(Reprinted with amendments adopted on April 21, 2025) FIRST REPRINT A.B. 499

ASSEMBLY BILL NO. 499–ASSEMBLYMEMBER YEAGER

MARCH 24, 2025

Referred to Committee on Legislative Operations and Elections

SUMMARY—Revises provisions relating to elections. (BDR 24-998)

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

> CONTAINS UNFUNDED MANDATE (§§ 2-5, 8, 9) (NOT REQUESTED BY AFFECTED LOCAL GOVERNMENT)

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

AN ACT relating to elections; requiring each county clerk to establish and maintain a voter services portal on the Internet website of the office of the county clerk; requiring the county clerk to include certain information relating to the voter services portal on any communication to a registered voter; requiring the Department of Motor Vehicles to submit electronically to each county clerk certain information relating to each person who has a driver's license or identification card issued by the Department; requiring the county clerk to include certain information received from the Department in the centralized, top-down database that is established by the Secretary of State for purposes of creating the statewide voter registration list; requiring certain information to be included on the return envelope for a mail ballot; revising provisions relating to signature curing for mail ballots; providing that certain information on the statewide voter registration list relating to a voter is confidential and not a public record; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

Legislative Counsel's Digest:

Section 2 of this bill requires each county clerk to establish and maintain a
 voter services portal on the Internet website of the office of the county clerk, which
 must allow any registered voter in the county to: (1) review his or her voter





4 registration information; (2) print any form necessary to update his or her voter registration information; (3) view his or her sample ballot; and (4) obtain the location of any polling place where the registered voter may vote or deliver a mail ballot to a ballot drop box. Section 2 further: (1) authorizes a county clerk to request the assistance of the Secretary of State to establish and maintain the voter services portal; and (2) requires the county clerk to include on any communication to a registered voter a two-dimensional barcode, commonly known as a QR code, or another machine-readable code used for storing the Internet address for the voter services portal created by the county clerk pursuant to section 2.

services portal created by the county clerk pursuant to section 2.
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 8 of this bill require the return envelope for a mail ballot to include: (1) a space for the voter to voluntarily write certain identifying information; and (2) a QR code or other machine-readable code that directs a voter to the voter services portal on the Internet website of the office of the county clerk.

20 Existing law requires: (1) the Secretary of State to establish and maintain a 21 22 23 centralized, top-down database that collects and stores information relating to the preregistration of persons and the registration of electors from all the counties in this State; and (2) each county clerk to use the database to collect and maintain all $\overline{24}$ records of preregistration and registration to vote. Under existing law, the Secretary 25 26 27 28 29 of State is required to: (1) use the voter registration information collected in the database to create the official statewide voter registration list, which serves as the single method for storing and managing the official list of registered voters in this State; and (2) enter into a cooperative agreement with the Department of Motor Vehicles to match information in the database of the statewide voter registration list 30 with information in the appropriate database of the Department to verify the 31 accuracy of the information in an application to register to vote. (NRS 293.675)

32 Section 3 of this bill requires the Department of Motor Vehicles, on a regular 33 basis, to submit electronically to each county clerk certain information relating to 34 each person who has a driver's license or identification card issued by the 35 Department. Section 3 further requires the county clerk to: (1) match such 36 information to registered voters in the county; (2) electronically enter into the 37 centralized, top-down database such information for each registered voter in the 38 county as soon as practicable after matching the information to registered voters in 39 the county; (3) identify any person who is a registered voter in the county and does 40 not have a driver's license or identification card; and (4) indicate in the database 41 whether each registered voter in the county has a driver's license or identification 42 43 card issued by the Department. Section 7 of this bill requires the information submitted to the county clerk by the Department to be included on the statewide 44 voter registration list.

Existing law provides that certain information relating to a registered voter is confidential and not a public record. (NRS 293.558) **Section 6** of this bill provides that the information submitted to the county clerk by the Department pursuant to **section 3** is also confidential and not a public record.

