

ASSEMBLY BILL NO. 496—ASSEMBLYMEMBER YEAGER

MARCH 24, 2025

Referred to Committee on Legislative Operations and Elections

SUMMARY—Revises provisions relating to elections.
(BDR 24-997)

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

CONTAINS UNFUNDED MANDATE (§§ 2, 3, 4, 8, 9)
(NOT REQUESTED BY AFFECTED LOCAL GOVERNMENT)

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EXPLANATION – Matter in *bolded italics* is new; matter between brackets ~~omitted material~~ is material to be omitted.

AN ACT relating to elections; requiring county and city clerks and the Secretary of State to post on the Internet certain information relating to mail ballots and provisional ballots; requiring each county clerk to post monthly on the Internet an alphabetical listing of all registered voters in the county; requiring certain information to be included on the return envelopes for mail ballots; revising provisions relating to access to information concerning provisional ballots; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

Legislative Counsel's Digest:

Existing law authorizes a county clerk to cause to be published in a newspaper circulated in the county an alphabetical listing of all registered voters. (NRS 293.557) **Section 3** of this bill requires, on the first business day of each month, each county clerk to publish on the Internet website of the county clerk an alphabetical listing of all registered voters in the county. **Section 3** further requires that the county clerk ensure that the alphabetical listing may be downloaded by any person free of charge. **Section 6** of this bill makes a conforming change to require the county clerk to include the identification number of a registered voter on the list required by **section 3**, similar to the inclusion of the identification number on other lists of registered voters made available for public inspection.

Existing law requires, with certain exceptions, the county or city clerk to send to each active registered voter certain information relating to voting by mail, including a mail ballot and a return envelope. (NRS 293.269913, 293C.26312) **Sections 4 and 9** of this bill require that the return envelope include: (1) the initials of the voter in print; and (2) a space for the voter to write his or her telephone



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number for purposes of contacting the voter, if necessary, for signature curing or verification.

Sections 2 and 8 of this bill require each county and city clerk, respectively, to post on the Internet website of the county or city clerk, as applicable, certain information relating to mail ballots and provisional ballots starting on the day after the period of early voting by personal appearance begins and ending on the day after the election results are canvassed. **Sections 2 and 8** also require the Secretary of State to post on the Internet website of the Secretary of State a compilation of such information.

Existing federal law requires that access to information about an individual provisional ballot be restricted to the individual who cast the ballot. (52 U.S.C. § 21082) Existing state law requires that access to information concerning a provisional ballot be restricted to the person who cast the ballot. (NRS 293.3086, 293.5882) **Sections 5 and 7** of this bill revise these provisions to specify that access to information concerning an individual provisional ballot must be restricted.

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

Section 1. Chapter 293 of NRS is hereby amended by adding thereto the provisions set forth as sections 2 and 3 of this act.

Sec. 2. 1. *Starting on the day after the period of early voting by personal appearance begins and ending on the day after the election results are canvassed, not later than 5 p.m. on each day:*

(a) Each county clerk shall post on the Internet website of the county clerk:

(1) The total number of mail ballots for the county that have been returned to a ballot drop box;

(2) The total number of mail ballots for the county that have been returned by the United States Postal Service or other delivery service;

(3) The total number of mail ballots for the county that require registered voters to cure signature defects;

(4) For each mail ballot that requires the curing of a signature defect:

(I) The name of the registered voter; and

(II) The specific category of defect with the signature;

(5) The total number of mail ballots for the county for which registered voters have cured signature defects;

(6) The total number of provisional ballots for the county cast pursuant to NRS 293.3078 to 293.3086, inclusive, that:

(I) Have been counted; and

(II) Have not been counted; and

(7) The total number of provisional ballots for the county cast pursuant to NRS 293.5772 to 293.5887, inclusive, that:

(I) Have been counted; and



(II) Have not been counted; and

(b) The Secretary of State shall post on the Internet website of the Secretary of State, a compilation of the information required pursuant to paragraph (a) for all the counties.

2. Starting on the day after election day and ending on the day after the election results are canvassed, not later than 5 p.m. on each day:

(a) Each county clerk shall post on the Internet website of the county clerk:

(1) The total number of mail ballots for the county that are in the custody of the United States Postal Service;

(2) The total number of mail ballots for the county that are in the custody of the county clerk;

(3) The total number of mail ballots for the county that have been counted by the county clerk but have not been tabulated;

(4) The total number of mail ballots for the county that have been counted and tabulated by the county clerk;

(5) The total number of mail ballots for the county that were treated as provisional ballots pursuant to NRS 293.269915 and for which the voter has subsequently provided the required identification to the county clerk; and

(6) The total number of provisional ballots for the county that were cast pursuant to subsection 2 of NRS 293.3081 and for which the voter has subsequently provided the required identification to the county clerk; and

(b) The Secretary of State shall post on the Internet website of the Secretary of State, a compilation of the information required pursuant to paragraph (a) for all the counties.

