ASSEMBLY BILL NO. 79—COMMITTEE ON LEGISLATIVE OPERATIONS AND ELECTIONS

(ON BEHALF OF THE SECRETARY OF STATE)

Prefiled November 20, 2024

Referred to Committee on Legislative Operations and Elections

SUMMARY—Revises provisions relating to campaign finance. (BDR 24-483)

FISCAL NOTE: Effect on Local Government: Increases or Newly
Provides for Term of Imprisonment in County or City
Jail or Detention Facility.
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 campaign finance; prohibiting a committee for political action from spending campaign contributions for the personal use of any person; authorizing, under certain circumstances, an elected public officer to use unspent campaign contributions to pay for the cost of child care, the care of an elderly parent or health insurance premiums; requiring certain candidates, public officers or former public officers to notify the Secretary of State when all unspent campaign contributions have been disposed of; requiring a committee for political action to report the balance in its bank account at the end of a period; clarifying that certain nonprofit reporting organizations are not a committee for political action for purposes of campaign finance requirements; requiring a candidate to file a notice of intent to file for candidacy with the Secretary of State; requiring a candidate or committee for political action to produce certain bank account information in the course of an investigation of alleged violation of campaign finance laws; making such information confidential; providing providing other matters properly relating thereto.





Legislative Counsel's Digest:

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Under existing law, it is unlawful for a candidate to spend money received as a contribution for the candidate's personal use. (NRS 294A.160) **Section 2** of this bill similarly makes it unlawful for a committee for political action to spend money received as a contribution for the personal use of any person.

Under existing law, certain candidates, public officers and former public officers are required to dispose of unspent contributions. Any such candidate, public officer or former public officer is also subject to various reporting requirements for as long as the candidate, public officer or former public officer has unspent contributions. (NRS 294A.160) **Section 4** of this bill provides that every candidate, public officer or former public officer who is required to dispose of unspent contributions must, in addition to any other requirement, notify the Secretary of State when the candidate, public officer or former public officer has disposed of all unspent contributions.

Under existing law, every candidate for office at a primary, general or special election who is elected to that office and received contributions that were not spent or committed for expenditure before the election is required to dispose of the unspent contributions through one or more authorized methods, including using the unspent contributions to pay for expenses related to public office. (NRS 294A.160) Section 3 of this bill authorizes an elected public officer to use unspent contributions to pay for the cost of child care, the care of an elderly parent or the premiums for health insurance if the elected public officer would be unable to afford to pay such costs due to serving in the elected public office. If an elected public officer uses any unspent contributions to pay for such expenses, section 3:

(1) deems the cost of such expenses to be an expense related to public office; and (2) requires the elected public officer to report the use of unspent contributions on his or her campaign finance report.

Existing law requires a committee for political action to open and maintain a separate account in a financial institution located in the United States for the deposit of any contributions received not later than 1 week after receiving contributions the sum of which, in the aggregate, is \$1,000 or more. (NRS 294A.130) Under existing law, certain committees for political action are required to report: (1) each contribution in excess of \$1,000 received during a reporting period; and (2) contributions received during a reporting period from a contributor which cumulatively exceed \$1,000. (NRS 294A.140) Sections 5 and 8 of this bill require that certain committees for political action also report the balance of the account on the ending date of the reporting period. These requirements are consistent with the requirements for candidates to report the balance of the account at the end of a reporting period. (NRS 294A.130) Sections 9, 10 and 12 of this bill make conforming changes to reflect this new reporting requirement for committees for political action. Section 14 of this bill provides that sections 5 and 8: (1) do not apply to any report of contributions or expenditures that is required to be filed by a committee for political action on or before January 15, 2026; and (2) apply to every report of contributions or expenditures that is required to be filed by a committee for political action after January 15, 2026.

Existing law defines a "committee for political action" for purposes of campaign finance law. (NRS 294A.0055) **Section 6** of this bill revises this definition to exclude from the definition a nonprofit organization which is recognized as tax exempt pursuant to section 501(c)(3) or 501(c)(4) of the Internal Revenue Code.

Existing law requires every candidate, not later than 1 week after receiving minimum contributions of \$100, to open and maintain a separate account in a financial institution located in the United States for the deposit of any contributions received. (NRS 294A.130) **Section 7** of this bill requires every candidate to also file with the Secretary of State a notice of intent to file for candidacy.





Under existing law, if it appears that the provisions of law relating to campaign finance have been violated, the Secretary of State may conduct an investigation concerning the alleged violation. (NRS 294A.410) **Section 11** of this bill provides that in conducting an investigation of an alleged violation, a candidate or committee for political action must, upon request of the Secretary of State, provide to the Secretary of State information relating to the campaign account of the candidate or committee for political action. **Sections 11 and 13** of this bill provide that any account information collected or stored by the Secretary of State is confidential and not a public record.