49 Existing law requires a voter who votes by mail to affix his or her signature in 50 the space provided on the return envelope of a mail ballot and the county clerk or city clerk to check the signature to verify the identity of the voter. (NRS 293.269917, 293.269927, 293C.26316, 293C.26327) Existing law provides that if 51 52 53 the county clerk or city clerk determines when checking the signature used for the 54 mail ballot that the voter failed to affix his or her signature or failed to affix it in the 55 manner required by law or that there is a reasonable question of fact as to whether 56 the signature used for the mail ballot matches the signature of the voter, the clerk is 57 required to contact the voter and advise the voter of the procedures to provide a 58 signature or a confirmation, as applicable. For the mail ballot to be counted, the





59 voter must provide a signature or a confirmation, as applicable, not later than 5 p.m. 60 on the sixth day following the election. (NRS 293.269927, 293C.26327) Sections 5 61 and 9 of this bill make various changes to the signature curing process. First, 62 sections 5 and 9 provide that if the voter included on the return envelope the last 63 four digits of the voter's driver's license, the last four digits of the voter's social 64 security number or the voter's voter identification number and such information is 65 confirmed by the clerk to be accurate, the voter is entitled to cast the ballot and the 66 signature is not required to be verified. If the voter did not include such information 67 on the return envelope or the information provided on the return envelope is not 68 accurate, the clerk or an employee in the office of the clerk is required to check the 69 signature. Second, sections 5 and 9 require that: (1) the county clerk and city clerk 70 ensure that employees are available by telephone until at least 7 p.m. on evenings 71 and weekends during the signature curing period; and (2) any voicemail message or 72 hold message used by the office of the clerk provides instructions on how a voter 73 may provide a signature or a signature confirmation. Finally, sections 5 and 9 74 authorize a voter to confirm his or her signature on the return envelope by 75 electronic mail or text message.

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

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

3 Sec. 2. 1. Each county clerk shall establish and maintain a 4 voter services portal on the Internet website of the office of the 5 county clerk.

6 2. The voter services portal must, without limitation, allow 7 any registered voter in the county to:

8 (a) Review his or her voter registration information, including,
9 without limitation, his or her voter identification number;

10 (b) Print any form necessary to update his or her voter 11 registration information;

12 (c) View his or her sample ballot; and

13 (d) Obtain the location of any polling place where the 14 registered voter may vote or deliver a mail ballot into a ballot drop 15 box.

16 3. A county clerk may request the assistance of the Secretary 17 of State to establish and maintain the voter services portal 18 required pursuant to this section.

4. The county clerk shall include on any communication to a
 registered voter a two-dimensional barcode, commonly known as a
 QR code, or another machine-readable code used for storing the
 Internet address for the voter services portal created by the county
 clerk pursuant to this section.

24 Sec. 3. 1. Except as otherwise provided in subsection 2, the 25 Department of Motor Vehicles shall, on a regular basis, submit 26 electronically to each county clerk the following information





relating to each person who has a driver's license or identification 1 2 card issued by the Department:

(a) Name;

(b) Date of birth;

(c) Last four digits of the person's social security number;

6 (d) Driver's license number or identification card number, as

applicable: 7

3

4

5

(e) Sex; 8

9 (f) Physical address;

(g) Mailing address; 10

(h) Citizenship status; 11

12 (i) Telephone number;

13 (j) Electronic mail address; and

(k) Veteran status. 14

15 2. The Department of Motor Vehicles shall not submit any information to a county clerk pursuant to subsection 1 relating to 16 17 any person who has a driver authorization card issued by the 18 Department pursuant to NRS 483.291. 19

3. The county clerk shall:

20 (a) Match the information received from the Department of 21 Motor Vehicles pursuant to subsection 1 to registered voters in the 22 county in the centralized, top-down database established pursuant 23 to NRS 293.675;

24 (b) Electronically enter the information received from the Department pursuant to subsection 1 into the centralized, top-25 26 down database established pursuant to NRS 293.675 for each 27 registered voter in the county as soon as practicable after 28 *matching the information to registered voters in the county;*

29 (c) Identify, based on the information received pursuant to 30 subsection 1, any person who:

31

(1) Is a registered voter in the county; and

(2) Does not have a driver's license or identification card 32 33 issued by the Department; and

(d) Indicate in the centralized, top-down database established 34 pursuant to NRS 293.675 whether the registered voter has a 35 driver's license or identification card issued by the Department. 36

Sec. 4. NRS 293.269913 is hereby amended to read as 37 38 follows:

39 293.269913 1. Except as otherwise provided in subsection 2, NRS 293.269911 and chapter 293D of NRS, the county clerk shall 40 send to each active registered voter by first-class mail, or by any 41 42 class of mail if the Official Election Mail logo or an equivalent logo 43 or mark created by the United States Postal Service is properly 44 placed:

45 (a) A mail ballot;





1 (b) A return envelope [;], which must include, without 2 limitation:

3 4

7

14

(1) A space for the voter to voluntarily write:

(I) The last four digits of the voter's driver's license;

5 (II) The last four digits of the voter's social security 6 number; or

(III) The voter identification number of the voter; and

8 (2) A two-dimensional barcode, commonly known as a QR 9 code, or another machine-readable code used for storing the 10 Internet address for the voter services portal created by the county 11 clerk pursuant to section 2 of this act;

12 (c) An envelope or sleeve into which the mail ballot is inserted 13 to ensure its secrecy; and

(d) Instructions [...] *that include, without limitation:*

15 (1) An explanation that the voter may voluntarily write on 16 the return envelope the information described in paragraph (b); 17 and

18 (2) A two-dimensional barcode, commonly known as a QR 19 code, or another machine-readable code used for storing the 20 Internet address for the voter services portal on the Internet 21 website of the county clerk.

22 2. In sending a mail ballot to an active registered voter, the 23 county clerk shall use an envelope that may not be forwarded to an 24 address of the voter that is different from the address to which the 25 mail ballot is mailed.

3. The return envelope must include postage prepaid by firstclass 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:

31 (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;

35 (c) The number of the mail ballot; and

36

(d) Any remarks the county clerk finds appropriate.

37 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

41 (b) A method for distinguishing the return envelopes of each 42 county which must be prominently displayed on the outside of the 43 return envelope.





1 Sec. 5. NRS 293.269927 is hereby amended to read as 2 follows:

3 293.269927 1. Except as otherwise provided in NRS 4 293D.200, when a mail ballot is returned by or on behalf of a voter 5 to the county clerk, and a record of its return is made in the mail 6 ballot record for the election, the clerk or an employee in the office of the clerk shall check the *return envelope to determine whether* 7 8 the voter included on the return envelope the last four digits of the 9 voter's driver's license, the last four digits of the voter's social security number or the voter's voter identification number. If the 10 return envelope includes any such information and such 11 12 information is confirmed by the clerk to be accurate, the voter is 13 entitled to cast the mail ballot and the signature is not required to 14 be checked. If the voter did not include such information on the return envelope or the information provided on the return 15 16 envelope is not accurate, the clerk or an employee in the office of 17 the clerk must check the signature used for the mail ballot by 18 electronic means pursuant to subsection 2 or manually pursuant to 19 subsection 3.

20 2. To check the signature used for a mail ballot by electronic 21 means:

(a) The electronic device must take a digital image of the signature used for the mail ballot and compare the digital image with the signatures of the voter from his or her application to register to vote or application to preregister to vote available in the records of the county clerk.

(b) If the electronic device does not match the signature of thevoter, the signature shall be reviewed manually pursuant to theprovisions of subsection 3.

30 3. To check the signature used for a mail ballot manually, the 31 county clerk shall use the following procedure:

(a) The clerk or employee shall check the signature used for the
mail ballot against all signatures of the voter available in the records
of the clerk.

(b) If at least two employees in the office of the clerk believe
there is a reasonable question of fact as to whether the signature
used for the mail ballot matches the signature of the voter, the clerk
shall contact the voter and ask the voter to confirm whether the
signature used for the mail ballot belongs to the voter.

40

4. For purposes of subsection 3:

(a) There is a reasonable question of fact as to whether the
signature used for the mail ballot matches the signature of the voter
if the signature used for the mail ballot differs in multiple,
significant and obvious respects from the signatures of the voter
available in the records of the clerk.





1 (b) There is not a reasonable question of fact as to whether the 2 signature used for the mail ballot matches the signature of the voter 3 if:

4 (1) The signature used for the mail ballot is a variation of the 5 signature of the voter caused by the substitution of initials for the first or middle name, the substitution of a different type of 6 punctuation in the first, middle or last name, the use of a common 7 8 nickname or the use of one last name for a person who has two last 9 names and it does not otherwise differ in multiple, significant and obvious respects from the signatures of the voter available in the 10 11 records of the clerk: or

12 (2) There are only slight dissimilarities between the signature 13 used for the mail ballot and the signatures of the voter available in 14 the records of the clerk.

