6.] 4.** Hold aside the duplicated ballots for counting after all other ballots are counted if this procedure is directed by the county 40 clerk.
 - **Sec. 82.** NRS 293C.185 is hereby amended to read as follows: 293C.185

 1. Except as otherwise provided in NRS 293C.115
- and 293C.190, a name may not be printed on a ballot to be used at a primary city election, unless the person named has filed a declaration of candidacy or an acceptance of candidacy and has paid



the fee established by the governing body of the city not earlier than 70 days before the primary city election and not later than 5 p.m. on the 60th day before the primary city election.

2. A declaration of candidacy required to be filed by this section must be in substantially the following form:

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7	DECLARATION OF CANDIDACY OF FOR THE
8	OFFICE OF
9 10	State of Nevada
11	State of Nevada
12	City of
13	City of
14	For the purpose of having my name placed on the official ballot as a
15	candidate for the office of, I, the undersigned
16	do swear or affirm under penalty of perjury that I actually, as
17	opposed to constructively, reside at, in the City or
18	Town of, County of, State of Nevada; that my
19	actual, as opposed to constructive, residence in the city, township or
20	other area prescribed by law to which the office pertains began on a
21	date <i>that was</i> at least 30 days immediately preceding the date of the
22 23	close of filing of declarations of candidacy for this office and that complies with any durational residency requirements required by
23 24	law specifically for this office; that my telephone number is
25	and the address at which I receive mail, if different than my
26	residence, is; that I am a qualified elector pursuant to
27	Section 1 of Article 2 of the Constitution of the State of Nevada:
28	that if I have ever been convicted of treason or a felony, my civil
29	rights have been restored by a court of competent jurisdiction; that if
30	nominated as a candidate at the ensuing election I will accept the
31	nomination and not withdraw; that I will not knowingly violate any
32	election law or any law defining and prohibiting corrupt and
33	fraudulent practices in campaigns and elections in this State; that I
34 35	will qualify for the office if elected thereto, including, but not limited to, complying with any limitation prescribed by the
36	Constitution and laws of this State concerning the number of years
37	or terms for which a person may hold the office; and my name will
38	appear on all ballots as designated in this declaration.
39	
40	
41	(Designation of name)
42	
43	
44	(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 that must be included in the declaration or acceptance of candidacy pursuant to subsection 2 must be the street address of the residence where he actually, as opposed to constructively, resides in accordance with NRS 281.050, if one has been assigned. The declaration or acceptance of candidacy must not be accepted for filing if:
- (a) The candidate's address is listed as a post office box unless a street address has not been assigned to his residence; or
 - (b) The candidate does not 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 address; or
- (2) A current utility bill, bank statement, paycheck, or document issued by a governmental entity, including, without limitation, a check, which indicates the candidate's name and address.] Current and valid photographic identification that indicates the street address of the residence of the candidate; or
- (2) If the current and valid photographic identification does not indicate the street address of the residence of the candidate, current and valid photographic identification and sufficient proof of residence and identity.
- 4. By filing the declaration or acceptance of candidacy, the candidate shall be deemed to have appointed the city clerk as his agent for service of process for the purposes of a proceeding pursuant to NRS 293C.186. Service of such process must first be attempted at the appropriate address as specified by the candidate in the declaration or acceptance of candidacy. If the candidate cannot be served at that address, service must be made by personally delivering to and leaving with the city clerk duplicate copies of the process. The city clerk shall immediately send, by registered or certified mail, one of the copies to the candidate at his specified address, unless the candidate has designated in writing to the city clerk a different address for that purpose, in which case the city clerk shall mail the copy to the last address so designated.
- 5. If the city clerk receives credible evidence indicating that a candidate has been convicted of a felony and has not had his civil rights restored by a court of competent jurisdiction, the city clerk:



- (a) May conduct an investigation to determine whether the candidate has been convicted of a felony and, if so, whether he has had his civil rights restored by a court of competent jurisdiction; and
- (b) Shall transmit the credible evidence and the findings from such investigation to the city attorney.
- 6. The receipt of information by the city attorney pursuant to subsection 5 must be treated as a challenge of a candidate pursuant to subsections 4 and 5 of NRS 293C.186. If the ballots are printed before a court of competent jurisdiction makes a determination that a candidate has been convicted of a felony and has not had his civil rights restored by a court of competent jurisdiction, the city clerk must post a notice at each polling place where the candidate's name will appear on the ballot informing the voters that the candidate is disqualified from entering upon the duties of the office for which the candidate filed the declaration of candidacy or acceptance of candidacy.

Sec. 83. NRS 293C.270 is hereby amended to read as follows: 293C.270 [1. If] Except as otherwise provided in NRS 293.541, if a person's name appears in the election board register or if he provides an affirmation pursuant to NRS 293C.525, he is entitled to vote and must sign his name in the [election board register] roster when he applies to vote. His signature must be compared by an election board officer with the signature or a facsimile thereof on his original application to register to vote or [one of the forms of identification listed in subsection 2.

- 26 2. The forms of identification that may be used to identify a voter at the polling place are:
- 28 (a) The card issued to the voter at the time he registered to vote;
- 29 (b) A driver's license;

- (c) An identification card issued by the Department of Motor
 Vehicles;
- 32 (d) A military identification card; or
 - (e) Any other form of identification issued by a governmental agency] the current and valid photographic identification that contains the voter's signature. [and physical description or picture.]

Sec. 84. NRS 293C.275 is hereby amended to read as follows:

293C.275 [1.] A registered voter who applies to vote must state his name to the election board officer in charge of the election board register, and the officer shall immediately announce the name and take the registered voter's signature. [After a registered voter is properly identified at a polling place where paper ballots are used, one ballot correctly folded, must be given to the voter and the number of the ballot must be written by an election board officer upon the pollbook, opposite the name of the registered voter receiving the ballot.



2. In pollbooks in which the names of the voters have been entered, election officers may indicate the application to vote without writing the name.]

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- **Sec. 85.** NRS 293C.285 is hereby amended to read as follows: 293C.285

 [1. Except as otherwise provided in subsection 2:
- (a) Any voter who spoils his ballot may return the spoiled ballot
 to the election board and receive another in its place.
 - (b) The election board officers shall indicate in the pollbook that the ballot is spoiled and shall enter the number of the ballot issued in its place.
- 11 (c) Each spoiled ballot returned must be cancelled by writing the 12 word "Cancelled" across the back of the ballot. A spoiled paper 13 ballot must be cancelled without unfolding it.
 - (d) A record must be made of those cancelled ballots at the closing of the polls and before counting. The ballots must be placed in a separate envelope and returned to the city clerk with the election supplies.
 - 2. If ballots that are voted on a A mechanical recording device which directly records the votes electronically [are used,] must allow the voter [must be able] to change his vote before the mechanical recording device permanently records that vote.
 - **Sec. 86.** NRS 293C.292 is hereby amended to read as follows: 293C.292 1. A person applying to vote may be challenged:
 - (a) Orally by any registered voter of the precinct or district upon the ground that he is not the person entitled to vote as claimed or has voted before at the same election: or
 - (b) On any ground set forth in a challenge filed with the county clerk pursuant to the provisions of NRS 293.547.
 - 2. If a person is challenged, an election board officer shall tender the challenged person the following oath or affirmation:
 - (a) If the challenge is on the ground that he does not reside at the residence for which the address is listed in the election board register, "I swear or affirm under penalty of perjury that I reside at the residence for which the address is listed in the election board register";
 - (b) If the challenge is on the ground that he previously voted a ballot for the election, "I swear or affirm under penalty of perjury that I have not voted for any of the candidates or questions included on this ballot for this election"; or
- (c) If the challenge is on the ground that he is not the person he claims to be, "I swear or affirm under penalty of perjury that I am the person whose name is in this election board register."
- 43 → The oath or affirmation must be set forth on a form prepared by 44 the Secretary of State and signed by the challenged person under 45 penalty of perjury.



3. If the challenged person refuses to execute the oath or affirmation so tendered, he must not be issued a ballot, and the officer in charge of the election board register shall write the words "Challenged" opposite his name in the election board register.