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

- **Section 1.** Chapter 294A of NRS is hereby amended by adding thereto the provisions set forth as sections 2 to 5, inclusive, of this act.
- Sec. 2. 1. It is unlawful for a committee for political action to spend money received as a contribution for the personal use of any person.
- 2. As used in this section, "personal use" means any use of contributions to a committee for political action to fulfill a commitment, obligation or expense that exists irrespective of the duties or activities of the committee for political action.
- Sec. 3. 1. An elected public officer may use unspent contributions to pay for the cost of child care, the care of an elderly parent or the premiums for health insurance if the elected public officer would be unable to afford to pay such costs due to serving in the elected public office.
- 2. If an elected public officer uses any unspent contributions to pay for the cost of child care, the care of an elderly parent or the premiums for health insurance pursuant to subsection 1:
- (a) It shall be deemed that the cost of such expenses is an expense related to public office, as authorized pursuant to paragraph (b) of subsection 3 of NRS 294A.160; and
- (b) The elected public officer must report the use of unspent contributions for any such purpose pursuant to NRS 294A.200.
- 3. The Secretary of State shall adopt regulations to carry out
 the provisions of this section.
 Sec. 4. 1. Every candidate, public officer or former public
 - Sec. 4. 1. Every candidate, public officer or former public officer required to dispose of unspent contributions pursuant to NRS 294A.160 shall, in addition to complying with any other requirement set forth in this chapter, notify the Secretary of State, on a form prescribed by the Secretary of State, when the candidate, public officer or former public officer has disposed of all unspent contributions. Such notice must include, without limitation:



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- (a) A description of the manner in which unspent contributions were disposed of; and
- (b) An affirmation that all unspent contributions have been properly disposed of pursuant to the applicable provisions of NRS 294A.160.
- 2. The Secretary of State shall adopt regulations to carry out the provisions of this section.
- Sec. 5. 1. The provisions of this section apply to every committee for political action which receives contributions in excess of \$1,000 or makes an expenditure for or against a candidate for office or a group of such candidates.
- 2. Every committee for political action shall, not later than January 15 of the election year, for the period beginning January 1 of the previous year and ending on December 31 of the previous year, report:
- (a) Each contribution in excess of \$1,000 received during the period;
- (b) Contributions received during the period from a contributor which cumulatively exceed \$1,000; and
- (c) The balance in the account maintained by the committee for political action pursuant to NRS 294A.130 on the ending date of the period.
- 3. In addition to the requirements set forth in subsection 2, every committee for political action described in subsection 1 shall, not later than:
- (a) April 15 of the election year, for the period beginning January 1 and ending on March 31 of the election year;
- (b) July 15 of the election year, for the period beginning April 1 and ending on June 30 of the election year;
- (c) October 15 of the election year, for the period beginning July 1 and ending on September 30 of the election year; and
- (d) January 15 of the year immediately following the election year, for the period beginning October 1 and ending on December 31 of the election year,
 - report each contribution described in paragraphs (a) and (b) of subsection 2 received during the period from a contributor and the balance in the account maintained by the committee for political action pursuant to NRS 294A.130 on the ending date of the period.
- 4. Except as otherwise provided in subsections 5, 6 and 7 and NRS 294A.223, every committee for political action described in subsection 1 which makes an expenditure for or against a candidate for office at a special election or for or against a group of such candidates shall, not later than:





(a) Four days before the beginning of early voting by personal appearance for the special election, for the period from the nomination of the candidate through 5 days before the beginning of early voting by personal appearance for the special election;

(b) Four days before the special election, for the period from 4 days before the beginning of early voting by personal appearance for the special election through 5 days before the special election;

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(c) Thirty days after the special election, for the remaining period through the date of the special election,

report each contribution described in paragraphs (a) and (b) of subsection 2 received during the period and the balance in the account maintained by the committee for political action pursuant to NRS 294A.130 on the ending date of the period.

- Except as otherwise provided in subsections 6 and 7 and NRS 294A.223, every committee for political action described in subsection 1 which makes an expenditure for or against a candidate for office at a special election to determine whether a public officer will be recalled or for or against a group of candidates for offices at such special elections shall, not later than:
- (a) Four days before the beginning of early voting by personal appearance for the special election, for the period from the date the notice of intent to circulate a petition to recall is filed pursuant to NRS 306.015 through 5 days before the beginning of early voting by personal appearance for the special election;
- (b) Four days before the special election, for the period from 4 days before the beginning of early voting by personal appearance for the special election through 5 days before the special election; and
- (c) Thirty days after the special election, for the remaining period through the date of the special election,
- report each contribution described in paragraphs (a) and (b) of subsection 2 received during the period and the balance in the account maintained by the committee for political action pursuant to NRS 294A.130 on the ending date of the period.
- 6. Except as otherwise provided in subsection 7, if a petition for recall is not submitted to the filing officer before the expiration of the notice of intent pursuant to the provisions of chapter 306 of NRS or is otherwise legally insufficient when submitted to the filing officer pursuant to the provisions of that chapter, every committee for political action described in subsection 1 which makes an expenditure for or against a candidate for office at a special election to determine whether a public officer will be recalled or for or against a group of such candidates shall, not





later than 30 days after the expiration of the notice of intent, for the period from the filing of the notice of intent through the date that the notice of intent expires or the petition is determined to be legally insufficient, report each contribution described in paragraphs (a) and (b) of subsection 2 received during the period and the balance in the account maintained by the committee for political action pursuant to NRS 294A.130 on the ending date of the period. The provisions of this subsection apply to the committee for political action if the petition for recall:

(a) Is not submitted to the filing officer as required by chapter

306 of NRS;

(b) Is submitted to the filing officer without any valid signatures or with fewer than the necessary number of valid signatures required by chapter 306 of NRS; or

(c) Is otherwise legally sufficient or efforts to obtain the necessary number of valid signatures required by chapter 306 of

NRS are suspended or discontinued.