3. The Secretary of State shall adopt by regulation the specific categories of defects in signatures that require curing by registered voters pursuant to NRS 293.269927.

Sec. 3. 1. On the first business day of each month, each county clerk shall publish on the Internet website of the county clerk an alphabetical listing of all registered voters in the county.

2. The county clerk shall ensure that the alphabetical listing on the Internet website may be downloaded by any person free of charge.


Sec. 4. NRS 293.269913 is hereby amended to read as follows:

293.269913 1. Except as otherwise provided in subsection 2, NRS 293.269911 and chapter 293D of NRS, the county clerk shall send to each active registered voter by first-class mail, or by any class of mail if the Official Election Mail logo or an equivalent logo



or mark created by the United States Postal Service is properly placed:

(a) A mail ballot;

(b) A return envelope  , *which must include, without limitation:*

(1) The initials of the voter in print; and

(2) A space for the voter to write his or her telephone number for purposes of contacting the voter, if necessary, for signature curing or verification;

(c) An envelope or sleeve into which the mail ballot is inserted to ensure its secrecy; and

(d) Instructions.

2. In sending a mail ballot to an active registered voter, the county clerk shall use an envelope that may not be forwarded to an address of the voter that is different from the address to which the mail ballot is mailed.

3. The return envelope must include postage prepaid by first-class mail if the active registered voter is within the boundaries of the United States, its territories or possessions or on a military base.

4. Before sending a mail ballot to an active registered voter, the county clerk shall record:

(a) The date the mail ballot is issued;

(b) The name of the voter to whom the mail ballot is issued, his or her precinct or district and his or her political affiliation, if any, unless all the offices on the mail ballot are nonpartisan offices;

(c) The number of the mail ballot; and

(d) Any remarks the county clerk finds appropriate.

5. The Secretary of State shall prescribe:

(a) The form of all envelopes in which mail ballots are sent to voters and return envelopes, which must, except as otherwise provided in paragraph (b), be uniform throughout the State; and

(b) A method for distinguishing the return envelopes of each county which must be prominently displayed on the outside of the return envelope.

Sec. 5. NRS 293.3086 is hereby amended to read as follows:

293.3086 1. The Secretary of State shall establish a free access system such as a toll-free telephone number or an Internet website to inform a person who cast a provisional ballot whether the person's vote was counted and, if the vote was not counted, the reason why the vote was not counted.

2. The free access system must ensure secrecy of the ballot while protecting the confidentiality and integrity of personal information contained therein.



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3. Access to information concerning ~~that~~ *an individual* provisional ballot must be restricted to the person who cast the provisional ballot.

Sec. 6. NRS 293.558 is hereby amended to read as follows:

293.558 1. The county or city clerk shall disclose the identification number of a registered voter to the public, including, without limitation:

(a) In response to an inquiry received by the county or city clerk; or

(b) By inclusion of the identification number of the registered voter on any list of registered voters made available for public inspection pursuant to NRS 293.301, 293.440, 293.557, 293C.290 or 293C.542 ~~that~~ *or section 3 of this act.*

2. The county or city clerk shall not disclose:

(a) The social security number or the driver's license or identification card number of a registered voter, and such a number is confidential and is not a public book or record within the meaning of NRS 239.010.

(b) An electronic mail address provided by a registered voter to carry out any state or federal law relating to the voting process, and such an electronic mail address is confidential and is not a public book or record within the meaning of NRS 239.010. The county or city clerk may not release a registered voter's electronic mail address to a third party and may use such an electronic mail address only to:

(1) Communicate with the registered voter about the voting process, including, without limitation, as necessary to carry out the provisions of chapter 293D of NRS; and

(2) Distribute a sample ballot to the registered voter by electronic means if the county or city clerk has established a system for distributing sample ballots by electronic means pursuant to NRS 293.565 or 293C.530 and the registered voter elects to receive a sample ballot by electronic means.

3. A registered voter may submit a written request to the county or city clerk to have his or her address and telephone number withheld from the public. Upon receipt of such a request, the county or city clerk shall not disclose the address or telephone number of the registered voter to the public, including, without limitation:

(a) In response to an inquiry received by the county or city clerk; or

(b) By inclusion on any list of registered voters made available for public inspection pursuant to NRS 293.301, 293.440, 293.557, 293C.290 or 293C.542 ~~that~~ *or section 3 of this act.*

4. No information relating to a registered voter may be withheld from the public other than:



(a) The address and telephone number of the registered voter if requested by the registered voter pursuant to this section;

(b) An electronic mail address provided by the registered voter to carry out any state or federal law relating to the voting process;

(c) The social security number and driver's license or identification card number of the registered voter; and

(d) Any other information relating to the registered voter that any state or federal law declares to be confidential or otherwise requires to be withheld from the public.

