ASSEMBLY BILL NO. 262–COMMITTEE ON LEGISLATIVE OPERATIONS AND ELECTIONS

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

FEBRUARY 19, 2025

Referred to Committee on Legislative Operations and Elections

SUMMARY—Revises provisions relating to elections. (BDR 24-362)

FISCAL NOTE: Effect on Local Government: May have Fiscal Impact. Effect on the State: Yes.

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

AN ACT relating to elections; authorizing officers and trainees appointed for certain elections to choose to work as volunteers who receive no compensation; eliminating certain prohibitions relating to the appointment or employment of persons who have been convicted of a felony involving theft or fraud for a position involving the registration of voters; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

Legislative Counsel's Digest:

1 Existing law requires the county clerk of each county and the city clerk of each 2345678 city to appoint and notify registered voters to act as election board officers for: (1) the various polling places in the county and city, respectively; and (2) the mail ballot central counting board in such numbers determined to be required by the volume of mail ballots required to be sent to each active registered voter in the county or city, respectively. (NRS 293.217, 293.269929, 293C.220, 293C.26329) Existing law further requires the compensation of voting board officers, counting board officers, specially appointed deputy sheriffs, election board officers and other 9 employees to be fixed by county or city ordinance, resolution or order. (NRS 10 293.460) Existing law further authorizes a county or city clerk to: (1) appoint 11 certain pupils as trainees for the position of election board officer; and (2) 12 compensate such trainees for service at the same rate fixed for election board 13 officers generally. (NRS 293.2175, 293C.222) Sections 1, 2 and 5 of this bill 14 authorize a trainee, voting board officer, counting board officer or election board 15 officer to choose to work as a volunteer who receives no compensation.





16 Sections 6-8 of this bill amend the Las Vegas City Charter, the Airport 17 Authority Act for Battle Mountain and the Airport Authority Act for Carson City to 18 similarly provide that an officer appointed for certain special elections may choose to work as a volunteer who receives no compensation. (Las Vegas City Charter § 5.130; Airport Authority Act for Battle Mountain § 21; Airport Authority Act for Carson City § 15)

19 20 21 22 23 24 25 26 27 28 29 Existing law prohibits: (1) a voter registration agency from knowingly employing a person whose duties will include the registration of voters if the person has been convicted of a felony involving theft or fraud; and (2) a county clerk from knowingly appointing as a field registrar a person who has been convicted of a felony involving theft or fraud. Existing law further authorizes the Secretary of State to bring an action against a voter registration agency or county clerk to collect a civil penalty of not more than \$5,000 for each person employed or appointed in violation of these prohibitions. (NRS 293.5045, 293.505) Sections 3 and 4 of this 30 bill remove these prohibitions thereby authorizing a person who has been convicted 31 of a felony involving theft or fraud to be: (1) employed by a voter registration 32 agency even if his or her duties will include the registration of voters; or (2) 33 appointed as a field registrar.

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

1 Section 1. NRS 293.2175 is hereby amended to read as 2 follows:

293.2175 1. The county clerk may appoint a pupil as a 3 trainee for the position of election board officer. To qualify for such 4 5 an appointment, the pupil must be:

(a) A United States citizen, a resident of Nevada and a resident 6 7 of the county in which the pupil serves;

- 8 (b) Enrolled in high school; and
- 9 (c) At the time of service, at least 16 years of age.
- 10 2. The county clerk may only appoint a pupil as a trainee if:
- 11 (a) The pupil is appointed without party affiliation;

12 (b) The county clerk sends the pupil a certificate stating the date 13 and hours that the pupil will act as a trainee;

(c) At least 20 days before the election in which the pupil will 14 15 act as a trainee, the principal of the high school or the pupil's assigned school counselor receives the county clerk's certificate and 16 a written request signed by the pupil's parent or guardian to be 17 excused from school for the time specified in the certificate; 18

19 (d) The principal of the high school or the assigned school 20 counselor of the pupil approves the pupil's request; and

21 (e) The pupil attends the training class required by NRS 293B.260. 22

3. Except as otherwise provided in this subsection, the county 23 clerk may assign a trainee such duties as the county clerk deems 24 appropriate. The county clerk shall not require the trainee to perform 25





1 those duties later than 10 p.m. or any applicable curfew, whichever 2 is earlier.

