AN ACT relating to elections; authorizing any registered voter to request absent ballots for all elections held during the year he or she requests an absent ballot; authorizing a registered voter with a physical disability or who is at least 65 years of age to request absent ballots for all elections held after submission of the request; and providing other matters properly relating thereto.

Legislative Counsel’s Digest:
Under existing law, any registered voter who provides sufficient written notice to the county or city clerk may vote an absent ballot for an election, but a registered voter who has a physical disability or condition which substantially impairs his or her ability to go to a polling place for an election may request an absent ballot for all elections that are overseen by a county clerk and are held during the year the voter requests an absent ballot. (NRS 293.313) Also under existing law, a registered voter who, because of a physical disability, is unable to mark or sign a ballot or use a voting device without assistance may request that the county or city clerk, as applicable, issue him or her an absent ballot for each election, including each city election, that is conducted during the year immediately succeeding the date the request is made to the clerk. (NRS 293.3165, 293C.318)

Sections 2 and 8 of this bill authorize any registered voter to request an absent ballot for all elections that are overseen by a county or city clerk and are held during the year the voter requests an absent ballot. Sections 5 and 16 of this bill authorize a registered voter with a physical disability or who is at least 65 years of age to submit a written statement to the appropriate county clerk or city clerk requesting that the registered voter receive an absent ballot for all elections at which the registered voter is eligible to vote.

Existing law requires, with limited exception, that requests for absent ballots be returned to a county or city clerk in person or by mail or facsimile machine. (NRS 293.323, 293C.322) Sections 1, 2, 5, 7, 12, 13 and 16 of this bill provide that the request may be returned in person or by mail or approved electronic transmission.

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

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 a new section to read as follows:

As used in NRS 293.309 to 293.340, inclusive, “sufficient written notice” means a:

1. Written request for an absent ballot which is signed by the registered voter and returned to the county clerk in person or by mail or approved electronic transmission;
2. Form prescribed by the Secretary of State which is completed and signed by the registered voter and returned to the county clerk in person or by mail or approved electronic transmission; or
3. Form provided by the Federal Government.

Sec. 2. NRS 293.313 is hereby amended to read as follows:
293.313 1. Except as otherwise provided in NRS 293.272 and 293.502, a registered voter may request an absent ballot if, before 5 p.m. on the seventh calendar day preceding the election, the registered voter:
(a) Provides sufficient written notice to the county clerk;
(b) Has identified himself or herself to the satisfaction of the county clerk.
2. A registered voter who:
(a) Is at least 65 years of age; or
(b) Has a physical disability or condition which substantially impairs his or her ability to go to the polling place,
may request an absent ballot for all elections held during the year he or she requests an absent ballot.
3. A county clerk shall consider a request from a voter who has given sufficient written notice on a form provided by the Federal Government as a request for an absent ballot for the primary and general elections immediately following the date on which the county clerk received the request.
4. It is unlawful for a person fraudulently to request an absent ballot in the name of another person or to induce or coerce another person fraudulently to request an absent ballot in the name of another person. A person who violates this subsection is guilty of a category E felony and shall be punished as provided in NRS 193.130.
5. As used in this section, “sufficient written notice” means a:
(a) Written request for an absent ballot which is signed by the registered voter and returned to the county clerk in person or by mail or facsimile machine;
(b) Form prescribed by the Secretary of State which is completed and signed by the registered voter and returned to the county clerk in person or by mail or facsimile machine; or
(c) Form provided by the Federal Government.

Sec. 3. NRS 293.315 is hereby amended to read as follows:
293.315 1. A registered voter referred to in NRS 293.313 may, at any time before 5 p.m. on the seventh calendar day preceding any election, make an application to that clerk for an
Every request for an absent ballot must be made available for public inspection.

2. When the voter has identified himself or herself to the satisfaction of the clerk, the voter is entitled to receive the appropriate ballot or ballots, but only for his or her own use.

A county clerk who allows a person to copy information from an application for an absent ballot is immune from any civil or criminal liability for any damage caused by the distribution of that information, unless the county clerk knowingly and willingly allows a person who intends to use the information to further an unlawful act to copy such information.