5. Except as otherwise provided in subsection 6, if the clerk determines that the voter is entitled to cast the mail ballot, the clerk shall deposit the mail ballot in the proper ballot box or place the mail ballot, unopened, in a container that must be securely locked or under the control of the clerk at all times. The clerk shall deliver the mail ballots to the mail ballot central counting board to be processed and prepared for counting.

22 If the clerk determines when checking the signature used for 6. 23 the mail ballot that the voter failed to affix his or her signature or 24 failed to affix it in the manner required by law for the mail ballot or 25 that there is a reasonable question of fact as to whether the signature 26 used for the mail ballot matches the signature of the voter, but the 27 voter is otherwise entitled to cast the mail ballot, the clerk shall 28 contact the voter and advise the voter of the procedures to provide a 29 signature or a confirmation that the signature used for the mail ballot belongs to the voter, as applicable. For the mail ballot to be counted, 30 31 the voter must provide a signature or a confirmation, as applicable, 32 not later than 5 p.m. on the sixth day following the election. *During* 33 the period in which signatures may be cured, the clerk shall ensure that employees in the office of the clerk are available by 34 35 telephone until at least 7 p.m. on evenings and weekends. Any voicemail message or hold message used by the office of the clerk 36 37 must provide instructions on how a voter may provide a signature 38 or a confirmation.

7. The clerk shall prescribe procedures for a voter who failed to affix his or her signature or failed to affix it in the manner required by law for the mail ballot, or for whom there is a reasonable question of fact as to whether the signature used for the mail ballot matches the signature of the voter, in order to:

44 (a) Contact the voter;





1 (b) Allow the voter to provide a signature or a confirmation that 2 the signature used for the mail ballot belongs to the voter, as 3 applicable; and

4 (c) After a signature or a confirmation is provided, as applicable, 5 ensure the mail ballot is delivered to the mail ballot central counting 6 board.

8. If there is a reasonable question of fact as to whether the
signature used for the mail ballot matches the signature of the voter,
the voter must be identified by:

10 (a) Answering questions from the county clerk covering the 11 personal data which is reported on the application to register to vote;

(b) Providing the county clerk, orally or in writing, *including*, *without limitation*, *in writing by electronic mail or text message*,
with other personal data which verifies the identity of the voter; or

15 (c) Providing the county clerk with proof of identification as 16 described in NRS 293.277 other than the voter registration card 17 issued to the voter.

9. The procedures established pursuant to subsection 7 forcontacting a voter must require the clerk to contact the voter, assoon as possible after receipt of the mail ballot, by:

21 (a) Mail;

(b) Telephone, if a telephone number for the voter is available inthe records of the clerk; and

24 (c) Electronic means, which [may] *must* include, without 25 limitation [, electronic] :

(1) *Electronic* mail, if the voter has provided the clerk with
 [sufficient information to contact the voter by such means.] an
 electronic mail address; or

29 (2) Text message, if the voter has provided the clerk with a 30 cellular telephone number.

31 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 cityclerk; 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.

41 2. The county or city clerk shall not disclose:

42 (a) The social security number or the driver's license or 43 identification card number of a registered voter, and such a number 44 is confidential and is not a public book or record within the meaning 45 of NRS 239.010.





1 (b) An electronic mail address provided by a registered voter to 2 carry out any state or federal law relating to the voting process, and 3 such an electronic mail address is confidential and is not a public 4 book or record within the meaning of NRS 239.010. The county or 5 city clerk may not release a registered voter's electronic mail 6 address to a third party and may use such an electronic mail address 7 only to:

8 (1) Communicate with the registered voter about the voting 9 process, including, without limitation, as necessary to carry out the 10 provisions of chapter 293D of NRS; and

11 (2) Distribute a sample ballot to the registered voter by 12 electronic means if the county or city clerk has established a system 13 for distributing sample ballots by electronic means pursuant to NRS 14 293.565 or 293C.530 and the registered voter elects to receive a 15 sample ballot by electronic means.

(c) The information of a registered voter that is received from
the Department of Motor Vehicles pursuant to section 3 of this act
is confidential and is not a public book or record.

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 cityclerk; 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.

4. No information relating to a registered voter may bewithheld 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;

35 (c) The social security number and driver's license or 36 identification card number of the registered voter; [and]

37 (d) The sex, citizenship status and veteran status of the 38 registered voter; and

39 (e) Any other information relating to the registered voter that 40 any state or federal law declares to be confidential or otherwise 41 requires to be withheld from the public.