- 4. If the challenged person refuses to execute the oath or affirmation set forth in paragraph (a) of subsection 2, the election board officers shall inform him that he is entitled to vote only in the manner prescribed in NRS 293C.295.
- 5. If the challenged person executes the oath or affirmation and the challenge is not based on the ground set forth in paragraph (c) of subsection 2, the election board officers shall issue him a ballot.
- 6. If the challenge is based on the ground set forth in paragraph (a) of subsection 2, and the challenged person executes the oath or affirmation, the election board shall not issue the person a ballot until he furnishes satisfactory identification that contains proof of the address at which he actually resides.
- 7. If the challenge is based on the ground set forth in paragraph (c) of subsection 2 and the challenged person executes the oath or affirmation, the election board shall not issue the person a ballot unless he:
- (a) Furnishes [official identification which contains a photograph of himself, such as his driver's license or other official document;]:
 - (1) Current and valid photographic identification; or
 - (2) Sufficient proof of residence and identity; or
- (b) Brings before the election board officers a person who is at least 18 years of age who:
- (1) Furnishes [official identification which contains a photograph of himself, such as his driver's license or other official document:]:
 - (I) Current and valid photographic identification; or (II) Sufficient proof of residence and identity; and
- (2) Executes an oath or affirmation under penalty of perjury that the challenged person is who he swears he is.
 - 8. The election board officers shall:
 - (a) Record on the challenge list:
 - (1) The name of the challenged person;
- (2) The name of the registered voter who initiated the challenge; and
 - (3) The result of the challenge; and
- (b) If possible, orally notify the registered voter who initiated the challenge of the result of the challenge.



- **Sec. 87.** NRS 293C.295 is hereby amended to read as follows:
- 293C.295 1. If a person is successfully challenged on the ground set forth in paragraph (a) of subsection 2 of NRS 293C.292 or if a person refuses to provide an affirmation pursuant to NRS 293C.525, the election board shall instruct the voter that he may vote only at the special polling place in the manner set forth in this section.
- 2. The city clerk shall maintain at least one special polling place at such locations as he deems necessary during each election. The ballots voted at the special polling place must be kept separate from the ballots of voters who have not been so challenged or who have provided an affirmation pursuant to NRS 293C.525 in F:
- (a) A special ballot box if the ballots are paper ballots or ballots that are voted by punching a card; or
- (b) A] a special sealed container if the ballots are ballots that are voted on a mechanical recording device which directly records the votes electronically.
- 3. A person who votes at a special polling place may place his vote only for the following offices and questions:
 - (a) All officers for whom all voters in the city may vote; and
 - (b) Questions that have been submitted to all voters of the city.
- 4. The ballots voted at the special polling place must be counted when other ballots are counted and [:
- (a) If the ballots are paper ballots or ballots that are voted by punching a card, maintained in a separate ballot box; or
- 26 (b)—If], if the ballots are ballots that are voted on a mechanical recording device that directly records the votes electronically, maintained in a separate sealed container [-,
- 29 until any contest of election is resolved or the date for filing a contest of election has passed, whichever is later.
 - **Sec. 88.** NRS 293C.310 is hereby amended to read as follows:
- 293C.310 1. Except as otherwise provided in NRS 293.502, fand 293C.265, a registered voter who provides sufficient written notice to the city clerk may vote an absent ballot as provided in this chapter.
 - 2. A registered voter who:

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- (a) Is at least 65 years of age; or
- (b) Has a physical disability or condition that substantially impairs his ability to go to the polling place,
- 40 → may request an absent ballot for all elections held during the year he requests an absent ballot.
 - 3. As used in this section, "sufficient written notice" means a:
- (a) Written request for an absent ballot that is signed by the registered voter and returned to the city clerk in person or by mail or facsimile machine;



- (b) Form prescribed by the Secretary of State that is completed and signed by the registered voter and returned to the city clerk in person or by mail or facsimile machine; or
 - (c) Form provided by the Federal Government.
- 4. A city clerk shall consider a request from a voter who has given sufficient written notice on a form provided by the Federal Government as:
- (a) A request for the primary city election and the general city election unless otherwise specified in the request; and
- (b) A request for an absent ballot for the two primary and general elections immediately following the date on which the city clerk received the request.
- 5. It is unlawful for a person fraudulently to request an absent ballot in the name of another person or to induce or coerce another person fraudulently to request an absent ballot in the name of another person. A person who violates any provision of this subsection is guilty of a category E felony and shall be punished as provided in NRS 193.130.
 - **Sec. 89.** NRS 293C.322 is hereby amended to read as follows:
- 293C.322 1. Except as otherwise provided in subsection 2, if the request for an absent ballot is made by mail or facsimile machine, the city clerk shall, as soon as the official absent ballot for the precinct or district in which the applicant resides has been printed, send to the voter by first-class mail if the absent voter is within the boundaries of the United States, its territories or possessions or on a military base, or by air mail if the absent voter is in a foreign country but not on a military base:
- (a) Except as otherwise provided in paragraph (b):
- 29 $\frac{(1)}{}$ An absent ballot;

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- (2) (b) A return envelope;
- (c) Supplies for marking the ballot;
- 32 [(4)] (d) An envelope or similar device into which the ballot is inserted to ensure its secrecy; and
 - (5) Instructions.
- (b) In those cities using a mechanical voting system whereby a
 vote is cast by punching a card:
- 37 (1) A card attached to a sheet of foam plastic or similar 38 backing material;
- 39 (2) A return envelope:
- 40 (3) A punching instrument;
- 41 (4) A sample ballot;
- 42 (5) An envelope or similar device into which the card is
- 43 inserted to ensure its secrecy; and
- 44 (6) (e) Instructions.



2. If the city clerk fails to send an absent ballot pursuant to subsection 1 to a voter who resides within the continental United States, the city clerk may use a facsimile machine to send an absent ballot and instructions to the voter. The voter shall mail his absent ballot to the city clerk.

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- 3. The return envelope sent pursuant to subsection 1 must include postage prepaid by first-class mail if the absent voter is within the boundaries of the United States, its territories or possessions or on a military base.
- 4. Nothing may be enclosed or sent with an absent ballot except as required by subsection 1 or 2.
- 5. Before depositing a ballot with the United States Postal Service or sending a ballot by facsimile machine, the city clerk shall record the date the ballot is issued, the name of the registered voter to whom it is issued, his precinct or district, the number of the ballot and any remarks he finds appropriate.
- 6. The Secretary of State shall adopt regulations to carry out the provisions of subsection 2.
- **Sec. 90.** NRS 293C.330 is hereby amended to read as follows: 293C.330 1. Except as otherwise provided in NRS 293C.315 and subsection 2 of NRS 293C.322 and any regulations adopted pursuant thereto, when an absent voter receives his ballot, he must mark and fold it [, if it is a paper ballot, or punch it, if the ballot is voted by punching a card,] in accordance with the instructions, deposit it in the return envelope, seal the envelope, affix his signature on the back of the envelope in the space provided therefor
- and mail the return envelope.

 2. Except as otherwise provided in subsection 3, if an absent voter who has requested a ballot by mail applies to vote the ballot in
- (a) The office of the city clerk, he must mark [or punch] the ballot, seal it in the return envelope and affix his signature in the same manner as provided in subsection 1, and deliver the envelope to the city clerk.
- (b) A polling place, including, without limitation, a polling place for early voting, he must surrender the absent ballot and provide [satisfactory identification] current and valid photographic identification or sufficient proof of residence and identity before being issued a ballot to vote at the polling place. A person who receives a surrendered absent ballot shall mark it "Cancelled."
- 3. If an absent voter who has requested a ballot by mail applies to vote in person at the office of the city clerk or a polling place, including, without limitation, a polling place for early voting, and the voter does not have the absent ballot to deliver or surrender, the voter must be issued a ballot to vote if the voter:



(a) Provides [satisfactory identification;] current and valid photographic identification or sufficient proof of residence and identity;

- (b) Is a registered voter who is otherwise entitled to vote; and
- (c) Signs an affirmation under penalty of perjury on a form prepared by the Secretary of State declaring that the voter has not voted during the election.
- 4. Except as otherwise provided in NRS 293C.317, it is unlawful for any person to return an absent ballot other than the voter who requested the absent ballot or, at the request of the voter, a member of his family. A person who returns an absent ballot and who is a member of the family of the voter who requested the absent ballot shall, under penalty of perjury, indicate on a form prescribed by the city clerk that he is a member of the family of the voter who requested the absent ballot and that the voter requested that he return the absent ballot. A person who violates the provisions of this subsection is guilty of a category E felony and shall be punished as provided in NRS 193.130.
- **Sec. 91.** NRS 293C.332 is hereby amended to read as follows: 293C.332 On the day of an election, the precinct or district election boards receiving the absent voters' ballots from the city

clerk shall, in the presence of a majority of the election board officers, remove the ballots from the ballot box and the containers in which the ballots were transported pursuant to NRS 293C.325 and deposit the ballots in the regular ballot box in the following manner:

- 1. The name of the voter, as shown on the return envelope, must be called and checked as if the voter were voting in person;
- 2. The signature on the back of the return envelope must be compared with that on the original application to register to vote;
- 3. If the board determines that the absent voter is entitled to cast his ballot, the envelope must be opened, the numbers on the ballot and envelope compared, the number strip or stub detached from the ballot and, if the numbers are the same, the ballot deposited in the regular ballot box; and
- 4. The election board officers shall mark in the **[pollbook]** *roster* opposite the name of the voter the word "Voted."
 - **Sec. 92.** NRS 293C.347 is hereby amended to read as follows: 293C.347 1. The city clerk shall:
- (a) Make certain of the names and addresses of all voters registered to vote in mailing precincts and absent ballot mailing precincts;
- (b) Enroll the name and address of each voter found eligible to vote in those precincts in the mailing precinct record book;
 - (c) Mark the number of the ballot on the return envelope; and
 - (d) Mail the ballot to the registered voter.



- 2. [Except as otherwise provided in subsection 3, the] The 1 2 ballot must be accompanied by:
 - (a) Supplies for marking the ballot;
 - (b) A return envelope;

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- (c) An envelope or similar device into which the ballot is 5 6 inserted to ensure its secrecy;
 - (d) A sample ballot; and
- 8 (e) Instructions regarding the manner of marking and returning 9 the ballot.
- 10 [3. In those cities using a mechanical voting system whereby a 11 vote is cast by punching a card, the ballot must be accompanied by:
- (a) A sheet of foam plastic or similar backing material attached 12 13 to the card;
- 14 (b) A punching instrument;
- 15 (c) A return envelope;
- 16 (d) An envelope or similar device into which the card is inserted 17 to ensure its secrecy;
- 18 (e) A sample ballot; and
- (f) Instructions concerning the manner of punching and 19 20 returning the card.
- **Sec. 93.** NRS 293C.350 is hereby amended to read as follows: 21 293C.350 Upon receipt of a mailing ballot from the city clerk, 22 23 the registered voter must:
- 1. [Except as otherwise provided in subsection 2: 24
- 25 (a) Immediately after opening the envelope, mark and fold the 26 ballot:
- 27 [(b)] 2. Place the ballot in the return envelope;
 - [(c)] 3. Affix his signature on the back of the envelope; and
- 29 Mail or deliver the envelope to the city clerk.
- 30 [2. In those cities using a mechanical voting system whereby a 31 vote is cast by punching a card:
- 32 (a) Immediately after opening the envelope, punch the card;
- (b) Place the unfolded card in the return envelope; 33
- (c) Affix his signature on the back of the envelope; and 34 35
 - (d) Mail or deliver the envelope to the city clerk.]
- 36 **Sec. 94.** NRS 293C.356 is hereby amended to read as follows: 37
 - 293C.356 1. If a request is made to vote early by a registered voter in person, the city clerk shall issue a ballot for early voting to the voter. Such a ballot must be voted on the premises of the clerk's office and returned to the clerk. [If the ballot is a paper ballot or a ballot which is voted by punching a card, the clerk shall follow the same procedure as in the case of absent ballots received by mail.]
- On the dates for early voting prescribed in NRS 293C.3568, 43 44 each city clerk shall provide a voting booth, with suitable equipment 45 for voting, on the premises of his office for use by registered voters



who are issued ballots for early voting in accordance with this section.

Sec. 95. NRS 293C.3585 is hereby amended to read as follows:

293C.3585 1. Upon the appearance of a person to cast a ballot for early voting, the deputy clerk for early voting shall:

- (a) Determine that the person is a registered voter in the county;
- (b) Instruct the voter to sign the roster for early voting; and
- (c) Verify the signature of the voter against that contained on the original application to register to vote or facsimile thereof, the card issued to the voter at the time of registration or some other piece of official identification.] current valid and photographic identification or sufficient proof of residence and identity.
- The city clerk shall prescribe a procedure, approved by the Secretary of State, to determine that the voter has not already voted pursuant to this section.
 - The roster for early voting must contain:
- (a) The voter's name, the address where he is registered to vote, his voter identification number and a place for the voter's signature;
 - (b) The voter's precinct or voting district number; and
 - (c) The date of voting early in person.

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- When a voter is entitled to cast his ballot and has identified himself to the satisfaction of the deputy clerk for early voting, he is entitled to receive the appropriate ballot or ballots, but only for his own use at the polling place for early voting.
- 5. [If the ballot is voted by punching a card, the deputy clerk for early voting shall:
- 28 — (a) Ensure that the voter's precinct or voting district and the 29 form of ballot are indicated on the card:
- 30 (b) Direct the voter to the appropriate mechanical recording 31 device for his form of ballot; and
- (c) Allow the voter to place his voted ballot in the ballot box. 32
- 33 6. If the ballot is voted on a mechanical recording device which directly records the votes electronically, the The deputy clerk for 34 35 early voting shall: 36
 - (a) Prepare the mechanical recording device for the voter;
 - (b) Ensure that the voter's precinct or voting district and the form of ballot are indicated on each part of the voting receipt;
 - (c) Retain one part of the voting receipt for the election board and return the other part of the voting receipt to the voter; and
 - (d) Allow the voter to cast his vote.
- 42 A voter applying to vote early by personal appearance may be challenged pursuant to NRS 293C.292. 43



Sec. 96. NRS 293C.3615 is hereby amended to read as follows:

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293C.3615 The city clerk shall make a record of the receipt at the central counting place of each sealed container used to transport official ballots pursuant to NRS 293C.295, 293C.325, [293C.3602,] 293C.630 and 293C.635. The record must include the numbers indicated on the container and its seal pursuant to NRS 293C.700.

Sec. 97. NRS 293C.362 is hereby amended to read as follows: 293C.362 When the polls are closed, the counting board shall prepare to count the ballots voted. The counting procedure must be public and continue without adjournment until completed. If the ballots are paper ballots, [or ballots that are voted by punching a card.] the counting board shall prepare in the following manner:

- 1. [The pollbooks must be compared and errors corrected until the books agree.
- 2.] 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 [, on comparison of the count with the pollbook,] 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.
- [3.] 2. If the ballots in the container or box are found to exceed the number of names *indicated* on the [pollbooks,] roster as having voted, the ballots must be replaced in the container or box and a counting board officer shall, with his 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.
- [4.] 3. When it has been determined that the [pollbook and the] number of ballots agree 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. 98.** NRS 293C.367 is hereby amended to read as follows: 293C.367

 1. The basic factor to be considered by an election
- board when making a determination of whether a particular ballot must be rejected is whether any identifying mark appears on the



ballot which, in the opinion of the election board, constitutes an identifying mark such that there is a reasonable belief entertained in good faith that the ballot has been tampered with and, as a result of the tampering, the outcome of the election would be affected.

- 2. Regulations for counting ballots must include provisions that:
- (a) An error in marking one or more votes on a ballot does not invalidate any votes properly marked on that ballot.
- (b) A soiled or defaced ballot may not be rejected if it appears that the soiling or defacing was inadvertent and was not done purposely to identify the ballot.
- (c) Only devices provided for in this chapter, chapter 293 or 293B of NRS may be used in marking ballots.
 - (d) It is unlawful for any election board officer to place any mark upon any ballot other than a spoiled ballot.
 - (e) When an election board officer rejects a ballot for any alleged defect or illegality, the officer shall seal the ballot in an envelope and write upon the envelope a statement that it was rejected and the reason for rejecting it. Each election board officer shall sign the envelope.
 - [(f) In cities where mechanical voting systems are used whereby a vote is cast by punching a card, a superfluous punch into any card does not constitute grounds for rejection of the ballot unless the election board determines that the condition of the ballot justifies its exclusion pursuant to subsection 1.]
 - **Sec. 99.** 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.
 - 2. [Except as otherwise provided in subsection 1, in an election in which a paper ballot is used whereby a vote is cast by placing a cross in the designated square on the paper ballot, a cross in the designated square must be counted as a vote.
- 3. Except as otherwise provided in subsection 1, in an election in which a mechanical voting system is used whereby a vote is cast by punching a card:
 - (a) A chip on the card must be counted as a vote if:
- 39 (1) The chip has at least one corner that is detached from the 40 card; or
- 41 (2) The fibers of paper on at least one edge of the chip are
 42 broken in a way that permits unimpeded light to be seen through the
 43 card.
- 44 (b) A writing or other mark on the card, including, without 45 limitation, a cross, check, tear or scratch, may not be counted as a



vote. The remaining votes on such a card must be counted unless the ballot is otherwise disqualified.