7. If the legal sufficiency of a petition for recall is challenged

and a district court determines that the petition is legally:

(a) Sufficient pursuant to chapter 306 of NRS and the order of the district court is appealed, every committee for political action described in subsection 1 which makes an expenditure for or against a candidate for office at a special election to determine whether a public officer will be recalled or for or against a group of candidates for offices at such a special election shall:

(1) Not later than 30 days after the date on which the notice of appeal is filed, for the period from the filing of the notice of the intent to circulate the petition for recall through the date on which the notice of appeal is filed, report each contribution described in paragraphs (a), (b) and (c) of subsection 2 received during the period and the balance in the account maintained by the committee for political action pursuant to NRS 294A.130 on

the ending date of the period.

(2) Not later than 30 days after the date on which all appeals regarding the petition are exhausted, for the period from the day after the date on which the notice of appeal is filed through the date on which all appeals regarding the petition are exhausted, report each contribution described in paragraphs (a) and (b) of subsection 2 received during the period and the balance in the account maintained by the committee for political action pursuant to NRS 294A.130 on the ending date of the period.

(b) Insufficient pursuant to chapter 306 of NRS, every committee for political action described in subsection 1 which makes an expenditure for or against a candidate for office at a special election to determine whether a public officer will be





recalled or for or against a group of candidates for offices at such special election shall:

- (1) Not later than 30 days after the date on which the district court orders the filing officer to cease any further proceedings regarding the petition, for the period from the filing of the notice of intent to circulate the petition for recall through the date of the district court's order, report each contribution described in paragraphs (a) and (b) of subsection 2 received during the period and the balance in the account maintained by the committee for political action pursuant to NRS 294A.130 on the ending date of the period.
- (2) Not later than 30 days after the date on which all appeals regarding the petition are exhausted, for the period from the day after the date of the district court's order through the date on which all appeals regarding the petition are exhausted, report each contribution described in paragraphs (a) and (b) of subsection 2 received during the period and the balance in the account maintained by the committee for political action pursuant to NRS 294A.130 on the ending date of the period.
- 8. In addition to complying with the applicable requirements of subsections 2 to 7, inclusive, a committee for political action described in subsection 1 must, not later than January 15 of each year that is not an election year, for the period beginning January 1 of the previous year and ending on December 31 of the previous year, report each contribution described in paragraphs (a) and (b) of subsection 2 received during the period and the balance in the account maintained by the committee for political action pursuant to NRS 294A.130 on the ending date of the period. Nothing in this subsection:
- (a) Requires the committee for political action to report information that has previously been reported in a timely manner pursuant to subsections 2 to 7, inclusive; or
- (b) Authorizes the committee for political action to not comply with any applicable requirement set forth in subsections 2 to 7, inclusive.
- 9. Except as otherwise provided in NRS 294A.3737, the reports of contributions required pursuant to this section must be filed electronically with the Secretary of State.
- 10. A report shall be deemed to be filed on the date that it was received by the Secretary of State.
- 11. Every committee for political action described in this section shall file a report required by this section even if the committee for political action receives no contributions.
- 12. The name and address of the contributor and the date on which the contribution was received must be included on the





report for each contribution in excess of \$1,000 and contributions which a contributor has made cumulatively in excess of \$1,000 since the beginning of the current reporting period.

- **Sec. 6.** NRS 294A.0055 is hereby amended to read as follows: 294A.0055 1. "Committee for political action" means:
- (a) Any group of natural persons or entities that solicits or receives contributions from any other person, group or entity and:
- (1) Makes or intends to make contributions to candidates or other persons; or
 - (2) Makes or intends to make expenditures,
- designed to affect the outcome of any primary election, general election, special election or question on the ballot.
- (b) Any business or social organization, corporation, partnership, association, trust, unincorporated organization or labor union:
- (1) Which has as its primary purpose affecting the outcome of any primary election, general election, special election or any question on the ballot and for that purpose receives contributions in excess of \$1,500 in a calendar year or makes expenditures in excess of \$1,500 in a calendar year; or
- (2) Which does not have as its primary purpose affecting the outcome of any primary election, general election, special election or any question on the ballot, but for the purpose of affecting the outcome of any election or question on the ballot receives contributions in excess of \$5,000 in a calendar year or makes independent expenditures in excess of \$5,000 in a calendar year.
 - 2. "Committee for political action" does not include:
- (a) An organization made up of legislative members of a political party whose primary purpose is to provide support for their political efforts.
- (b) An entity solely because it provides goods or services to a candidate or committee in the regular course of its business at the same price that would be provided to the general public.
 - (c) An individual natural person.
- (d) Except as otherwise provided in paragraph (b) of subsection 1, an individual corporation or other business organization who has filed articles of incorporation or other documentation of organization with the Secretary of State pursuant to title 7 of NRS.
- (e) Except as otherwise provided in paragraph (b) of subsection 1, a labor union.
- (f) A personal campaign committee or the personal representative of a candidate who receives contributions or makes expenditures that are reported as contributions or expenditures by the candidate.
 - (g) A committee for the recall of a public officer.