3 4. The county clerk may compensate a trainee for service at the same rate fixed for election board officers generally *H* unless the 4 5 trainee chooses to perform the duties described in this section as a 6 volunteer who receives no compensation. 7

Sec. 2. NRS 293.460 is hereby amended to read as follows:

8 293.460 **1**. The compensation of voting board officers, 9 counting board officers, specially appointed deputy sheriffs, election board officers and other employees must be fixed by county or city 10 ordinance, resolution or order. 11

12 A voting board officer, counting board officer or election 2. 13 board officer who is eligible to receive compensation fixed 14 pursuant to this section may choose to work in such a position as a 15 volunteer who receives no compensation.

16 **Sec. 3.** NRS 293.5045 is hereby amended to read as follows:

17 293.5045 1. A person who works in a voter registration 18 agency shall not:

19 (a) Seek to influence an applicant's political preference or party 20 registration;

21 (b) Display a political preference or party allegiance in a place 22 where it can be seen by an applicant;

23 (c) Make any statement or take any action to discourage an 24 applicant from registering to vote; or

25 (d) Make any statement or take any action which would lead the 26 applicant to believe that a decision to register to vote has any effect 27 on the availability of any services or benefits provided by the State 28 or Federal Government.

29 2. A person who violates any of the provisions of subsection 1 30 is guilty of a category E felony and shall be punished as provided in 31 NRS 193.130.

32 [3. A voter registration agency shall not knowingly employ a 33 person whose duties will include the registration of voters if the person has been convicted of a felony involving theft or fraud. The 34 35 Secretary of State may bring an action against a voter registration 36 agency to collect a civil penalty of not more than \$5,000 for each 37 person who is employed by the voter registration agency in violation 38 of this subsection. Any civil penalty collected pursuant to this subsection must be deposited with the State Treasurer for credit to 39 40 the State General Fund.] Sec. 4. 41 NRS 293.505 is hereby amended to read as follows:

42 293.505 1. All justices of the peace, except those located in 43 county seats, are ex officio field registrars to carry out the 44 provisions of this chapter.





1 2. The county clerk shall appoint at least one registered voter to 2 serve as a field registrar of voters who, except as otherwise provided 3 in NRS 293.5055, shall preregister and register voters within the 4 county for which the field registrar is appointed. Except as 5 otherwise provided in subsection 1, a candidate for any office may 6 not be appointed or serve as a field registrar. A field registrar serves 7 at the pleasure of the county clerk and shall perform such duties as 8 the county clerk may direct. The county clerk shall not knowingly appoint any person as a field registrar who has been convicted of a 9 felony involving theft or fraud.] The Secretary of State may bring an 10 action against a county clerk to collect a civil penalty of not more 11 12 than \$5,000 for each person who is appointed as a field registrar in 13 violation of this subsection. Any civil penalty collected pursuant to 14 this subsection must be deposited with the State Treasurer for credit 15 to the State General Fund.

16 3. A field registrar shall demand of any person who applies for 17 preregistration or registration all information required by the 18 application to preregister or register to vote, as applicable, and shall 19 administer all oaths required by this chapter.

4. When a field registrar has in his or her possession five or more completed applications to preregister or register to vote, the field registrar shall forward them to the county clerk, but in no case may the field registrar hold any number of them for more than 10 days.

25 5. Each field registrar shall forward to the county clerk all completed applications in his or her possession immediately after 26 27 the last day to register to vote by mail pursuant to NRS 293.560 or 28 293C.527, as applicable. Within 5 days after the last day to register 29 to vote by mail pursuant to NRS 293.560 or 293C.527, as 30 applicable, a field registrar shall return all unused applications in his 31 or her possession to the county clerk. If all of the unused 32 applications are not returned to the county clerk, the field registrar 33 shall account for the unreturned applications.

6. Each field registrar shall submit to the county clerk a list of
the serial numbers of the completed applications to preregister or
register to vote and the names of the electors on those applications.
The serial numbers must be listed in numerical order.

38 7. Each field registrar shall post notices sent to him or her by39 the county clerk for posting in accordance with the election laws of40 this State.

41 8. A field registrar, employee of a voter registration agency or 42 person assisting a voter pursuant to NRS 293.5235 shall not:

43 (a) Delegate any of his or her duties to another person; or

44 (b) Refuse to preregister or register a person on account of that 45 person's political party affiliation.