- 4.] 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.

[5.] 3. The Secretary of State:

- (a) May adopt regulations establishing additional uniform, statewide standards, not inconsistent with this section, for counting a vote cast by [a] the method of voting described in subsection 2; [, 3 or 4;] 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, [, 3 or 4,] including, without limitation, a vote cast on a mechanical recording device which directly records the votes electronically.
- **Sec. 100.** NRS 293C.372 is hereby amended to read as follows:
- 293C.372 When all the votes have been [tallied,] counted, the counting board officers shall enter on the tally lists by the name of each candidate the number of votes he received. The number must be expressed in words and figures. The vote for and against any question submitted to the electors must be entered in the same manner.
- **Sec. 101.** NRS 293C.375 is hereby amended to read as follows:
- 293C.375 If paper ballots [or ballots which are voted by punching a card] are used:
- 1. After the tally lists have been completed, the voted ballots, rejected ballots, tally lists for regular ballots, tally list for rejected ballots, challenge list, stubs of used ballots, spoiled ballots and unused ballots must be sealed under cover by the counting board officers and addressed to the city clerk.
- 2. The other [pollbooks,] tally lists and election board register must be returned to the city clerk.

 Sec. 102. NRS 293C.385 is hereby amended to read as
 - **Sec. 102.** NRS 293C.385 is hereby amended to read as follows:
 - 293C.385 1. After 8 a.m. on election day, the counting board, if it is responsible for counting absent ballots, or the absent ballot central counting board shall withdraw from the appropriate ballot



boxes or containers all the ballots received the previous day and determine whether each box or container has the required number of ballots according to the city clerk's absent voters' ballot record.

- 2. If any absent ballots are received by the city clerk on election day pursuant to NRS 293C.317, the city clerk shall deposit the absent ballots in the appropriate ballot boxes or containers.
- 3. After 8 a.m. on election day, the appropriate board shall count in public the votes cast on the absent ballots.
- 4. If paper ballots are used, the results of the absent ballot vote in each precinct must be certified and submitted to the city clerk, who shall have the results added to the regular votes of the precinct. If a mechanical voting system is used in which a voter casts his ballot by punching a card that is counted by a computer, the absent ballots may be counted with the regular votes of the precinct. The returns of absent ballots must be reported separately from the regular votes of the precinct, unless reporting the returns separately would violate the secrecy of a voter's ballot. The city clerks shall develop a procedure to ensure that each ballot is kept secret.
- 5. Any person who disseminates to the public information relating to the count of absent ballots before the polls close is guilty of a misdemeanor.

Sec. 103. NRS 293C.390 is hereby amended to read as follows:

293C.390 1. The *rosters*, voted ballots, rejected ballots, spoiled ballots, challenge lists, voting receipts, records printed on paper of voted ballots collected pursuant to NRS 293B.400, and stubs of the ballots used, enclosed and sealed, must, after canvass of the votes by the governing body of the city, be deposited in the vaults of the city clerk. The records of voted ballots that are maintained in electronic form must, after canvass of the votes by the governing body of the city, be sealed and deposited in the vaults of the city clerk. The tally lists [and pollbooks] collected pursuant to NRS 293B.400 must, after canvass of the votes by the governing body of the city, be deposited in the vaults of the city 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 that period. A notice of the destruction must be published by the city clerk in at least one newspaper of general circulation in the city, or if no newspaper is of general circulation in that city, in a newspaper of general circulation in the nearest city, not less than 2 weeks before the destruction of the materials.

2. Unused ballots, enclosed and sealed, must, after canvass of the votes by the governing body of the city, be deposited in the vaults of the city 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 **[pollbooks]** *rosters* containing the signatures of those persons who voted in the election and the tally lists deposited with the governing body of the city are subject to the inspection of any elector who may wish to examine them at any time after their deposit with the city clerk.
- 4. A contestant of an election may inspect all of the material relating to that election which is preserved pursuant to subsection 1 or 2, except the voted ballots.
- 5. The voted ballots deposited with the city clerk are not subject to the inspection of any person, except in a contested election, and 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 the judge, body or board.
- **Sec. 104.** NRS 293C.620 is hereby amended to read as follows:
- 293C.620 1. At each election a member of the election board for a precinct shall issue each voter a ballot.
- 2. If a mechanical voting system is used in a primary city election whereby votes are directly recorded electronically, a member of the election board shall, in addition to the ballot described in subsection 1, issue the voter a voting receipt.
 - 3. The member of the election board shall
- 25 (a) Direct direct the voter to a mechanical recording device containing a list of offices and candidates. [; or
 - (b) Issue a ballot attached to a sheet of foam plastic or similar backing material, a punching instrument, a sample ballot and an instruction sheet to the voter and instruct him to punch his ballot by reference to the sample ballot.]
- **Sec. 105.** NRS 293C.630 is hereby amended to read as 32 follows:
- 293C.630 1. Upon closing of the polls, the election board shall:
- 35 (a) Secure all mechanical recording devices against further 36 voting.
 - (b) [If a mechanical voting system is used whereby votes are east by punching a card:
 - (1) Count the number of ballots in the ballot boxes.
 - (2) Account for all ballots on the statement of ballots.
- 41 (3) Place all official ballots, the ballot statement and any
 42 other records, reports and materials as directed by the city clerk into
 43 the container provided by him to transport those items to a central
 44 counting place and seal the container.



- (e) If a mechanical voting system is used whereby votes are directly recorded electronically:
 - (1) Ensure that each mechanical recording device:
- (I) Provides a record printed on paper of the total number of votes recorded on the device for each candidate and for or against each measure; and
- (II) Transfers the ballots voted on that device to the storage device required pursuant to NRS 293B.084.
 - (2) Count the number of ballots voted at the polling place.
 - (3) Account for all ballots on the statement of ballots.
- (4) Place all records printed on paper provided by the mechanical recording devices, all storage devices which store the ballots voted on the mechanical recording devices, and any other records, reports and materials as directed by the city clerk into the container provided by him to transport those items to a central counting place and seal the container.
- [(d)] (c) Record the number of voters on a form provided by the city clerk.
- 2. If a difference exists between the number of voters and the number of ballots voted, the election board shall report the difference and any known reasons for the difference, in writing, to the city clerk.
 - 3. After closing the polls, the election board shall:
- (a) Compare the quantity of the supplies furnished by the city clerk with the inventory of those supplies; and
 - (b) Note any shortages.

- 4. The city clerk shall allow members of the general public to observe the handling of the ballots pursuant to subsection 1 if those members do not interfere with the handling of the ballots.
- **Sec. 106.** NRS 293C.645 is hereby amended to read as follows:
 - 293C.645 The central ballot inspection board shall:
 - 1. Receive the ballots in sealed containers.
- 2. Inspect the containers, record the number indicated on each container and its seal pursuant to NRS 293.462 and remove the ballots or storage devices that store the ballots voted on mechanical recording devices that directly record votes electronically.
 - 3. Register the numbers of ballots by precinct.
- 4. Deliver any damaged ballots to the ballot duplicating board. [, if the ballots were voted by punching a card.]
- 5. Receive duplicates of damaged ballots from the ballot duplicating board and place the duplicates with the voted ballots of the appropriate precinct. [, if the ballots were voted by punching a card.]



6. Place each damaged original ballot in a separate envelope and note on the outside of the envelope the appropriate number of the precinct. [, if the ballot was voted by punching a card.]

