ASSEMBLY BILL NO. 297—ASSEMBLYMEN TITUS, LEAVITT, ROBERTS AND TOLLES

MARCH 16, 2021

JOINT SPONSORS: SENATORS SETTELMEYER, HARDY AND HAMMOND

Referred to Committee on Legislative Operations and Elections

SUMMARY—Requires the election of a registrar of voters. (BDR 24-908)

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 formitted material is material to be omitted.

AN ACT relating to elections; providing that a registrar of voters is an elected office; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

Legislative Counsel's Digest:

Existing law authorizes a board of county commissioners in a county having a population of 100,000 or more (currently Clark and Washoe Counties) to create the office of registrar of voters and make appointments to the office. (NRS 244.164) The office of registrar of voters has various duties relating to elections. (NRS 244.164, 293.186, 293.503)

Section 3 of this bill provides that the office of registrar of voters is an elected office. Sections 1, 2, 4 and 5 of this bill make conforming changes related to changing the office from an appointed to an elected office.

Section 6 of this bill provides that if a board of county commissioners has created the office of registrar of voters before January 1, 2022, a person who is a registrar of voters on January 1, 2022, may continue to serve in that office until the general election held in November 2022.



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

- **Section 1.** NRS 293.186 is hereby amended to read as follows: 293.186 The Secretary of State and each county clerk, or the registrar of voters of the county if **[one was appointed]** *the office has been created* pursuant to NRS 244.164, or city clerk who receives from a candidate for public office a declaration of candidacy shall give to the candidate:
- 1. If the candidate is a candidate for judicial office, the form prescribed by the Administrative Office of the Courts for the making of a financial disclosure statement;
- 2. If the candidate is not a candidate for judicial office and is required to file electronically the financial disclosure statement, access to the electronic form prescribed by the Secretary of State; or
- 3. If the candidate is not a candidate for judicial office, is required to submit the financial disclosure statement electronically and has submitted an affidavit to the Secretary of State pursuant to NRS 281.572, the form prescribed by the Secretary of State,
- → accompanied by instructions on how to complete the form and the time by which it must be filed.
 - Sec. 2. NRS 293.503 is hereby amended to read as follows:
- 293.503 1. The county clerk of each county where [a] the office of registrar of voters has not been [appointed] created pursuant to NRS 244.164:
- (a) Is ex officio county registrar and registrar for all precincts within the county.
- (b) Shall have the custody of all books, documents and papers pertaining to preregistration or registration provided for in this chapter.
- 2. All books, documents and papers pertaining to preregistration or registration are official records of the office of the county clerk.
- 3. The county clerk shall maintain records of any program or activity that is conducted within the county to ensure the accuracy and currency of the registrar of voters' register for not less than 2 years after creation. The records must include the names and addresses of any person to whom a notice is mailed pursuant to NRS 293.5235, 293.530, or 293.535 and whether the person responded to the notice.
- 4. Any program or activity that is conducted within the county for the purpose of removing the name of each person who is ineligible to vote in the county from the registrar of voters' register





must be complete not later than 90 days before the next primary or general election.

- 5. Except as otherwise provided by subsection 6, all records maintained by the county clerk pursuant to subsection 3 must be available for public inspection.
- 6. Except as otherwise provided in NRS 239.0115, any information relating to where a person preregisters or registers to vote must remain confidential and is not available for public inspection. Such information may only be used by an election officer for purposes related to preregistration and registration.
 - **Sec. 3.** NRS 244.164 is hereby amended to read as follows:
- 244.164 1. In each county having a population of 100,000 or more, the board of county commissioners may create the office of registrar of voters [,] as an elected office and prescribe the qualifications, duties and compensation of that office . [and make appointments to that office.]
- 2. The registrar of voters shall be elected by the qualified electors of the county, beginning at the general election immediately following the creation of the office of registrar of voters. The term of office of a registrar of voters is 4 years and begins on the first Monday in January following the general election.
- 3. The registrar of voters [, upon appointment as provided in subsection 1,] shall assume all of the powers and duties vested in and imposed upon the county clerk of the county with respect to elections, except the duties imposed by virtue of NRS 293.393 to make out and deliver certificates of election.
 - **Sec. 4.** NRS 245.043 is hereby amended to read as follows:
 - 245.043 1. As used in this section:
 - (a) "County" includes Carson City.
- (b) "County commissioner" includes the Mayor and supervisors of Carson City.
- 2. Except as otherwise provided in subsection 5, NRS 244.164 and by any special law, the elected officers of the counties of this State are entitled to receive, for the appropriate fiscal year, annual salaries in the base amounts specified in the following table commencing on July 1 of the fiscal year. The annual salaries are in full payment for all services required by law to be performed by such officers. Except as otherwise provided by law, all fees and commissions collected by such officers in the performance of their duties must be paid into the county treasury each month without deduction of any nature.