(h) A major or minor political party or any committee sponsored by a major or minor political party.

(i) A nonprofit organization which is recognized as tax exempt pursuant to section 501(c)(3) or 501(c)(4) of the Internal Revenue Code, being 26 U.S.C. § 501(c)(3) or 26 U.S.C. § 501(c)(4).

Sec. 7. NRS 294A.130 is hereby amended to read as follows: 294A.130 1. Every candidate shall, not later than 1 week after receiving minimum contributions of \$100, [open] do the following:

(a) Open and maintain a separate account in a financial institution located in the United States for the deposit of any contributions received. The candidate shall not commingle the money in the account with money collected for other purposes.

- (b) File with the Secretary of State a notice of intent to file for candidacy. The notice of intent to file for candidacy must, without limitation, indicate the office for which the candidate intends to run. If the candidate later decides to run for a different office, the candidate must file with the Secretary of State, on a form prescribed by the Secretary of State, an updated intent to file for candidacy. Any such updated intent to file for candidacy must be filed with the Secretary of State not later than 1 week after the candidate decides to run for a different office.
- 2. The candidate may close the separate account if the candidate:
 - (a) Was a candidate in a special election, after that election;
 - (b) Lost in the primary election, after the primary election; or
 - (c) Won the primary election, after the general election,
- → and as soon as all payments of money committed have been made.
- 3. Every committee for political action, committee sponsored by a political party and committee for the recall of a public officer shall, not later than 1 week after receiving contributions the sum of which, in the aggregate, is \$1,000 or more, open and maintain a separate account in a financial institution located in the United States for the deposit of any contributions received. The committee for political action, committee sponsored by a political party or committee for the recall of a public officer shall not commingle the money in the account with money collected for other purposes.
- 4. A candidate must file an intent to file for candidacy pursuant to subsection 1 for each office for which the candidate is seeking election or intends to seek election.
 - **Sec. 8.** NRS 294A.140 is hereby amended to read as follows: 294A.140 1. The provisions of this section apply to:
- (a) Every person who makes an independent expenditure in excess of \$1,000; and





- (b) Every [committee for political action,] political party and committee sponsored by a political party which receives contributions in excess of \$1,000 or makes an expenditure for or against a candidate for office or a group of such candidates.
- 2. Every person, [committee and] political party and committee described in subsection 1 shall, not later than January 15 of the election year, for the period beginning January 1 of the previous year and ending on December 31 of the previous year, report each contribution in excess of \$1,000 received during the period and contributions received during the period from a contributor which cumulatively exceed \$1,000.
- 3. In addition to the requirements set forth in subsection 2, every person, [committee and] political party and committee described in subsection 1 shall, not later than:
- (a) April 15 of the election year, for the period beginning January 1 and ending on March 31 of the election year;
- (b) July 15 of the election year, for the period beginning April 1 and ending on June 30 of the election year;
- (c) October 15 of the election year, for the period beginning July 1 and ending on September 30 of the election year; and
- (d) January 15 of the year immediately following the election year, for the period beginning October 1 and ending on December 31 of the election year,
- report each contribution in excess of \$1,000 received during the period and contributions received during the period from a contributor which cumulatively exceed \$1,000.
- 4. Except as otherwise provided in subsections 5, 6 and 7 and NRS 294A.223, every person, [committee and] political party and committee described in subsection 1 which makes an independent expenditure or other expenditure, as applicable, for or against a candidate for office at a special election or for or against a group of such candidates shall, not later than:
- (a) Four days before the beginning of early voting by personal appearance for the special election, for the period from the nomination of the candidate through 5 days before the beginning of early voting by personal appearance for the special election;
- (b) Four days before the special election, for the period from 4 days before the beginning of early voting by personal appearance for the special election through 5 days before the special election; and
- (c) Thirty days after the special election, for the remaining period through the date of the special election,
- report each contribution in excess of \$1,000 received during the period and contributions received during the period from a contributor which cumulatively exceed \$1,000.