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- 7. Reject any ballot that has been marked in a way that identifies the voter.
- 8. Place each rejected ballot in a separate envelope and note on the outside of the envelope the appropriate number of the precinct and the reason for the board's rejection of the ballot. [, if the ballot was voted by punching a card.]
- 10 **Sec. 107.** NRS 293C.655 is hereby amended to read as
 - 293C.655 [If ballots that are voted by punching a card are used, the] *The* ballot duplicating board shall:
 - 1. Receive damaged ballots, including ballots that have been torn, bent or mutilated.
 - 2. [Receive cards with incompletely punched chips.
 - 3.] Prepare on a distinctly colored, serially numbered ballot marked "duplicate" an exact copy of each damaged ballot.
 - [4. In the case of a card with an incompletely punched chip:
 - (a) Remove the incompletely punched chip if:
 - (1) The chip has at least one corner that is detached from the card; or
 - (2) The fibers of paper on at least one edge of the chip are broken in a way that permits unimpeded light to be seen through the card; or
- 26 (b) Duplicate the card without punching the location of the 27 incompletely punched chip if: 28 — (1) The chip does not have at least one corner that is
 - (1) The chip does not have at least one corner that is detached from the card; and
- 30 (2) The fibers of paper on no edge of the chip are broken in a way that permits unimpeded light to be seen through the card.
- 32 5.] 3. Record the serial number of the duplicate ballot on the damaged original ballot and return the damaged and duplicate ballots to the appropriate ballot inspection board.
 - [6.] 4. Hold aside the duplicated ballots for counting after all other ballots are counted if this procedure is directed by the city clerk.
 - **Sec. 108.** NRS 293C.700 is hereby amended to read as follows:
 - 293C.700 1. Each container used to transport official ballots pursuant to NRS 293C.295, 293C.325, [293C.3602,] 293C.630 and 293C.635 must:
 - (a) Be constructed of metal or any other rigid material; and
 - (b) Contain a seal which is placed on the container to ensure detection of any opening of the container.



1 2. The container and seal must be separately numbered for 2 identification.

Sec. 109. Chapter 295 of NRS is hereby amended by adding thereto the provisions set forth as sections 110 and 111 of this act.

Sec. 110. Each petition for initiative must embrace but one subject and matter necessarily connected therewith and pertaining thereto. The subject must be clearly indicated in the title. In all cases where the subject of the measure is not so expressed in the title, the measure shall be void as to the matter not expressed in the title.

Sec. 111. Each petition for referendum must embrace but one subject and matter necessarily connected therewith and pertaining thereto. The subject must be clearly indicated in the title. In all cases where the subject of the measure is not so expressed in the title, the measure shall be void as to the matter not expressed in the title.

Sec. 112. NRS 295.015 is hereby amended to read as follows:

295.015 A copy of a petition for initiative *containing the full text of the measure proposed* must be placed on file in the Office of the Secretary of State before it may be presented to the registered voters for their signatures.

Sec. 113. NRS 295.045 is hereby amended to read as follows:

295.045 1. A copy of a petition for referendum *containing* the full text of the measure to be considered must be placed on file in the Office of the Secretary of State before it may be presented to the registered voters for their signatures.

- 2. A petition for referendum must be filed with the Secretary of State not less than 120 days before the date of the next succeeding general election.
- 3. The Secretary of State shall certify the questions to the county clerks, and they shall publish them in accordance with the provisions of law requiring county clerks to publish questions and proposed constitutional amendments which are to be submitted for popular vote.
- 4. The title of the statute or resolution must be set out on the ballot, and the question printed upon the ballot for the information of the voters must be as follows: "Shall the statute (setting out its title) be approved?"
- 5. Where a mechanical voting system is used, the title of the statute must appear on the list of offices and candidates and the statements of measures to be voted on and may be condensed to no more than 25 words.
- 6. The votes cast upon the question must be counted and canvassed as the votes for state officers are counted and canvassed.



Sec. 114. NRS 295.056 is hereby amended to read as follows:

295.056 1. Before a petition for initiative or referendum is filed with the Secretary of State, the petitioners must, *all in one day*, submit to each county clerk for verification pursuant to NRS 293.1276 to 293.1279, inclusive, *all* the [document or] documents which were circulated for signature within his county. The clerks shall give the person submitting [a document or] the documents a receipt stating the number of documents and pages and the person's statement of the number of signatures contained therein.

- 2. If a petition for initiative proposes a statute or an amendment to a statute, the [document or] documents must be submitted not later than [the second Tuesday in November of an even numbered year.] 95 days before the first day of the next succeeding regular session of the Legislature.
- 3. If a petition for initiative proposes an amendment to the Constitution, the [document or] documents must be submitted not later than [the third Tuesday in June of an even numbered year.] 155 days before the date of the next succeeding general election.
- 4. If the petition is for referendum, the [document or] documents must be submitted not later than [the third Tuesday in May of an even numbered year.] 185 days before the date of the next succeeding general election.
- 5. All documents which are submitted to [a] each county clerk for verification must be submitted at the same time.

Sec. 115. NRS 295.061 is hereby amended to read as follows: 295.061 [The] Except for an appeal upon a challenge based on the results of the verification of signatures pursuant to the provisions of subsection 3 of NRS 293.12795, the legal sufficiency of a petition filed pursuant to NRS 295.015 to 295.061, inclusive, and sections 110 and 111 of this act may be challenged by filing a complaint in district court not later than [5] 30 days, Saturdays, Sundays and holidays excluded, after a copy of the petition is filed with the Secretary of State [-] pursuant to NRS 295.015 or subsection 1 of NRS 295.045. All affidavits and documents in support of the challenge must be filed with the complaint. The court shall set the matter for hearing not later than [30] 5 days after the complaint is filed and shall give priority to such a complaint over all other matters pending with the court, except for criminal proceedings.

Sec. 116. NRS 295.095 is hereby amended to read as follows: 295.095 1. Any five registered voters of the county may

commence initiative or referendum proceedings by filing with the county clerk an affidavit stating they will constitute the petitioners' committee and be responsible for circulating the petition and filing it in proper form, stating their names and addresses and specifying



the address to which all notices to the committee are to be sent, and setting out <code>[in]</code> the full text of the measure proposed by initiative <code>[ordinance]</code> or citing the <code>[ordinance]</code> full text of the measure sought to be reconsidered.

- 2. Initiative petitions must be signed by a number of registered voters of the county equal to 15 percent or more of the number of voters who voted at the last preceding general election in the county.
- 3. Referendum petitions must be signed by a number of registered voters of the county equal to 10 percent or more of the number of voters who voted at the last preceding general election in the county.
- 4. A petition must be submitted to the county clerk for verification, pursuant to NRS 295.250 to 295.290, inclusive, not later than:
- (a) One hundred and eighty days after the date that the affidavit required by subsection 1 is filed with the county clerk; or
 - (b) One hundred and thirty days before the election,
- **→** whichever is earlier.

- 5. A petition may consist of more than one document, but all documents of a petition must be uniform in size and style, numbered and assembled as one instrument for submission. Each signature must be executed in ink or indelible pencil and followed by the address of the person signing and the date on which he signed the petition. All signatures on a petition must be obtained within the period specified in subsection 4. Each document must contain, or have attached thereto throughout its circulation, the full text of the [ordinance] measure proposed or sought to be reconsidered.
- 6. Each document of a petition must have attached to it when submitted an affidavit executed by the circulator thereof stating:
 - (a) That he personally circulated the document;
 - (b) The number of signatures thereon;
 - (c) That all the signatures were affixed in his presence;
- (d) That he believes them to be genuine signatures of the persons whose names they purport to be; and
- (e) That each signer had an opportunity before signing to read the full text of the [ordinance] measure proposed or sought to be reconsidered.
- 7. The county clerk shall issue a receipt to any person who submits a petition pursuant to this section. The receipt must set forth the number of:
 - (a) Documents included in the petition;
 - (b) Pages in each document; and
 - (c) Signatures that the person declares are included in the petition.



Sec. 117. NRS 295.140 is hereby amended to read as follows:

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295.140 1. Whenever 10 percent or more of the registered voters of any county of this State, as shown by the number of registered voters who voted at the last preceding general election, express their wish that any [act or resolution] measure enacted by the Legislature, and pertaining to that county only, be submitted to the vote of the people, they shall submit to the county clerk a petition, which must contain the names and residence addresses of at least 10 percent of the registered voters of that county, demanding that a referendum vote be had by the people of the county at the next primary or general election upon the [act or resolution] measure on which the referendum is demanded.