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ANNUAL SALARIES

3			District		County	County	County	County	Public
4	Class	County	Attorney	Sheriff	Clerk	Assessor	Recorder	Treasurer	Administrator
5	Class	County	Attorney	Sherin	CICIK	Assessor	Recorder	Treasurer	Administrator
6	1	Clark							
7	•	FY 2015-2016	\$187,563	\$161,692	\$109,757	\$109,757	\$109,757	\$109,757	\$109,757
8		FY 2016-2017	193,190	166,543	113,050	113,050	113,050	113,050	113,050
9		FY 2017-2018	198,986	171,540	116,441	116,441	116,441	116,441	116,441
10		FY 2018-2019	204,955	176,685	119,934	119,934	119,934	119,934	119,934
11	2	Washoe	201,755	170,000	11,,,,,,	117,75	117,75	117,75	117,73
12	-	FY 2015-2016	165,573	133,234	100,610	100,610	100,610	100,610	100,610
13		FY 2016-2017	170,540	137,231	103,629	103,629	103,629	103,629	103,629
14		FY 2017-2018	175,656	141,348	106,738	106,738	106,738	106,738	106,738
15		FY 2018-2019	180,926	145,588	109,940	109,940	109,940	109,940	109,940
16	3	Carson City	100,720	145,566	107,740	102,240	102,240	100,040	102,240
17	3	FY 2015-2016	118,872	98,567	78,293	78,293	78,293	78,293	
18		FY 2016-2017	122,438	101,524	80,642	80,642	80,642	80,642	
19		FY 2017-2018	126,112	104,570	83,061	83,061	83,061	83,061	
20		FY 2018-2019	129,895	107,707	85,553	85,553	85,553	85,553	
21		Churchill	129,093	107,707	65,555	65,555	05,555	65,555	
$\frac{21}{22}$		FY 2015-2016	118,872	98,567	78,293	78,293	78,293	78,293	
23		FY 2016-2017	122,438	101,524	80,642	80,642	80,642	80,642	
24		FY 2017-2018	126,112	101,524	83,061	83,061	83,061	83,061	
2 5		FY 2018-2019	120,112	104,370	85,553	85,553	85,553	85,553	
26		Douglas	129,093	107,707	65,555	65,555	05,555	65,555	
27 27		FY 2015-2016	118,872	98,567	78,293	78,293	78,293	78,293	
$\overline{28}$		FY 2016-2017	122,438	101,524	80,642	80,642	80,642	80,642	
2 9		FY 2017-2018	126,112	104,570	83,061	83,061	83,061	83,061	
30		FY 2018-2019	120,112	104,370	85,553	85,553	85,553	85,553	
31		Elko	127,073	107,707	65,555	65,555	65,555	65,555	
32		FY 2015-2016	118,872	98,567	78,293	78,293	78,293	78,293	
33		FY 2016-2017	122,438	101,524	80,642	80,642	80,642	80,642	
34		FY 2017-2018	126,112	104,570	83,061	83,061	83,061	83,061	
35		FY 2018-2019	129,895	107,707	85,553	85,553	85,553	85,553	
36		Humboldt	127,075	107,707	05,555	05,555	05,555	05,555	
37		FY 2015-2016	118,872	98,567	78,293	78,293	78,293	78,293	
38		FY 2016-2017	122,438	101,524	80,642	80,642	80,642	80,642	
39		FY 2017-2018	126,112	104,570	83,061	83,061	83,061	83,061	
40		FY 2018-2019	129,895	107,707	85,553	85,553	85,553	85,553	
41		Lyon	127,075	107,707	05,555	05,555	05,555	05,555	
42		FY 2015-2016	118,872	98,567	78,293	78,293	78,293	78,293	
43		FY 2016-2017	122,438	101,524	80,642	80,642	80,642	80,642	
44		FY 2017-2018	126,112	104,570	83,061	83,061	83,061	83,061	
45		FY 2018-2019	129,895	107,707	85,553	85,553	85,553	85,553	
46		Nye	127,075	107,707	05,555	05,555	05,555	05,555	
47		FY 2015-2016	118,872	98,567	78,293	78,293	78,293	78,293	
48		FY 2016-2017	122,438	101,524	80,642	80,642	80,642	80,642	
49		FY 2017-2018	126,112	104,570	83,061	83,061	83,061	83,061	
50		FY 2018-2019	129,895	107,707	85,553	85,553	85,553	85,553	
51	4	Lander	127,075	101,101	05,555	00,000	00,000	00,000	
52	-	FY 2015-2016	112,268	88,711	65,305	65,305	65,305	65,305	
53		FY 2016-2017	115,636	91,372	67,264	67,264	67,264	67,264	
54		FY 2017-2018	119,105	94,113	69,282	69,282	69,282	69,282	
55		FY 2018-2019	122,678	96,937	71,361	71,361	71,361	71,361	
			122,070	, 0,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,	,1,501	, 1,501	, 1,501	71,501	