- 5. Except as otherwise provided in subsections 6 and 7 and NRS 294A.223, every person, [committee and] political party and committee described in subsection 1 which makes an independent expenditure or other expenditure, as applicable, for or against a candidate for office at a special election to determine whether a public officer will be recalled or for or against a group of candidates for offices at such special elections shall, not later than:
- (a) Four days before the beginning of early voting by personal appearance for the special election, for the period from the date the notice of intent to circulate a petition to recall is filed pursuant to NRS 306.015 through 5 days before the beginning of early voting by personal appearance for the special election;
- (b) Four days before the special election, for the period from 4 days before the beginning of early voting by personal appearance for the special election through 5 days before the special election; and
- (c) Thirty days after the special election, for the remaining period through the date of the special election,
- report each contribution in excess of \$1,000 received during the period and contributions received during the period from a contributor which cumulatively exceed \$1,000.
- Except as otherwise provided in subsection 7, if a petition for recall is not submitted to the filing officer before the expiration of the notice of intent pursuant to the provisions of chapter 306 of NRS or is otherwise legally insufficient when submitted to the filing officer pursuant to the provisions of that chapter, every person, [committee and] political party and committee described in subsection 1 which makes an independent expenditure or other expenditure, as applicable, for or against a candidate for office at a special election to determine whether a public officer will be recalled or for or against a group of such candidates shall, not later than 30 days after the expiration of the notice of intent, for the period from the filing of the notice of intent through the date that the notice of intent expires or the petition is determined to be legally insufficient, report each contribution in excess of \$1,000 received and contributions received which cumulatively exceed \$1,000. The provisions of this subsection apply to the person, [committee and] political party *and committee* if the petition for recall:
- (a) Is not submitted to the filing officer as required by chapter 306 of NRS;
- (b) Is submitted to the filing officer without any valid signatures or with fewer than the necessary number of valid signatures required by chapter 306 of NRS; or





- (c) Is otherwise legally insufficient or efforts to obtain the necessary number of valid signatures required by chapter 306 of NRS are suspended or discontinued.
- 7. If the legal sufficiency of a petition for recall is challenged and a district court determines that the petition is legally:
- (a) Sufficient pursuant to chapter 306 of NRS and the order of the district court is appealed, every person, [committee and] political party and committee described in subsection 1 which makes an independent expenditure or other expenditure, as applicable, for or against a candidate for office at a special election to determine whether a public officer will be recalled or for or against a group of candidates for offices at such a special election shall:
- (1) Not later than 30 days after the date on which the notice of appeal is filed, for the period from the filing of the notice of intent to circulate the petition for recall through the date on which the notice of appeal is filed, report each contribution in excess of \$1,000 received during the period and contributions received during the period which cumulatively exceed \$1,000.
- (2) Not later than 30 days after the date on which all appeals regarding the petition are exhausted, for the period from the day after the date on which the notice of appeal is filed through the date on which all appeals regarding the petition are exhausted, report each contribution in excess of \$1,000 received during the period and contributions received during the period which cumulatively exceed \$1,000.
- (b) Insufficient pursuant to chapter 306 of NRS, every person, [committee and] political party and committee described in subsection 1 which makes an independent expenditure or other expenditure, as applicable, for or against a candidate for office at a special election to determine whether a public officer will be recalled or for or against a group of candidates for offices at such a special election shall:
- (1) Not later than 30 days after the date on which the district court orders the filing officer to cease any further proceedings regarding the petition, for the period from the filing of the notice of intent to circulate the petition for recall through the date of the district court's order, report each contribution in excess of \$1,000 received during the period and contributions received during the period which cumulatively exceed \$1,000.
- (2) Not later than 30 days after the date on which all appeals regarding the petition are exhausted, for the period from the day after the date of the district court's order through the date on which all appeals regarding the petition are exhausted, report each contribution in excess of \$1,000 received during the period and





contributions received during the period which cumulatively exceed \$1,000.

- 8. In addition to complying with the applicable requirements of subsections 2 to 7, inclusive, a person, [committee or] political party or committee described in subsection 1 must, not later than January 15 of each year that is not an election year, for the period beginning January 1 of the previous year and ending on December 31 of the previous year, report each contribution in excess of \$1,000 received during the period and contributions received during the period from a contributor which cumulatively exceed \$1,000. Nothing in this subsection:
- (a) Requires the person, [committee or] political party or committee to report information that has previously been reported in a timely manner pursuant to subsections 2 to 7, inclusive; or
- (b) Authorizes the person, [committee or] political party or committee to not comply with any applicable requirement set forth in subsections 2 to 7, inclusive.
- 9. Except as otherwise provided in NRS 294A.3737, the reports of contributions required pursuant to this section must be filed electronically with the Secretary of State.
- 10. A report shall be deemed to be filed on the date that it was received by the Secretary of State.
- 11. Every person, [committee and] political party and committee described in this section shall file a report required by this section even if the person, [committee or] political party or committee receives no contributions.
- 12. The name and address of the contributor and the date on which the contribution was received must be included on the report for each contribution in excess of \$1,000 and contributions which a contributor has made cumulatively in excess of \$1,000 since the beginning of the current reporting period.
 - **Sec. 9.** NRS 294A.223 is hereby amended to read as follows:
- 294A.223 If a special election is held on the same day as a primary election or general election, any candidate, person, committee, political party or nonprofit corporation that is otherwise required to file a report with the Secretary of State pursuant to NRS 294A.120, 294A.140, 294A.150, 294A.200, 294A.210, 294A.220 or 294A.362 *or section 5 of this act* shall, in lieu of complying with the requirements of those sections relating to a special election, comply with the requirements of those sections relating to the primary election or general election, as applicable, except that:
- 1. A candidate, person, committee, political party or nonprofit corporation is not required to file a report pursuant to NRS 294A.120, 294A.140, 294A.150, 294A.200, 294A.210, 294A.220 or