- 2. A petition must be submitted to the county clerk for verification, pursuant to NRS 295.250 to 295.290, inclusive, not later than 130 days before the time set for the next succeeding general election.
- 3. A petition may consist of more than one document, but all documents of a petition must be uniform in size and style, numbered and assembled as one instrument for submission. Each signature must be executed in ink or indelible pencil and followed by the address of the person signing and the date on which he signed the petition. Each document must contain, or have attached thereto throughout its circulation, the full text of the [act or resolution] measure on which the referendum is demanded.
- 4. Each document of a petition must have attached to it when submitted an affidavit executed by the circulator thereof stating:
 - (a) That he personally circulated the document;
 - (b) The number of signatures thereon;
 - (c) That all the signatures were affixed in his presence;
 - (d) That he believes them to be genuine signatures of the persons whose names they purport to be; and
 - (e) That each signer had an opportunity before signing to read the full text of the [act or resolution] measure on which the referendum is demanded.
 - 5. The county clerk shall issue a receipt to any person who submits a petition pursuant to this section. The receipt must set forth the number of:
 - (a) Documents included in the petition;
 - (b) Pages in each document; and
 - (c) Signatures that the person declares are included in the petition.
 - 6. Within 20 days after a petition is submitted, the county clerk shall complete a certificate as to its sufficiency. Unless a request for review is filed pursuant to subsection 7, the certificate is a final determination as to the sufficiency of the petition.



- 7. If a petition is certified insufficient, the person who submitted the petition may, within 2 days after receiving a copy of the certificate, file a request that it be reviewed by the board of county commissioners. The board shall review the certificate at its next meeting following the filing of the request and approve or disapprove it, and the determination of the board is a final determination as to the sufficiency of the petition.
- 8. A final determination as to the sufficiency of a petition is subject to judicial review. A final determination of insufficiency, even if sustained upon judicial review, does not prejudice the filing of a new petition for the same purpose.

Sec. 118. NRS 295.205 is hereby amended to read as follows:

- 295.205 1. Any five registered voters of the city may commence initiative or referendum proceedings by filing with the city clerk an affidavit:
- (a) Stating they will constitute the petitioners' committee and be responsible for circulating the petition and filing it in proper form;
 - (b) Stating their names and addresses;
- (c) Specifying the address to which all notices to the committee are to be sent; and
- (d) Setting out [in] the full text of the measure proposed by initiative [ordinance] or citing the [ordinance] full text of the measure sought to be reconsidered.
- 2. Initiative petitions must be signed by a number of registered voters of the city equal to 15 percent or more of the number of voters who voted at the last preceding city election.
- 3. Referendum petitions must be signed by a number of registered voters of the city equal to 10 percent or more of the number of voters who voted at the last preceding city election.
- 4. A petition must be submitted to the city clerk for verification, pursuant to NRS 295.250 to 295.290, inclusive, not later than:
- (a) One hundred and eighty days after the date that the affidavit required by subsection 1 is filed with the city clerk; or
 - (b) One hundred and thirty days before the election,
 - **→** whichever is earlier.

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5. A petition may consist of more than one document, but all documents of a petition must be uniform in size and style, numbered and assembled as one instrument for submission. Each signature must be executed in ink or indelible pencil and followed by the address of the person signing and the date on which he signed the petition. All signatures on a petition must be obtained within the period specified in subsection 4. Each document must contain, or have attached thereto throughout its circulation, the full text of the fordinance measure proposed or sought to be reconsidered.



- 6. Each document of a petition must have attached to it when submitted an affidavit executed by the circulator thereof stating:
 - (a) That he personally circulated the document;
 - (b) The number of signatures thereon;

- (c) That all the signatures were affixed in his presence;
- (d) That he believes them to be genuine signatures of the persons whose names they purport to be; and
- (e) That each signer had an opportunity before signing to read the full text of the [ordinance] measure proposed or sought to be reconsidered.
- 7. The city clerk shall issue a receipt to any person who submits a petition pursuant to this section. The receipt must set forth the number of:
 - (a) Documents included in the petition;
 - (b) Pages in each document; and
- 16 (c) Signatures that the person declares are included in the 17 petition.

Sec. 119. NRS 298.025 is hereby amended to read as follows:

- 298.025 *I*. Presidential electors are not nominated at the primary election or placed upon the general election ballot, but the nominees of the presidential and vice presidential candidates who receive the highest number of votes at the general election thereby become the official presidential electors. The presidential electors shall perform the duties of such electors as required by law and the Constitution of the United States.
- 2. If, after the completion of the canvass of the returns of any election, two or more presidential candidates tie, both receiving the highest number of votes, the Legislature shall, by joint vote of both Houses, select which nominees of a presidential and vice presidential candidate for presidential electors shall become the official presidential electors.

Sec. 120. NRS 5.020 is hereby amended to read as follows:

- 5.020 1. Except as provided in subsection 3 and NRS 266.405 [and 293.260, each municipal judge must be chosen by the electors of the city within which the municipal court is established on a day to be fixed by the governing body of that city. The term of office of a municipal judge is the period fixed by:
- (a) An ordinance adopted by the city if the city is organized under general law; or
- 40 (b) The charter of the city if the city is organized under a special charter.
- Before entering upon his duties, a municipal judge shall take the constitutional oath of office.
 - 2. A municipal judge must:
 - (a) Be a citizen of the State;



- (b) Except as otherwise provided in the charter of a city organized under a special charter, have been a bona fide resident of the city for not less than 1 year next preceding his election;
 - (c) Be a qualified elector in the city; and

- (d) Not have ever been removed or retired from any judicial office by the Commission on Judicial Discipline.
- 3. The governing body of a city, with the consent of the board of county commissioners and the justice of the peace, may provide that a justice of the peace of the township in which the city is located is ex officio the municipal judge of the city.
- 4. For the purposes of this section, a person shall not be ineligible to be a candidate for the office of municipal judge if a decision to remove or retire him from a judicial office is pending appeal before the Supreme Court or has been overturned by the Supreme Court.
 - **Sec. 121.** NRS 248.010 is hereby amended to read as follows:
- 248.010 1. Sheriffs must be elected by the qualified electors of their respective counties.
- 2. [Sheriffs] Except as otherwise provided in NRS 293.260, sheriffs must be chosen by the electors of their respective counties at the general election in 1922, and at the general election every 4 years thereafter, and shall enter upon the duties of their respective offices on the first Monday of January subsequent to their election.
 - **Sec. 122.** NRS 269.017 is hereby amended to read as follows:
- 269.017 1. If the board of county commissioners determines that the best interests of an unincorporated town would be served by adoption of a town board form of government it shall establish a town board for the town by appointing five persons who are residents and qualified electors in the town to serve as members of the town board until successors can be elected at the next general election.
- 2. [At] Except as otherwise provided in NRS 293.260, at the next general election five persons who are residents and qualified electors in the town must be elected by the registered voters of the town to serve as members of the town board.
- **Sec. 123.** NRS 269.0171 is hereby amended to read as follows:
- 269.0171 1. If the establishment of a town board form of government is proposed by initiative petition, and the proposal is submitted to the electors, the prospective members of the town board must be elected at the same general election in which the proposal is submitted to the electors.
- 2. Any person who is a resident, is a qualified elector and desires to become a candidate for the position of member of a town board must, within the time specified by subsection 3, file in the



office of the county clerk a notice of his intention to become a candidate. The notice of intention must show that the person possesses the qualifications required by this section. Each person filing the notice of intention as required by this section is entitled to have his name placed on the official ballot.

- 3. The notice of intention required by subsection 2 must be filed not later than 5 p.m. on the second Tuesday in May of the year in which the election is held.
- 4. [If] Except as otherwise provided in NRS 293.260, if the proposal to establish a town board form of government is approved at the election, members of the town board elected pursuant to this section serve as members until the next general election.

Sec. 124. NRS 318.095 is hereby amended to read as follows: 318.095 Except as otherwise provided in NRS **293.260** and 318.0953:

- 1. There must be held simultaneously with the first general election in the county after the creation of the district and simultaneously with every general election thereafter an election to be known as the biennial election of the district. The election must be conducted under the supervision of the county clerk or registrar of voters. A district shall reimburse the county clerk or registrar of voters for the costs he incurred in conducting the election for the district.
- 2. The office of trustee is a nonpartisan office. The general election laws of this State govern the candidacy, nominations and election of a member of the board. The names of the candidates for trustee of a district may be placed on the ballot for the primary or general election.
- 3. At the first biennial election in any district organized or reorganized and operating under this chapter, and each fourth year thereafter, there must be elected by the qualified electors of the district two qualified electors as members of the board to serve for terms of 4 years. At the second biennial election and each fourth year thereafter, there must be so elected three qualified electors as members of the board to serve for terms of 4 years.
- 4. The secretary of the district shall give notice of election by publication, and shall arrange such other details in connection therewith as the county clerk or registrar of voters may direct.
- 5. Any new member of the board must qualify in the same manner as members of the first board qualify.