Sec. 4. NRS 293.316 is hereby amended to read as follows:

293.316 1. Any registered voter who is unable to go to the polls:
   (a) Because of an illness or disability resulting in confinement in a hospital, sanatorium, dwelling or nursing home; or
   (b) Because the registered voter is suddenly hospitalized, becomes seriously ill or is called away from home after the time has elapsed for requesting an absent ballot as provided in NRS 293.315, may submit a written request to the county clerk for an absent ballot. The request may be submitted at any time before 5 p.m. on the day of the election.

2. If the county clerk determines that a request submitted pursuant to subsection 1 includes the information required pursuant to subsection 3, the county clerk shall, at the office of the county clerk, deliver an absent ballot to the person designated in the request to obtain the ballot for the registered voter.

3. A written request submitted pursuant to subsection 1 must include:
   (a) The name, address and signature of the registered voter requesting the absent ballot;
   (b) The name, address and signature of the person designated by the registered voter to obtain, deliver and return the ballot for the registered voter;
   (c) A brief statement of the illness or disability of the registered voter or of facts sufficient to establish that the registered voter was called away from home after the time had elapsed for requesting an absent ballot;
   (d) If the voter is confined in a hospital, sanatorium, dwelling or nursing home, a statement that he or she will be confined therein on the day of the election; and
(e) Unless the person designated pursuant to paragraph (b) will mark and sign an absent ballot on behalf of the registered voter pursuant to subsection 5, a statement signed under penalty of perjury that only the registered voter will mark and sign the ballot.

4. Except as otherwise provided in subsection 5, after marking the ballot, the voter must:
   (a) Place it in the identification envelope;
   (b) Affix his or her signature on the back of the envelope; and
   (c) Return it to the office of the county clerk.

5. A person designated in a request submitted pursuant to subsection 1 may, on behalf of and at the direction of the registered voter, mark and sign the absent ballot. If the person marks and signs the ballot, the person shall indicate next to his or her signature that the ballot has been marked and signed on behalf of the registered voter.

6. A request for an absent ballot submitted pursuant to this section must be made, and the ballot delivered to the voter and returned to the county clerk, not later than the time the polls close on election day.

7. The procedure authorized by this section is subject to all other provisions of this chapter relating to voting by absent ballot to the extent that those provisions are not inconsistent with the provisions of this section.

Sec. 5. NRS 293.3165 is hereby amended to read as follows:

293.3165  1. A registered voter who, because of a physical disability, is unable to mark or sign a ballot or use a voting device without assistance may submit a written statement or who is at least 65 years of age and provides sufficient written notice to the appropriate county clerk requesting may request that the registered voter receive an absent ballot for each election conducted during the period specified in subsection 3 at which the registered voter is eligible to vote.

2. A written statement submitted pursuant to subsection 1 must:
   — (a) Designate the person who will assist the registered voter in marking and signing the absent ballot on behalf of the registered voter; and
   — (b) Include the name, address and signature of the person designated pursuant to paragraph (a).

3. Upon Except as otherwise provided in subsection 4, upon receipt of a written statement request submitted by a registered voter pursuant to subsection 1, the county clerk shall if the
statement includes the information required pursuant to subsection 2, issue:  

(a) Issue an absent ballot to the registered voter for each primary election, general election and special election other than a special city election that is conducted during the year immediately succeeding after the date the written statement is submitted to the county clerk.

4. A person designated pursuant to paragraph (a) of subsection 2 may:

(b) Inform the applicable city clerk of receipt of the written statement. Upon receipt of the notice from the county clerk, the city clerk shall issue an absent ballot for each primary city election, general city election and special city election that is conducted after the date the city clerk receives notice from the county clerk.

3. If, at the direction of the registered voter, a person:

(a) Marks and signs an absent ballot issued to the registered voter pursuant to the provisions of this section on behalf of and at the direction of the registered voter, mark and sign an absent ballot issued to the registered voter pursuant to the provisions of this section. If the person marks and signs the ballot, the person shall:

(1) Indicate next to his or her signature that the ballot has been marked and signed on behalf of the registered voter; and

(2) Submit a written statement with the absent ballot that includes the name, address and signature of the person.

(b) Assists a registered voter to mark and sign an absent ballot issued to the registered voter pursuant to the provisions of this section, the person or registered voter must submit a written statement with the absent ballot that includes the name, address and signature of the person.