294A.362 *or section 5 of this act* that was due on or before the date on which the call for the special election was issued; and

- 2. If the special election is held on the same day as a primary election, the final report for the special election that is required pursuant to NRS 294A.120, 294A.140, 294A.150, 294A.200, 294A.210, 294A.220 or 294A.362 *or section 5 of this act* is due on or before the 15th day of the second month after the primary election.
- **Sec. 10.** NRS 294A.390 is hereby amended to read as follows: 294A.390 The officer from whom a candidate or entity requests a form for:
 - 1. A declaration of candidacy;

- 2. The registration of a nonprofit corporation pursuant to NRS 294A.225, a committee for political action pursuant to NRS 294A.230 or a committee for the recall of a public officer pursuant to NRS 294A.250; or
- 3. The reporting of the creation of a legal defense fund pursuant to NRS 294A.286,
- shall furnish the candidate or entity with the necessary forms for reporting and copies of the regulations adopted by the Secretary of State pursuant to this chapter. An explanation of the applicable provisions of NRS 294A.100, 294A.120, 294A.128, 294A.140, 294A.150, 294A.200, 294A.210, 294A.220, 294A.270 or 294A.280 or section 5 of this act relating to the making, accepting or reporting of contributions, campaign expenses or expenditures and the penalties for a violation of those provisions as set forth in NRS 294A.100 or 294A.420, and an explanation of NRS 294A.286 and 294A.287 relating to the accepting or reporting of contributions received by and expenditures made from a legal defense fund and the penalties for a violation of those provisions as set forth in NRS 294A.287 and 294A.420, must be developed by the Secretary of State and provided upon request. The candidate or entity shall acknowledge receipt of the material.
- **Sec. 11.** NRS 294A.410 is hereby amended to read as follows: 294A.410 1. If it appears that the provisions of this chapter have been violated, the Secretary of State may:
- (a) Conduct an investigation concerning the alleged violation and cause the appropriate proceedings to be instituted and prosecuted in the First Judicial District Court; or
- (b) Refer the alleged violation to the Attorney General. The Attorney General shall investigate the alleged violation and institute and prosecute the appropriate proceedings in the First Judicial District Court without delay.
- 2. A person who believes that any provision of this chapter has been violated may notify the Secretary of State, in writing, of the





alleged violation. The notice must be signed by the person alleging the violation and include:

- (a) The full name and address of the person alleging the violation;
- (b) A clear and concise statement of facts sufficient to establish that the alleged violation occurred;
 - (c) Any evidence substantiating the alleged violation;
- (d) A certification by the person alleging the violation that the facts alleged in the notice are true to the best knowledge and belief of that person; and
 - (e) Any other information in support of the alleged violation.
- 3. As soon as practicable after receiving a notice of an alleged violation pursuant to subsection 2, the Secretary of State shall provide a copy of the notice and any accompanying information to the person, if any, alleged in the notice to have committed the violation. Any response submitted to the notice must be accompanied by a short statement of the grounds, if any, for objecting to the alleged violation and include any evidence substantiating the objection.
- 4. If the Secretary of State determines, based on a notice of an alleged violation received pursuant to subsection 2, that reasonable suspicion exists that a violation of this chapter has occurred, the Secretary of State may conduct an investigation of the alleged violation.
- 5. During the course of an investigation of an alleged violation pursuant to this section, the Secretary of State may require that a candidate or committee for political action provide information about the campaign account established pursuant to NRS 294A.130. Any account information collected or stored by the Secretary of State as part of an investigation is confidential and not a public record within the meaning of NRS 239.010.
- 6. If a notice of an alleged violation is received pursuant to subsection 2 not later than 180 days after the general election or special election for the office or ballot question to which the notice pertains, the Secretary of State, when conducting an investigation of the alleged violation pursuant to subsection 4, may subpoena witnesses and require the production by subpoena of any books, papers, correspondence, memoranda, agreements or other documents or records that the Secretary of State or a designated officer or employee of the Secretary of State determines are relevant or material to the investigation and are in the possession of:
- (a) Any person alleged in the notice to have committed the violation; or
- (b) If the notice does not include the name of a person alleged to have committed the violation, any person who the Secretary of State





or a designated officer or employee of the Secretary of State has reasonable cause to believe produced or disseminated the materials that are the subject of the notice.

- [6.] 7. If a person fails to testify or produce any documents or records in accordance with a subpoena issued pursuant to subsection [5,] 6, the Secretary of State or designated officer or employee may apply to the court for an order compelling compliance. A request for an order of compliance may be addressed to:
- (a) The district court in and for the county where service may be obtained on the person refusing to testify or produce the documents or records, if the person is subject to service of process in this State; or
- (b) A court of another state having jurisdiction over the person refusing to testify or produce the documents or records, if the person is not subject to service of process in this State.