1 9. A person shall not hold himself or herself out to be or 2 attempt to exercise the duties of a field registrar unless the person 3 has been so appointed.

4 10. A county clerk, field registrar, employee of a voter 5 registration agency or person assisting another person pursuant to 6 NRS 293.5235 shall not:

7 (a) Solicit a vote for or against a particular question or 8 candidate;

9 (b) Speak to a person on the subject of marking his or her ballot 10 for or against a particular question or candidate; or

11 (c) Distribute any petition or other material concerning a 12 candidate or question which will be on the ballot for the ensuing 13 election,

14 \rightarrow while preregistering or registering the person.

15 11. When the county clerk receives applications to preregister 16 or register to vote from a field registrar, the county clerk shall issue 17 a receipt to the field registrar. The receipt must include:

(a) The number of persons preregistered or registered; and

(b) The political party of the persons preregistered or registered.

20 12. A county clerk, field registrar, employee of a voter 21 registration agency or person assisting another person pursuant to 22 NRS 293.5235 shall not:

23 (a) Knowingly:

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(1) Register a person who is not a qualified elector or a
 person who has filed a false or misleading application to register to
 vote; or

(2) Preregister a person who does not meet the qualificationsset forth in NRS 293.4855; or

(b) Preregister or register a person who fails to provide
 satisfactory proof of identification and the address at which the
 person actually resides.

13. A county clerk, field registrar, employee of a voter registration agency, person assisting another person pursuant to NRS 293.5235 or any other person providing a form for the application to preregister or register to vote to an elector for the purpose of preregistering or registering to vote:

(a) If the person who assists another person with completing the
form for the application to preregister or register to vote retains the
form, shall enter his or her name on the duplicate copy or receipt
retained by the person upon completion of the form; and

(b) Shall not alter, deface or destroy an application to preregister
or register to vote that has been signed by a person except to correct
information contained in the application after receiving notice from
the person that a change in or addition to the information is required.





If a field registrar violates any of the provisions of this 1 14. 2 section, the county clerk shall immediately suspend the field 3 registrar and notify the district attorney of the county in which the 4 violation occurred.

5 A person who violates any of the provisions of subsection 15. 6 8, 9, 10, 12 or 13 is guilty of a category E felony and shall be 7 punished as provided in NRS 193.130. 8

Sec. 5. NRS 293C.222 is hereby amended to read as follows:

1. The city clerk may appoint a pupil as a trainee 9 293C.222 for the position of election board officer. To qualify for such an 10 appointment, the pupil must be: 11

12 (a) A United States citizen, a resident of Nevada and a resident 13 of the city in which the pupil serves;

14 (b) Enrolled in high school; and

15 (c) At the time of service, at least 16 years of age.

16 2. The city clerk may only appoint a pupil as a trainee if:

17 (a) The pupil is appointed without party affiliation;

18 (b) The city clerk sends the pupil a certificate stating the date 19 and hours that the pupil will act as a trainee;

20 (c) At least 20 days before the election in which the pupil will 21 act as a trainee, the principal of the high school or the assigned 22 school counselor of the pupil receives the city clerk's certificate and 23 a written request signed by the pupil's parent or guardian to be 24 excused from school for the time specified in the certificate;

25 (d) The principal of the high school or the assigned school 26 counselor of the pupil approves the pupil's request; and

27 (e) The pupil attends the training class required bv NRS 293B.260. 28

29 3. Except as otherwise provided in this subsection, the city 30 clerk may assign a trainee such duties as the city clerk deems 31 appropriate. The city clerk shall not require the trainee to perform 32 those duties later than 10 p.m., or any applicable curfew, whichever 33 is earlier.

34 4. The city clerk may compensate a trainee for service at the 35 same rate fixed for election board officers generally **[]** unless the 36 trainee chooses to perform the duties described in this section as a 37 volunteer who receives no compensation.

Sec. 6. 38 Section 5.130 of the Charter of the City of Las Vegas, 39 being chapter 517, Statutes of Nevada 1983, at page 1417, is hereby 40 amended to read as follows:

41 Sec. 5.130 Special elections: Consolidation of voting 42 precincts; qualification of voters; costs.

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The City Clerk may consolidate or otherwise modify 1. voting precincts for any special municipal election and shall designate the polling places, appoint the officers of the



election for each precinct in such number as he or she may
 determine, and fix the respective duties and compensation of
 those officers.