42 Sec. 7. NRS 293.675 is hereby amended to read as follows:

43 293.675 1. The Secretary of State shall establish and 44 maintain a centralized, top-down database that collects and stores 45 information related to the preregistration of persons and the





1 registration of electors from all the counties in this State. The 2 Secretary of State shall ensure that the database is capable of storing 3 preregistration information separately until a person is qualified to 4 register to vote. Each county clerk shall use the database created by 5 the Secretary of State pursuant to this subsection to collect and maintain all records of preregistration and registration to vote. 6 The Secretary of State shall use the voter registration 7 2. 8 information collected in the database created pursuant to subsection 9 1 to create the official statewide voter registration list, which may be maintained on the Internet, in consultation with each county and city 10

- 11 clerk.
- 12

3. The statewide voter registration list must:

13 (a) Be a uniform, centralized and interactive computerized list;

14 (b) Serve as the single method for storing and managing the 15 official list of registered voters in this State;

(c) Serve as the official list of registered voters for the conductof all elections in this State;

(d) Contain the name [and], *voter* registration information *and*, *if applicable, the information described in section 3 of this act* of
every legally registered voter in this State;

(e) Include a unique identifier assigned by the Secretary of State
 to each legally registered voter in this State;

(f) Except as otherwise provided in subsection 9, be coordinated
 with the appropriate databases of other agencies in this State;

(g) Be electronically accessible to each state and local election
 official in this State at all times;

(h) Except as otherwise provided in subsection 10, allow fordata to be shared with other states under certain circumstances; and

29 (i) Be regularly maintained to ensure the integrity of the 30 registration process and the election process.

31

4. Each county and city clerk shall:

(a) Electronically enter into the database created pursuant to
 subsection 1 all information related to voter preregistration and
 registration obtained by the county or city clerk at the time the
 information is provided to the county or city clerk; and

(b) Provide the Secretary of State with information concerning
the voter registration of the county or city and other reasonable
information requested by the Secretary of State in the form required
by the Secretary of State to establish or maintain the statewide voter
registration list.

5. In establishing and maintaining the statewide voter
registration list, the Secretary of State shall enter into a cooperative
agreement with the Department of Motor Vehicles to match
information in the database of the statewide voter registration list
with information in the appropriate database of the Department of





1 Motor Vehicles to verify the accuracy of the information in an 2 application to register to vote.

6. The Department of Motor Vehicles shall enter into an agreement with the Social Security Administration pursuant to 52 U.S.C. § 21083, to verify the accuracy of information in an application to register to vote.

7 7. The Department of Motor Vehicles shall ensure that its 8 database:

9 (a) Is capable of processing any information related to an 10 application to register to vote, an application to update voter 11 registration information or a request to verify the accuracy of voter 12 registration information as quickly as is feasible; and

(b) Does not limit the number of applications to register to vote,
applications to update voter registration information or requests to
verify the accuracy of voter registration information that may be
processed by the database in any given day.

17 The Secretary of State shall enter into a cooperative 8. agreement with the State Registrar of Vital Statistics to match 18 19 information in the database of the statewide voter registration list 20 with information in the records of the State Registrar of Vital 21 Statistics concerning the death of a resident of this State to maintain 22 the statewide voter registration list. The Secretary of State must 23 compare the records of the State Registrar of Vital Statistics to those 24 in the statewide voter registration list at least once per month.

9. Except as otherwise provided in NRS 481.063 or any provision of law providing for the confidentiality of information, the Secretary of State may enter into an agreement with an agency of this State pursuant to which the agency provides to the Secretary of State any information in the possession of the agency that the Secretary of State deems necessary to maintain the statewide voter registration list.

32

10. The Secretary of State may:

(a) Request from the chief officer of elections of another state
 any information which the Secretary of State deems necessary to
 maintain the statewide voter registration list; and

(b) Provide to the chief officer of elections of another state any information which is requested and which the Secretary of State deems necessary for the chief officer of elections of that state to maintain a voter registration list, if the Secretary of State is satisfied that the information provided pursuant to this paragraph will be used only for the maintenance of that voter registration list.