Sec. 125. NRS 320.080 is hereby amended to read as follows: 320.080 1. [A] *Except as otherwise provided in NRS 293.260, a* biennial election for the district must be held simultaneously with the first general election in the county held



after the district is created and simultaneously with each general election held thereafter.

- 2. The office of a member of the board is a nonpartisan office. The general election laws of this State govern the candidacy, nominations and election of a member of the board. Except as otherwise provided in subsection 3, the term of office of a member of the board is 4 years.
- 3. At the first biennial election of the district, there must be elected by the qualified voters of the district:
- (a) Two qualified electors as members of the board to serve for terms of 2 years; and
- (b) Three qualified electors as members of the board to serve for terms of 4 years.
- 4. The secretary of the board shall provide notice of the election by publication and take any other action concerning the election as the county clerk or the registrar of voters may direct.
- 5. A member of the board who is elected must qualify in the same manner as a member of the initial board pursuant to NRS 320.070.
- **Sec. 126.** NRS 353.264 is hereby amended to read as follows: 353.264 1. The Reserve for Statutory Contingency Account is hereby created in the State General Fund.
- 2. The State Board of Examiners shall administer the Reserve for Statutory Contingency Account. The money in the Account must be expended only for:
- (a) The payment of claims which are obligations of the State pursuant to NRS 41.03435, 41.0347, 62I.050, 176.485, 179.310, 212.040, 212.050, 212.070, 281.174, 282.290, 282.315, 288.203, 293.253, 293.405, 353.120, 353.262, 412.154 and 475.235;
- 30 (b) The payment of claims which are obligations of the State 31 pursuant to:
 - (1) Chapter 472 of NRS arising from operations of the Division of Forestry of the State Department of Conservation and Natural Resources directly involving the protection of life and property; and
 - (2) NRS 7.155, 34.750, 176A.640, 179.225 [, 213.153 and 293B.210,] and 213.153,
 - rightharpoonup except that claims may be approved for the respective purposes listed in this paragraph only when the money otherwise appropriated for those purposes has been exhausted;
 - (c) The payment of claims which are obligations of the State pursuant to NRS 41.0349 and 41.037, but only to the extent that the money in the Fund for Insurance Premiums is insufficient to pay the claims; and



(d) The payment of claims which are obligations of the State pursuant to NRS 535.030 arising from remedial actions taken by the State Engineer when the condition of a dam becomes dangerous to the safety of life or property.

- 3. The State Board of Examiners may authorize its Clerk, under such circumstances as it deems appropriate, to approve, on behalf of the Board, the payment of claims from the Reserve for Statutory Contingency Account. For the purpose of exercising any authority granted to the Clerk of the State Board of Examiners pursuant to this subsection, any statutory reference to the State Board of Examiners relating to such a claim shall be deemed to refer to the Clerk of the Board.
- **Sec. 127.** NRS 385.021 is hereby amended to read as follows: 385.021 1. The State Board consists of 10 members elected by the registered voters within the districts described in NRS 385.0225 to 385.0265, inclusive.
- 2. Each member of the State Board must be a resident of the district from which that member is elected.
- 3. [At] Except as otherwise provided in NRS 293.260, at the general election in 2002, and every 4 years thereafter, one member of the State Board must be elected for a term of 4 years from Districts Numbers 2, 5, 6 and 10.
- 4. [At] Except as otherwise provided in NRS 293.260, at the general election in 2004, and every 4 years thereafter, one member of the State Board must be elected for a term of 4 years from Districts Numbers 1, 3, 4, 7, 8 and 9.
- 5. If a vacancy occurs on the State Board, the Governor shall appoint a member to fill the vacancy until the next general election, at which election a member must be chosen for the balance of the unexpired term. The appointee must be a resident of the district where the vacancy occurs.
- 6. No member of the State Board may be elected to the office more than three times.
 - Sec. 128. NRS 386.160 is hereby amended to read as follows: 386.160 1. [At] Except as otherwise provided in NRS
 - **293.260**, *at* the general election in 1980 and every 4 years thereafter, in a county school district where fewer than 1,000 pupils were enrolled during the preceding school year, three trustees shall be elected at large within the district, as follows:
 - (a) One person who resides at the county seat; but if less than 40 percent of the residents of the county reside at the county seat then such person need not reside at the county seat.
- (b) One person who resides in the county but not at the county seat.



- (c) One person who resides in the county but not at the county seat; but if 80 percent or more of the residents of the county reside at the county seat then a person who resides at the county seat may be elected to the office.
- [At] Except as otherwise provided in NRS 293.260, at the general election in 1982 and every 4 years thereafter, in a county school district where fewer than 1,000 pupils were enrolled during the preceding school year, two trustees shall be elected at large within the district, as follows:
- (a) One person who resides at the county seat; but if less than 20 percent of the residents of the county reside at the county seat then such person need not reside at the county seat.
- (b) One person who resides in the county but who resides neither at the county seat nor in any incorporated city within the county.
- 16 The term of each person elected to the office of school 17 trustee is 4 years.
 - **Sec. 129.** NRS 386.165 is hereby amended to read as follows:
- 1. In each county school district in which more than 19 386.165 20 75,000 pupils are enrolled, the board of trustees shall establish seven 21 election districts for school trustees. The districts must be:
 - (a) As nearly equal in population as practicable; and
 - (b) Composed of contiguous territory.

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- 2. In each county school district in which more than 25,000 pupils but not more than 75,000 pupils are enrolled, the board of trustees shall establish seven election districts for school trustees, as
- (a) Five districts which are as nearly equal in population as practicable, each of which includes approximately one-fifth of the population of the county; and
- (b) Two districts which are as nearly equal in population as 32 practicable, each of which includes approximately one-half of the 33 population of the county.
 - The districts must be composed of contiguous territory.
 - Each trustee of a school district to which this section applies must reside in the election district which he represents and be elected by the voters of that election district.
 - In each school district in which more than 25,000 pupils are enrolled, the term of a school trustee is 4 years. [Three] Except as otherwise provided in NRS 293.260, three trustees must be elected at the general election of 1982 and four trustees must be elected at the general election of 1984.
 - NRS 386.190 is hereby amended to read as follows: Sec. 130.
 - 386.190 1. If the certificate of the Superintendent of Public Instruction filed with the county clerk states that the pupil



enrollment during the preceding school year in a county school district was 1,000 or more, and the board of trustees of the district is composed of five members elected as provided in NRS 386.160, then, except as otherwise provided in NRS 293.260, at the next succeeding general election one additional trustee who resides at the county seat must be elected for a term of 4 years, and one additional trustee who resides in the county but not at the county seat must be elected for a term of 2 years.

- 2. Thereafter, while continued pupil enrollment in the county school district is 1,000 or more, the offices of school trustees must be filled as provided by law for school districts having pupil enrollments of that size.
- 3. The provisions of subsections 1 and 2 do not apply in a school district in which the pupil enrollment during the preceding school year was 1,000 or more but less than 1,500, and in which the board of trustees of the school district has adopted a resolution specifying that the board will consist of five members.

Sec. 131. NRS 386.200 is hereby amended to read as follows: 386.200 1. In addition to the manner of election provided in NRS 386.205, 386.215 and 386.225, the trustees of a county school district may be elected from school trustee election areas in the alternate manner provided in this section.

Within 30 days before May 1 of any year in which a general election is to be held in the State, 10 percent or more of the registered voters of a county school district in which 25,000 or fewer pupils are enrolled may file a written petition with the board of county commissioners of the county praying for the creation of school trustee election areas within the county school district in the manner provided in this section. The petition must specify with particularity the school trustee election areas proposed to be created, the number of trustees to be elected from each area, and the manner of their nomination and election. The number of school trustee election areas proposed must not exceed the number of trustees authorized by law for the particular county school district. The description of the proposed school trustee election areas need not be given by metes and bounds or by legal subdivisions, but must be sufficient to enable a person to ascertain what territory is proposed to be included within a particular school trustee election area. The signatures to the petition need not all be appended to one paper, but each signer must add to his name his place of residence, giving the street and number whenever practicable. One of the signers of each paper shall swear or affirm, before a person competent to administer oaths, that each signature to the paper appended is the genuine signature of the person whose name it purports to be.