Sec. 7. NRS 293.5882 is hereby amended to read as follows:

293.5882 1. The Secretary of State shall establish a free access system, such as a toll-free telephone number or an Internet website, to inform a person who cast a provisional ballot whether the person's ballot was counted and, if the ballot was not counted, the reason why the ballot was not counted.

2. The free access system must ensure secrecy of the ballot while protecting the confidentiality and integrity of personal information contained therein.

3. Access to information concerning ~~the~~ *an individual* provisional ballot must be restricted to the person who cast the provisional ballot.

Sec. 8. Chapter 293C of NRS is hereby amended by adding thereto a new section to read as follows:

1. Starting on the day after the period of early voting by personal appearance begins and ending on the day after the election results are canvassed, not later than 5 p.m. on each day:

(a) Each city clerk shall post on the Internet website of the city clerk:

(1) The total number of mail ballots for the city that have been returned to a ballot drop box;

(2) The total number of mail ballots for the city that have been returned by the United States Postal Service or other delivery service;

(3) The total number of mail ballots for the city that require registered voters to cure signature defects;

(4) For each mail ballot that requires the curing of a signature defect:

(I) The name of the registered voter; and

(II) The specific category of defect with the signature;

(5) The total number of mail ballots for the city for which registered voters have cured signature defects;

(6) The total number of provisional ballots for the city cast pursuant to NRS 293.3078 to 293.3086, inclusive, that:

(I) Have been counted; and

(II) Have not been counted; and



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(7) *The total number of provisional ballots for the city cast pursuant to NRS 293.5772 to 293.5887, inclusive, that:*

(I) Have been counted; and

(II) Have not been counted; and

(b) The Secretary of State shall post on the Internet website of the Secretary of State, a compilation of the information required pursuant to paragraph (a) for all the cities.

2. Starting on the day after election day and ending on the day after the election results are canvassed, not later than 5 p.m. on each day:

(a) Each city clerk shall post on the Internet website of the city clerk:

(1) The total number of mail ballots for the city that are in the custody of the United States Postal Service;

(2) The total number of mail ballots for the city that are in the custody of the city clerk;

(3) The total number of mail ballots for the city that have been counted by the city clerk but have not been tabulated;

(4) The total number of mail ballots for the city that have been counted and tabulated by the city clerk;

(5) The total number of mail ballots for the city that were treated as provisional ballots pursuant to NRS 293C.26314 and for which the voter has subsequently provided the required identification to the city clerk; and

(6) The total number of provisional ballots for the city that were cast pursuant to subsection 2 of NRS 293.3081 and for which the voter has subsequently provided the required identification to the city clerk; and

(b) The Secretary of State shall post on the Internet website of the Secretary of State, a compilation of the information required pursuant to paragraph (a) for all the cities.

3. The Secretary of State shall adopt by regulation the specific categories of defects in signatures that require curing by registered voters pursuant to NRS 293C.26327.

Sec. 9. NRS 293C.26312 is hereby amended to read as follows:

293C.26312 1. Except as otherwise provided in subsection 2, NRS 293C.263 and chapter 293D of NRS, the city clerk shall send to each active registered voter by first-class mail, or by any class of mail if the Official Election Mail logo or an equivalent logo or mark created by the United States Postal Service is properly placed:

(a) A mail ballot;

(b) A return envelope  , which must include, without limitation:

(1) The initials of the voter in print; and



(2) *A space for the voter to write his or her telephone number for purposes of contacting the voter, if necessary, for signature curing or verification;*

(c) An envelope or sleeve into which the mail ballot is inserted to ensure its secrecy; and

(d) Instructions.

2. In sending a mail ballot to an active registered voter, the city clerk shall use an envelope that may not be forwarded to an address of the voter that is different from the address to which the mail ballot is mailed.

3. The return envelope must include postage prepaid by first-class mail if the active registered voter is within the boundaries of the United States, its territories or possessions or on a military base.

4. Before sending a mail ballot to an active registered voter, the city clerk shall record:

(a) The date the mail ballot is issued;

(b) The name of the voter to whom the mail ballot is issued, his or her precinct or district and his or her political affiliation, if any, unless all the offices on the mail ballot are nonpartisan offices;

(c) The number of the mail ballot; and

(d) Any remarks the city clerk finds appropriate.

5. The Secretary of State shall prescribe:

(a) The form of all envelopes in which mail ballots are sent to voters and return envelopes, which must, except as otherwise provided in paragraph (b), be uniform throughout the State; and

(b) A method for distinguishing the return envelopes of each city which must be prominently displayed on the outside of the return envelope.

Sec. 10. The provisions of NRS 354.599 do not apply to any additional expenses of a local government that are related to the provisions of this act.

Sec. 11. 1. This section and section 10 of this act become effective upon passage and approval.

2. Sections 1 to 9, inclusive, of this act become effective:

(a) Upon passage and approval for the purpose of adopting any regulations and performing any other preparatory administrative tasks that are necessary to carry out the provisions of this act; and

(b) On January 1, 2026, for all other purposes.