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- 2. Any qualified elector who is properly registered is qualified to vote at the special election.
- 3. The costs of any special election must be paid by the City.
 - 4. An officer of the election who is eligible to receive compensation fixed pursuant to subsection 1 may choose to work in such a position as a volunteer who receives no compensation.

12 Sec. 7. Section 21 of the Airport Authority Act for Battle 13 Mountain, being chapter 458, Statutes of Nevada 1983, at page 14 1214, is hereby amended to read as follows:

15 Sec. 21. 1. Subject to the provisions of NRS 350.011 16 to 350.0165, inclusive, whenever the Board determines, by 17 resolution, that the interest of the Authority and the public 18 interest or necessity demand the issue of general obligation 19 bonds to purchase, construct, or otherwise acquire, maintain, 20 improve or equip airports, the Board shall order the 21 submission of the proposition of issuing such bonds to the 22 registered voters of the Authority at an election held for that 23 purpose in the manner provided by NRS 350.020 to 350.070, 24 inclusive.

- 25 2. Any such election may be held separately, or may be
 26 consolidated or held concurrently with any other election
 27 authorized by law.
- 3. The declaration of public interest or necessity
 required by this section and the provision for the holding of
 such election may be included within one and the same
 resolution, which resolution, in addition to the declaration of
 public interest or necessity, must:

(a) Recite the objects and purposes for which the
indebtedness is proposed to be incurred, the estimated cost of
the works or improvements, as the case may be, the
maximum amount of principal of the indebtedness to be
incurred therefor, and the maximum rate of interest to be paid
on the indebtedness.

(b) Fix the date upon which the election will be held and
the manner of holding it and the method of voting for or
against the incurring of the proposed indebtedness.

(c) Fix the compensation to be paid the officers of the election, designate the polling place and appoint, for each polling place from the electors of the Authority, three officers of the election, one of whom shall act as clerk.



2 compensation fixed pursuant to paragraph (c) of subsection 3 3 may choose to work in such a position as a volunteer who 4 receives no compensation. 5 Sec. 8. Section 15 of the Airport Authority Act for Carson 6 City, being chapter 844, Statutes of Nevada 1989, as amended by 7 chapter 345, Statutes of Nevada 1993, at page 1094, is hereby 8 amended to read as follows: 9 Sec. 15. 1. Subject to the approval of the Board of Supervisors and the provisions of NRS 350.011 to 350.0165. 10 inclusive, whenever the Board determines, by resolution, that 11 12 the public interest or necessity requires the issuance of 13 general obligation bonds to purchase, construct, acquire, 14 maintain, improve or equip an airport, the Board shall submit 15 the proposition to the voters at a special election or the next 16 primary or general election held pursuant to NRS 350.020 to 17 350.070, inclusive. 18 A special election may be held only if the Board of 2. 19 Supervisors determines, by a unanimous vote, that an 20 emergency exists. The determination made by the Board of 21 Supervisors is conclusive unless it is shown that the Board of

22 Supervisors acted with fraud or a gross abuse of discretion. 23 An action to challenge the determination made by the Board 24 of Supervisors must be commenced within 15 days after the 25 Board's determination is final. As used in this subsection, 26 "emergency" means any unexpected occurrence or 27 combination of occurrences which requires immediate action 28 by the Board of Supervisors to prevent or mitigate a 29 substantial financial loss to the Authority or Carson City or to 30 enable the Board of Supervisors to provide an essential 31 service to the residents of Carson City.

32 3. The declaration of public interest or necessity 33 required by this section and the provision for holding the 34 election may be included in one resolution which, in addition 35 to the declaration of public interest or necessity, must: 36 (a) Recite the objects and purposes for which the

(a) Recite the objects and purposes for which the indebtedness is proposed to be incurred, the estimated cost of the works or improvements, the maximum amount of principal of the indebtedness and the maximum rate of interest to be paid.

(b) Include the date upon which the election will be held and describe the method of voting for or against the proposed indebtedness.

(c) Fix the compensation to be paid the officers of the election, designate the polling place and appoint, for each



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An officer of the election who is eligible to receive

- polling place from the registered voters of Carson City, three
 officers of the election, one of whom shall act as clerk.
 An officer of the election who is eligible to receive compensation fixed pursuant to paragraph (c) of subsection may choose to work in such a position as a volunteer who receives no compensation. Sec. 9. This act becomes effective on July 1, 2025.
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