3. Immediately after the receipt of the petition, the board of county commissioners shall fix a date for a public hearing to be held during the month of May, and shall give notice thereof by publication at least once in a newspaper published in the county, or if no such newspaper is published therein then in a newspaper published in the State of Nevada and having a general circulation in the county. The costs of publication of the notice is a proper charge against the county school district fund.

- 4. If, as a result of the public hearing, the board of county commissioners finds that the creation of school trustee election areas within the county school district is desirable, the board of county commissioners shall, by resolution regularly adopted before June 1, divide the county school district into the number of school trustee election areas specified in the petition, designate them by number and define their boundaries. The territory comprising each school trustee election area must be contiguous. The resolution must further set forth the number of trustees to be elected from each school trustee election area and the manner of their nomination and election.
- 5. Before June 1 and immediately following the adoption of the resolution creating school trustee election areas within a county school district, the clerk of the board of county commissioners shall transmit a certified copy of the resolution to the Superintendent of Public Instruction.
- 6. Upon the creation of school trustee election areas within a county school district the terms of office of all trustees then in office expire on the 1st Monday of January thereafter next following a general election. [At] Except as otherwise provided in NRS 293.260, at the general election held following the creation of school trustee election areas within a county school district, school trustees to represent the odd-numbered school trustee election areas must be elected for terms of 4 years and school trustees to represent the even-numbered school trustee election areas must be elected for terms of 2 years. Thereafter, except as otherwise provided in NRS 293.260, at each general election, the offices of school trustees must be filled for terms of 4 years in the order in which the terms of office expire.
- 7. A candidate for the office of trustee of a county school district in which school trustee election areas have been created must be a qualified elector and a resident of the school trustee election area which he seeks to represent.
- 8. The board of county commissioners may by resolution change the boundaries of school trustee election areas or the manner of nomination or election of school trustees after:



(a) Holding a public hearing of which notice must be given as provided in subsection 3; and

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- (b) Receiving, at the hearing or by resolution, the consent of the board of trustees of the school district.
- 9. If the Superintendent of Public Instruction certifies to the county clerk that the enrollment of pupils during the preceding school year in a county school district was less than 1,000, or was 1,000 or more but less than 1,500 in a district in which the board of trustees has adopted a resolution in accordance with NRS 386.120 specifying that the board will consist of five members, and the board of trustees of the county school district is composed of seven elected members based upon a previous enrollment of 1,000 or more, the board of county commissioners shall alter the school trustee election areas or change the number of trustees to be elected from the areas, or the manner of their nomination and election, as may be necessary to provide for reduction of the membership of the board of trustees of the county school board from seven to five members, and only five school trustees may thereafter be nominated and elected at the forthcoming elections.
- 10. If the Superintendent of Public Instruction certifies to the county clerk that the enrollment of pupils during the preceding school year in a county school district was 1,000 or more, and the board of trustees of the county school district is composed of five elected members, the board of county commissioners shall alter the school trustee election areas or change the number of trustees to be elected from the areas, or the manner of their nomination and election, as may be necessary to provide for increasing the membership of the board of trustees of the county school district from five to seven members, and two additional school trustees must thereafter be nominated and elected at the forthcoming elections.
- 11. The provisions of subsection 10 do not apply in a school district in which the pupil enrollment during the preceding school year was 1,000 or more but less than 1,500, and in which the board of trustees of the school district has adopted a resolution specifying that the board will consist of five members.
 - **Sec. 132.** NRS 396.040 is hereby amended to read as follows:
- 396.040 1. The Board of Regents consists of 13 members elected by the registered voters within the districts described in NRS 396.0415 to 396.046, inclusive.
- 40 2. The members of the Board of Regents must be elected as 41 follows:
 - (a) [At] Except as otherwise provided in NRS 293.260, the general election in 2002, and every 6 years thereafter, one member of the Board of Regents must be elected from districts 2, 3, 5 and 10.



(b) [At] Except as otherwise provided in NRS 293.260, the general election in 2004, and every 6 years thereafter, one member of the Board of Regents must be elected from districts 6, 7, 8, 11 and 13.

- (c) [At] Except as otherwise provided in NRS 293.260, the general election in 2006, and every 6 years thereafter, one member of the Board of Regents must be elected from districts 1, 4, 9 and 12.
- 3. Each member of the Board of Regents must be a resident of the district from which he is elected.
- **Sec. 133.** NRS 450.080 is hereby amended to read as follows: 450.080 Except in counties where the board of county commissioners is the board of hospital trustees:
- 1. The offices of hospital trustees are hereby declared to be nonpartisan, and the names of candidates for such offices shall appear alike upon the ballots of all parties at all primary elections.
- 2. [At] Except as otherwise provided in NRS 293.260, at the general election only the names of those candidates, not to exceed twice the number of hospital trustees to be elected, who received the highest numbers of votes at the primary election shall appear on the ballot.
 - **Sec. 134.** NRS 539.143 is hereby amended to read as follows:
- 539.143 In all **[pollbooks] rosters** and lists of registered electors prepared for any election under this chapter, the names of electors who have registered or reregistered for such election shall be distinguished from the names of those who voted at the last preceding district election but who have not so registered or reregistered, by the letter "R" enclosed in parentheses placed before each of the names of the former and the omission thereof in connection with the names of the latter.
- **Sec. 135.** Section 5.020 of the Charter of the City of Reno, being chapter 662, Statutes of Nevada 1971, as last amended by chapter 100, Statutes of Nevada 1999, at page 274, is hereby amended to read as follows:
 - Sec. 5.020 Primary elections; declaration of candidacy.
 - 1. A candidate for any office to be voted for at an election must file a declaration of candidacy with the City Clerk. All filing fees collected by the City Clerk must be deposited to the credit of the General Fund of the City.
 - 2. If for any general election, there are three or more candidates for any office to be filled at that election, a primary election for any such office must be held on the first Tuesday in [September] May preceding the general election. If for any general election there are two or fewer candidates for any office to be filled at that election, their names must



not be placed on the ballot for the primary election but must be placed on the ballot for the general election.

3. In the primary election:

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- (a) The names of the two candidates for Municipal Judge, City Attorney or a particular City Council seat, as the case may be, who receive the highest number of votes must be placed on the ballot for the general election.
- (b) Candidates for Councilman who represent a specific ward must be voted upon only by the registered voters of that ward.
- (c) Candidates for Mayor and Councilman at large must be voted upon by all registered voters of the City.
- 4. The Mayor and all Councilmen must be voted upon by all registered voters of the City at the general election.

Sec. 136. NRS 293.075, 293.12756, 293.233, 293.272, 293.293, 293.300, 293.359, 293.3602, 293B.160, 293B.210, 293C.235, 293C.256, 293C.280, 293C.359 and 293C.3602 are hereby repealed.

LEADLINES OF REPEALED SECTIONS

293.075 "Pollbook" defined.

293.12756 Informational pamphlet concerning petitions; fee.

293.233 Appointment and duties of voting board and counting board in precinct or district where there are 200 or more registered voters and paper ballots are used.

293.272 Voting in person required for voter who registered to vote by mail; exceptions.

293.293 Procedure for voting by paper ballot; duties of election board officer upon receipt of voted ballot.

293.300 Return of ballot not voted; cancellation.

293.359 Ballot boxes for paper ballots or ballots voted by punching card; seals.

293.3602 Custody of paper ballots or ballots voted by punching card; observation by general public of handling of ballots.

293B.160 Test program and card deck to be used for certain mechanical voting systems at election.

293B.210 Clerk to furnish lists of candidates and measures to be voted on at election; Secretary of State to provide to or reimburse county for cards used in elections.



293C.235 Appointment and duties of voting board and counting board in precinct or district where 200 or more registered voters and paper ballots used.

293C.256 Absent ballot or ballot voted in mailing precinct to be voted on paper ballot or ballot voted by punching card.

293C.280 Procedure for voting by paper ballot; duties of election board officer upon receipt of voted ballot.

293C.359 Ballot boxes for paper ballots or ballots voted by punching card; seals.

293C.3602 Custody of paper ballots or ballots voted by punching card; observation by general public of handling of ballots.