1			District		County	County	County	County	Public
2	Class	County	Attorney	Sheriff	Clerk	Assessor	Recorder	Treasurer	Administrator
3									
4 5		Storey	6112.260	¢00.711	PCE 205	ecs 205	0.05 205	ecs 205	
		FY 2015-2016 FY 2016-2017	\$112,268 115,636	\$88,711 91,372	\$65,305 67,264	\$65,305 67,264	\$65,305 67,264	\$65,305 67,264	
6 7		FY 2017-2018	119,105	94,113	69,282	69,282	69,282	69,282	
8		FY 2018-2019	122,678	96,937	71,361	71,361	71,361	71,361	
9		White Pine	122,076	70,737	71,501	71,301	71,301	71,301	
10		FY 2015-2016	112,268	88,711	65,305	65,305	65,305	65,305	
11		FY 2016-2017	115,636	91,372	67,264	67,264	67,264	67,264	
12		FY 2017-2018	119,105	94,113	69,282	69,282	69,282	69,282	
13		FY 2018-2019	122,678	96,937	71,361	71,361	71,361	71,361	
14	5	Eureka	122,070	70,757	71,501	71,501	71,501	71,301	
15		FY 2015-2016	99,060	70,968	58,537	58,537	58,537	58,537	
16		FY 2016-2017	102,033	73,097	60,293	60,293	60,293	60,293	
17		FY 2017-2018	105,093	75,290	62,102	62,102	62,102	62,102	
18		FY 2018-2019	108,246	77,549	63,965	63,965	63,965	63,965	
19		Lincoln							
20		FY 2015-2016	99,060	70,968	58,537	58,537	58,537	58,537	
21		FY 2016-2017	102,033	73,097	60,293	60,293	60,293	60,293	
22		FY 2017-2018	105,093	75,290	62,102	62,102	62,102	62,102	
23		FY 2018-2019	108,246	77,549	63,965	63,965	63,965	63,965	
24		Mineral							
25		FY 2015-2016	99,060	70,968	58,537	58,537	58,537	58,537	
26		FY 2016-2017	102,033	73,097	60,293	60,293	60,293	60,293	
27		FY 2017-2018	105,093	75,290	62,102	62,102	62,102	62,102	
28		FY 2018-2019	108,246	77,549	63,965	63,965	63,965	63,965	
29		Pershing							
30		FY 2015-2016	99,060	70,968	58,537	58,537	58,537	58,537	
31		FY 2016-2017	102,033	73,097	60,293	60,293	60,293	60,293	
32		FY 2017-2018	105,093	75,290	62,102	62,102	62,102	62,102	
33		FY 2018-2019	108,246	77,549	63,965	63,965	63,965	63,965	
34	6	Esmeralda							
35		FY 2015-2016	78,657	63,083	51,220	51,220	51,220		
36		FY 2016-2017	81,017	64,976	52,756	52,756	52,756		
37		FY 2017-2018	83,447	66,926	54,339	54,339	54,339		
38		FY 2018-2019	85,951	68,933	55,969	55,969	55,969		
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- Except as otherwise provided in subsection 5, the annual salaries set forth in this subsection for Fiscal Year 2018-2019 are effective for that fiscal year and each fiscal year thereafter.
- 3. Except as otherwise provided in subsection 5, the annual salary for county commissioners commencing on July 1 of the fiscal year is:
 - (a) For Fiscal Year 2015-2016, 103.00 percent;
 - (b) For Fiscal Year 2016-2017, 106.09 percent;
 - (c) For Fiscal Year 2017-2018, 109.273 percent; and
- 49 (d) For Fiscal Year 2018-2019 and each fiscal year thereafter, 50 112.551 percent,
 - → of the amount of the annual salary for the county commissioners of that county that was in effect on January 1, 2015.