42 Sec. 8. NRS 293C.26312 is hereby amended to read as 43 follows:

44 293C.26312 1. Except as otherwise provided in subsection 2,
45 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 1 2 mail if the Official Election Mail logo or an equivalent logo or mark 3 created by the United States Postal Service is properly placed: 4 (a) A mail ballot; 5 (b) A return envelope [;], which must include, without 6 *limitation:* 7 (1) A space for the voter to voluntarily write: (I) The last four digits of the voter's driver's license: 8 9 (II) The last four digits of the voter's social security 10 number; or 11 (III) The voter identification number of the voter; and 12 (2) A two-dimensional barcode, commonly known as a QR 13 code, or another machine-readable code used for storing the 14 Internet address for the voter services portal created by the county 15 clerk pursuant to section 2 of this act; 16 (c) An envelope or sleeve into which the mail ballot is inserted 17 to ensure its secrecy; and 18 (d) Instructions **H** *that include, without limitation:* 19 (1) An explanation that the voter may voluntarily write on 20 the return envelope the information described in paragraph (b); 21 and 22 (2) A two-dimensional barcode, commonly known as a OR 23 code, or another machine-readable code used for storing the Internet address for the voter services portal on the Internet 24 25 website of the county clerk. 26 In sending a mail ballot to an active registered voter, the city 2. 27 clerk shall use an envelope that may not be forwarded to an address 28 of the voter that is different from the address to which the mail 29 ballot is mailed. 30 3. The return envelope must include postage prepaid by firstclass mail if the active registered voter is within the boundaries of 31 32 the United States, its territories or possessions or on a military base. 33 Before sending a mail ballot to an active registered voter, the 4. city clerk shall record: 34 35 (a) The date the mail ballot is issued: 36 (b) The name of the voter to whom the mail ballot is issued, his 37 or her precinct or district and his or her political affiliation, if any, 38 unless all the offices on the mail ballot are nonpartisan offices; 39 (c) The number of the mail ballot; and 40 (d) Any remarks the city clerk finds appropriate. The Secretary of State shall prescribe: 41 5. 42 (a) The form of all envelopes in which mail ballots are sent to 43 voters and return envelopes, which must, except as otherwise 44 provided in paragraph (b), be uniform throughout the State; and





1 (b) A method for distinguishing the return envelopes of each 2 city which must be prominently displayed on the outside of the 3 return envelope.

4 Sec. 9. NRS 293C.26327 is hereby amended to read as 5 follows:

293C.26327 1. Except as otherwise provided in NRS 6 7 293D.200, when a mail ballot is returned by or on behalf of a voter 8 to the city clerk, and a record of its return is made in the mail ballot 9 record for the election, the clerk or an employee in the office of the clerk shall check the *return envelope to determine whether the* 10 voter included on the return envelope the last four digits of 11 12 the voter's driver's license, the last four digits of the voter's social 13 security number or the voter's voter identification number. If the 14 return envelope includes any such information and such information is confirmed by the clerk to be accurate, the voter is 15 16 entitled to cast the mail ballot and the signature is not required to 17 be checked. If the voter did not include such information on the return envelope or the information provided on the return 18 19 envelope is not accurate, the clerk or an employee in the office of 20 the clerk must check the signature used for the mail ballot by 21 electronic means pursuant to subsection 2 or manually pursuant to 22 subsection 3.

23 2. To check the signature used for a mail ballot by electronic24 means:

(a) The electronic device must take a digital image of the
signature used for the mail ballot and electronically compare the
digital image with the signatures of the voter from his or her
application to register to vote or application to preregister to vote
available in the records of the city clerk.

30 (b) If the electronic device does not match the signature of the 31 voter, the signature shall be reviewed manually pursuant to the 32 provisions of subsection 3.

33 3. To check the signature used for a mail ballot manually, the 34 city clerk shall use the following procedure:

(a) The clerk or employee shall check the signature used for the
mail ballot against all signatures of the voter available in the records
of the clerk.

(b) If at least two employees in the office of the clerk believe
there is a reasonable question of fact as to whether the signature
used for the mail ballot matches the signature of the voter, the clerk
shall contact the voter and ask the voter to confirm whether the
signature used for the mail ballot belongs to the voter.

43

4. For purposes of subsection 3:

44 (a) There is a reasonable question of fact as to whether the 45 signature used for the mail ballot matches the signature of the voter





if the signature used for the mail ballot differs in multiple,
 significant and obvious respects from the signatures of the voter
 available in the records of the clerk.