Sec. 12. NRS 294A.420 is hereby amended to read as follows:

- 294A.420 1. If the Secretary of State receives information that a candidate, person, organization, committee, political party or nonprofit corporation that is subject to the provisions of NRS 294A.120, 294A.128, 294A.140, 294A.150, 294A.200, 294A.210, 294A.220, 294A.230, 294A.250, 294A.270, 294A.280 or 294A.286 or section 5 of this act has not filed a report or form for registration pursuant to the applicable provisions of those sections, the Secretary of State may, after giving notice to that candidate, person, organization, committee, political party or nonprofit corporation, cause the appropriate proceedings to be instituted in the First Judicial District Court.
- 2. Except as otherwise provided in this section, a candidate, person, organization, committee, political party or nonprofit corporation that violates an applicable provision of this chapter is subject to a civil penalty of not more than \$10,000 for each violation 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.
- 3. If a civil penalty is imposed because a candidate, person, organization, committee, political party or nonprofit corporation has reported its contributions, campaign expenses, independent expenditures or other expenditures after the date the report is due, except as otherwise provided in this subsection, the amount of the civil penalty is:
- (a) If the report is not more than 7 days late, \$25 for each day the report is late.





- (b) If the report is more than 7 days late but not more than 15 days late, \$50 for each day the report is late.
- (c) If the report is more than 15 days late, \$100 for each day the report is late.
- → A civil penalty imposed pursuant to this subsection against a public officer who by law is not entitled to receive compensation for his or her office or a candidate for such an office must not exceed a total of \$100 if the public officer or candidate received no contributions and made no expenditures during the relevant reporting periods.
- 4. For good cause shown, the Secretary of State may waive a civil penalty that would otherwise be imposed pursuant to this section.
- 5. When considering whether to waive, pursuant to subsection 4, a civil penalty that would otherwise be imposed pursuant to subsection 3, the Secretary of State may consider, without limitation:
- (a) The seriousness of the violation, including, without limitation, the nature, circumstances and extent of the violation;
- (b) Any history of violations committed by the candidate, person, organization, committee, political party or nonprofit corporation against whom the civil penalty would otherwise be imposed;
- (c) Any mitigating factor, including, without limitation, whether the candidate, person, organization, committee, political party or nonprofit corporation against whom the civil penalty would otherwise be imposed reported the violation, corrected the violation in a timely manner, attempted to correct the violation or cooperated with the Secretary of State in resolving the situation that led to the violation;
 - (d) Whether the violation was inadvertent;
- (e) Any knowledge or experience the candidate, person, organization, committee, political party or nonprofit corporation has with the provisions of this chapter; and
- (f) Any other factor that the Secretary of State deems to be relevant.
- 6. If the Secretary of State waives a civil penalty pursuant to subsection 4, the Secretary of State shall:
- (a) Create a record which sets forth that the civil penalty has been waived and describes the circumstances that constitute the good cause shown; and
- (b) Ensure that the record created pursuant to paragraph (a) is available for review by the general public.
- 7. The remedies and penalties provided by this chapter are cumulative, do not abrogate and are in addition to any other





remedies and penalties that may exist at law or in equity, including, without limitation, any criminal penalty that may be imposed pursuant to this chapter or NRS 199.120, 199.145 or 239.330.

Sec. 13. NRS 239.010 is hereby amended to read as follows: 4 5 239.010 Except as otherwise provided in this section and NRS 1.4683, 1.4687, 1A.110, 3.2203, 41.0397, 41.071, 49.095, 6 7 49.293, 62D.420, 62D.440, 62E.516, 62E.620, 62H.025, 62H.030, 62H.170, 62H.220, 62H.320, 75A.100, 75A.150, 76.160, 78.152, 8 80.113, 81.850, 82.183, 86.246, 86.54615, 87.515, 87.5413, 9 87A.200, 87A.580, 87A.640, 88.3355, 88.5927, 88.6067, 88A.345, 10 88A.7345, 89.045, 89.251, 90.730, 91.160, 116.757, 116A.270, 11 118B.026, 119.260, 119.265, 119.267, 12 13 119A.280, 119A.653, 119A.677, 119B.370, 119B.382, 120A.640, 120A.690, 125.130, 125B.140, 126.141, 126.161, 126.163, 126.730, 14 127.007, 127.057, 127.130, 127.140, 127.2817, 128.090, 130.312, 15 16 130.712, 136.050, 159.044, 159A.044, 164.041, 172.075, 172.245, 17 176.01334, 176.01385, 176.015, 176.0625, 176.09129, 176.156, 176A.630, 178.39801, 178.4715, 178.5691, 178.5717, 179.495, 18 179A.070, 179A.165, 179D.160, 180.600, 200.3771, 200.3772, 19 200.604, 202.3662, 205.4651, 209.392, 20 200.5095. 209.3923. 209.3925, 209.419, 209.429, 209.521, 211A.140, 213.010, 213.040, 21 22 213.095, 213.131, 217.105, 217.110, 217.464, 217.475, 218A.350, 23 218E.625, 218F.150, 218G.130, 218G.240, 218G.350, 218G.615, 224.240, 226.462, 226.796, 228.270, 228.450, 228.495, 228.570, 24 231.1285, 25 231.069, 231.1473, 232.1369, 233.190, 237.300, 239.0105, 239.0113, 239.014, 239B.026, 239B.030, 239B.040, 26 239B.050, 239C.140, 239C.210, 239C.230, 239C.250, 239C.270, 27 28 239C.420, 240.007, 241.020, 241.030, 241.039, 242.105, 244.264, 244.335, 247.540, 247.545, 247.550, 247.560, 250.087, 250.130, 29 250.140, 250.145, 250.150, 268.095, 268.0978, 268.490, 268.910, 30 269.174, 271A.105, 281.195, 281.805, 281A.350, 281A.680, 31 281A.685, 281A.750, 281A.755, 281A.780, 284.4068, 284.4086, 32 286.110, 286.118, 287.0438, 289.025, 289.080, 289.387, 289.830, 33 293.4855, 293.5002, 293.503, 293.504, 293.558, 293.5757, 293.870, 34 293.909, 293.910, 293B.135, 35 293.906. 293.908, 293D.510, **294A.410**, 331.110, 332.061, 332.351, 333.333, 333.335, 338.070, 36 338.1593, 338.1725, 338.1727, 348.420, 349.597, 37 349.775, 353.205, 353A.049, 353A.085, 353A.100, 353C.240, 38 353D.250, 360.240, 360.247, 360.255, 360.755, 361.044, 361.2242, 39 361.610, 365.138, 366.160, 368A.180, 370.257, 370.327, 372A.080, 40 378.300, 379.0075, 379.008, 379.1495, 385A.830, 41 378.290, 42 385B.100, 387.626, 387.631, 388.1455, 388.259, 388.501, 388.503, 43 388.750, 388A.247, 388A.249, 391.033, 391.0365, 391.120, 391.925, 392.029, 392.147, 392.264, 392.271, 44 392.315, 392.317, 392.325, 392.327, 392.335, 392.850, 393.045, 45