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- 4. Any elected officer or county commissioner who is entitled to a salary pursuant to subsection 2 or 3 may elect not to receive any part of the salary to which he or she is entitled pursuant to subsection 2 or 3, as applicable.
- 5. The increased annual salaries for all elected county officers provided for in subsections 2 and 3 for a fiscal year must not be paid in a fiscal year if the board of county commissioners determines that sufficient financial resources are not available to pay increased annual salaries in that fiscal year and the annual salaries paid for those officers in the immediately preceding fiscal year must continue to be paid. If increased annual salaries are paid in a subsequent fiscal year:
- (a) Those increased annual salaries must be in the amounts provided for in subsections 2 and 3 starting with the first fiscal year in which increased salaries were not paid because sufficient financial resources were not available.
- (b) An elected county officer is not entitled to any retroactive payment of the salary increase for any previous fiscal year in which increased annual salaries were not paid.
 - **Sec. 5.** NRS 281.574 is hereby amended to read as follows:
- 281.574 1. A list of each public officer who is required to file a financial disclosure statement must be submitted electronically to the Secretary of State, in a form prescribed by the Secretary of State, on or before December 1 of each year by:
- (a) Each county clerk for all public officers of the county and other local governments within the county other than cities;
 - (b) Each city clerk for all public officers of the city;
- (c) The Director of the Legislative Counsel Bureau for all public officers of the Legislative Branch; and
- (d) The Director of the Department of Administration for all public officers of the Executive Branch.
- 2. Each county clerk, or the registrar of voters of the county if **[one was appointed]** *the office has been created* pursuant to NRS 244.164, and each city clerk shall submit electronically to the Secretary of State, in a form prescribed by the Secretary of State, a list of each candidate who filed a declaration of candidacy with that officer within 10 days after the last day to qualify as a candidate for the applicable office.
- **Sec. 6.** 1. If on January 1, 2022, a board of county commissioners has created the office of registrar of voters pursuant to NRS 244.164, as that provision existed on December 31, 2021, the person appointed as a registrar of voters may continue in office until his or her successor is elected and qualified at the general election held in November 2022.





- 2. Nothing in this section prohibits a person who is a registrar of voters on January 1, 2022, from becoming a candidate for the office of registrar of voters at the general election held in November 2022.
- **Sec. 7.** 1. This section becomes effective upon passage and approval.
 - 2. Sections 1 to 6, inclusive, of this act become effective:
- (a) Upon passage and approval for the purpose of adopting regulations and performing any other preparatory administrative tasks that are necessary to carry out the provisions of this act; and
 - (b) On January 1, 2022, for all other purposes.





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