SENATE BILL NO. 215—COMMITTEE ON LEGISLATIVE OPERATIONS AND ELECTIONS

(ON BEHALF OF THE JOINT INTERIM STANDING COMMITTEE ON LEGISLATIVE OPERATIONS AND ELECTIONS)

MARCH 6, 2023

Referred to Committee on Legislative Operations and Elections

SUMMARY—Revises provisions relating to mechanical voting machines and mechanical recording devices. (BDR 24-363)

FISCAL NOTE: Effect on Local Government: May have Fiscal Impact. 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; requiring the governing body of a county or city to return money appropriated or granted for the purchase of a mechanical voting system or mechanical recording device under certain circumstances; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

Legislative Counsel's Digest:

Existing law authorizes the governing body of a county or city to: (1) purchase and adopt for use at elections any mechanical voting system and mechanical recording device that is approved by the Secretary of State; and (2) pay for the purchase of such systems and devices in such manner and by such method as the governing body considers in the best local interests. (NRS 293B.1045, 293B.105, 293B.125) This bill provides that if the governing body of a county or city uses state money appropriated by the Legislature or granted by the Secretary of State to purchase a mechanical voting system or mechanical recording device and then discontinues the use of such mechanical voting system or mechanical recording device and requires voting in person at the polls be conducted only by paper ballot, with certain exceptions, the governing body is required to return any such money to the State to be deposited in the State General Fund.





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

Section 1. NRS 293B.125 is hereby amended to read as follows:

293B.125 1. If a county or city purchases a mechanical voting system or mechanical recording device, the cost of such purchase is a charge upon the county or city.

- 2. The board of county commissioners or city council or other governing body of any city may provide for the payment of the costs of such *mechanical voting* systems and *mechanical recording* devices in such manner and by such method as they consider in the best local interests, and also may for that purpose issue bonds, certificates of indebtedness, or other obligations which are a charge on the county or city. The bonds, certificates or other obligations may be issued with or without interest, payable at such time as the authorities may determine, but may not be issued or sold at less than par.
- 3. The board of county commissioners or city council or other governing body of any city shall return any state money appropriated by the Nevada State Legislature or grants of state money provided by the Secretary of State for the purchase of a mechanical voting system or mechanical recording device if the county or city:
- (a) Discontinues the use of the mechanical voting system or mechanical recording device; and
- (b) Requires voting in person at the polls be conducted only by paper ballot, other than a mechanical voting system or mechanical recording device required pursuant to NRS 293.2955 for a voter who is elderly or a voter with a disability.
- 4. Any money returned to the State pursuant to subsection 3 must be deposited in the State General Fund.
 - **Sec. 2.** This act becomes effective on July 1, 2023.