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686C.306, 687A.060, 687A.115, 687B.404, 687C.010, 688C.230, 688C.480, 688C.490, 689A.696, 692A.117, 692C.190, 692C.3507, 692C.3536, 692C.3538, 692C.354, 692C.420, 693A.480, 693A.615, 696B.550, 696C.120, 703.196, 704B.325, 706.1725, 706A.230, 710.159, 711.600, sections 35, 38 and 41 of chapter 478, Statutes of Nevada 2011 and section 2 of chapter 391, Statutes of Nevada 2013 and unless otherwise declared by law to be confidential, all public books and public records of a governmental entity must be open at all times during office hours to inspection by any person, and may be fully copied or an abstract or memorandum may be prepared from those public books and public records. Any such copies, abstracts or memoranda may be used to supply the general public with copies, abstracts or memoranda of the records or may be used in any other way to the advantage of the governmental entity or of the general public. This section does not supersede or in any manner affect the federal laws governing copyrights or enlarge, diminish or affect in any other manner the rights of a person in any written book or record which is copyrighted pursuant to federal law.

- 2. A governmental entity may not reject a book or record which is copyrighted solely because it is copyrighted.
- 3. A governmental entity that has legal custody or control of a public book or record shall not deny a request made pursuant to subsection 1 to inspect or copy or receive a copy of a public book or record on the basis that the requested public book or record contains information that is confidential if the governmental entity can redact, delete, conceal or separate, including, without limitation, electronically, the confidential information from the information included in the public book or record that is not otherwise confidential.
- 4. If requested, a governmental entity shall provide a copy of a public record in an electronic format by means of an electronic medium. Nothing in this subsection requires a governmental entity to provide a copy of a public record in an electronic format or by means of an electronic medium if:
 - (a) The public record:
 - (1) Was not created or prepared in an electronic format; and
 - (2) Is not available in an electronic format; or
- (b) Providing the public record in an electronic format or by means of an electronic medium would:
 - (1) Give access to proprietary software; or
- (2) Require the production of information that is confidential and that cannot be redacted, deleted, concealed or separated from information that is not otherwise confidential.
- 5. An officer, employee or agent of a governmental entity who has legal custody or control of a public record:





- (a) Shall not refuse to provide a copy of that public record in the medium that is requested because the officer, employee or agent has already prepared or would prefer to provide the copy in a different medium.
- (b) Except as otherwise provided in NRS 239.030, shall, upon request, prepare the copy of the public record and shall not require the person who has requested the copy to prepare the copy himself or herself.
 - **Sec. 14.** 1. The provisions of sections 5 and 8 of this act:
- (a) Do not apply to any report of contributions or expenditures that is required to be filed by a committee for political action on or before January 15, 2026.
- (b) Apply to every report of contributions or expenditures that is required to be filed by a committee for political action after January 15, 2026.
 - 2. As used in this section:

- (a) "Committee for political action" has the meaning ascribed to it in NRS 294A.0055, as amended by section 6 of this act.
- (b) "Contribution" has the meaning ascribed to it in NRS 294A.007.
- (c) "Expenditure" has the meaning ascribed to it in NRS 294A.0075.
 - **Sec. 15.** 1. This section becomes effective upon passage and approval.
 - 2. Sections 1 to 14, inclusive, of this act become effective:
 - (a) Upon passage and approval for the purpose of adopting any regulations and performing any preparatory administrative tasks that are necessary to carry out the provisions of this act; and
 - (b) On January 1, 2026, for all other purposes.