4 (b) There is not a reasonable question of fact as to whether the 5 signature used for the mail ballot matches the signature of the voter 6 if:

7 (1) The signature used for the mail ballot is a variation of the 8 signature of the voter caused by the substitution of initials for the 9 first or middle name, the substitution of a different type of punctuation in the first, middle or last name, the use of a common 10 nickname or the use of one last name for a person who has two last 11 12 names and it does not otherwise differ in multiple, significant and 13 obvious respects from the signatures of the voter available in the 14 records of the clerk: or

15 (2) There are only slight dissimilarities between the signature 16 used for the mail ballot and the signatures of the voter available in 17 the records of the clerk.

5. Except as otherwise provided in subsection 6, if the clerk determines that the voter is entitled to cast the mail ballot, the clerk shall deposit the mail ballot in the proper ballot box or place the mail ballot, unopened, in a container that must be securely locked or under the control of the clerk at all times. The clerk shall deliver the mail ballots to the mail ballot central counting board to be processed and prepared for counting.

25 If the clerk determines when checking the signature used for 6. 26 the mail ballot that the voter failed to affix his or her signature or 27 failed to affix it in the manner required by law for the mail ballot or 28 that there is a reasonable question of fact as to whether the signature 29 used for the mail ballot matches the signature of the voter, but the 30 voter is otherwise entitled to cast the mail ballot, the clerk shall 31 contact the voter and advise the voter of the procedures to provide a 32 signature or a confirmation that the signature used for the mail ballot 33 belongs to the voter, as applicable. For the mail ballot to be counted, 34 the voter must provide a signature or a confirmation, as applicable, 35 not later than 5 p.m. on the sixth day following the election. *During* 36 the period in which signatures may be cured, the clerk shall 37 ensure that employees in the office of the clerk are available by 38 telephone until at least 7 p.m. on evenings and weekends. Any voicemail message or hold message used by the office of the clerk 39 40 must provide instructions on how a voter may provide a signature 41 or a confirmation.

42 7. The clerk shall prescribe procedures for a voter who failed to 43 affix his or her signature or failed to affix it in the manner required 44 by law for the mail ballot, or for whom there is a reasonable





1 question of fact as to whether the signature used for the mail ballot 2 matches the signature of the voter, in order to:

-15-

3 (a) Contact the voter;

(b) Allow the voter to provide a signature or a confirmation that 4 5 the signature used for the mail ballot belongs to the voter, as 6 applicable; and

(c) After a signature or a confirmation is provided, as applicable, 7 8 ensure the mail ballot is delivered to the mail ballot central counting 9 board.

If there is a reasonable question of fact as to whether the 10 8. signature used for the mail ballot matches the signature of the voter, 11 12 the voter must be identified by:

13 (a) Answering questions from the city clerk covering the personal data which is reported on the application to register to vote; 14

(b) Providing the city clerk, orally or in writing, *including*, 15 16 without limitation, in writing by electronic mail or text message, with other personal data which verifies the identity of the voter; or 17

(c) Providing the city clerk with proof of identification as 18 described in NRS 293C.270 other than the voter registration card 19 20 issued to the voter.

21 The procedures established pursuant to subsection 7 for 9. 22 contacting a voter must require the clerk to contact the voter, as 23 soon as possible after receipt of the mail ballot, by:

(a) Mail:

25 (b) Telephone, if a telephone number for the voter is available in 26 the records of the clerk: and

27 (c) Electronic means, which **may** must include, without 28 limitation [, electronic] :

29 (1) *Electronic* mail, if the voter has provided the clerk with 30 [sufficient information to contact the voter by such means.] an 31 electronic mail address; and

32 (2) Text message, if the voter has provided the clerk with a 33 cellular telephone number.

Sec. 10. The provisions of NRS 354.599 do not apply to any 34 35 additional expenses of a local government that are related to the 36 provisions of this act.

37 Sec. 11. 1. This section and section 10 of this act become 38 effective upon passage and approval.

39

24

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

40 (a) Upon passage and approval for the purpose of adopting any regulations and performing any other preparatory administrative 41

42 tasks that are necessary to carry out the provisions of this act; and

43 (b) On October 1, 2025, for all other purposes.