4. A county clerk may not mail an absent ballot requested by a registered voter pursuant to subsection 1 if, after the request is submitted:

(a) The registered voter is designated inactive pursuant to NRS 293.530; or

(b) The county clerk cancels the registration of the person pursuant NRS 293.527, 293.530, 293.535 or 293.540.

5. The procedure authorized pursuant to this section is subject to all other provisions of this chapter relating to voting by absent ballot to the extent that those provisions are not inconsistent with the provisions of this section.
Sec. 6. NRS 293.320 is hereby amended to read as follows:
293.320 The county clerk shall determine before issuing an absent ballot that the person [making application] who requested the absent ballot is a registered voter in the proper county.

Sec. 7. NRS 293.323 is hereby amended to read as follows:
293.323 1. Except as otherwise provided in subsection 2 and chapter 293D of NRS, if the request for an absent ballot is made by mail or [facsimile machine, approved electronic transmission], the county clerk shall, as soon as the official absent ballot for the precinct or district in which the applicant resides has been printed, send to the 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 on the official absent ballot:
(a) An absent ballot;
(b) A return envelope;
(c) An envelope or similar device into which the ballot is inserted to ensure its secrecy;
(d) An identification envelope, if applicable; and
(e) Instructions.
2. If the county clerk fails to send an absent ballot pursuant to subsection 1 to a voter who resides within the continental United States, the county clerk may use [a facsimile machine, approved electronic transmission] to send an absent ballot and instructions to the voter. The voter may mail the absent ballot to the county clerk or submit the absent ballot by [facsimile machine, approved electronic transmission].
3. The return envelope sent pursuant to subsection 1 must include postage prepaid by first-class mail if the absent voter is within the boundaries of the United States, its territories or possessions or on a military base.
4. Nothing may be enclosed or sent with an absent ballot except as required by subsection 1 or 2 and chapter 293D of NRS.
5. Before depositing a ballot in the mail or sending a ballot by [facsimile machine, approved electronic transmission], the county clerk shall record the date the ballot is issued, the name of the registered voter to whom it is issued, the registered voter’s precinct or district, and political affiliation, if any, the number of the ballot and any remarks the county clerk finds appropriate.
6. The Secretary of State shall adopt regulations to carry out the provisions of subsection 2.
Sec. 8. NRS 293.330 is hereby amended to read as follows:

293.330  1. Except as otherwise provided in subsection 2 of NRS 293.323 and chapter 293D of NRS, and any regulations adopted pursuant thereto, when an absent voter receives an absent ballot, the absent voter must mark and fold it in accordance with the instructions, deposit it in the return envelope, seal the envelope, affix his or her signature on the back of the envelope in the space provided therefor and mail the return envelope.

2. Except as otherwise provided in subsection 3, if an absent voter who has requested a ballot by mail applies to vote the ballot in person at:

(a) The office of the county clerk, the absent voter must mark the ballot, seal it in the return envelope and affix his or her signature in the same manner as provided in subsection 1, and deliver the envelope to the clerk.

(b) A polling place, including, without limitation, a polling place for early voting, the absent voter must surrender the absent ballot and provide satisfactory identification before being issued a ballot to vote at the polling place. A person who receives a surrendered absent ballot shall mark it “Cancelled.”

3. If an absent voter who has requested a ballot by mail applies to vote in person at the office of the county clerk or a polling place, including, without limitation, a polling place for early voting, and the voter does not have the absent ballot to deliver or surrender, the voter must be issued a ballot to vote if the voter:

(a) Provides satisfactory identification;

(b) Is a registered voter who is otherwise entitled to vote; and

(c) Signs an affirmation under penalty of perjury on a form prepared by the Secretary of State declaring that the voter has not voted during the election.

4. Except as otherwise provided in NRS 293.316 and 293.3165, it is unlawful for any person to return an absent ballot other than the voter who requested the absent ballot or, at the request of the voter, a member of the voter’s family. A person who returns an absent ballot and who is a member of the family of the voter who requested the absent ballot shall, under penalty of perjury, indicate on a form prescribed by the county clerk that the person is a member of the family of the voter who requested the absent ballot and that the voter requested that the person return the absent ballot. A person who violates the provisions of this subsection is guilty of a category E felony and shall be punished as provided in NRS 193.130.
Sec. 9. NRS 293.333 is hereby amended to read as follows:

293.333 Except as otherwise provided in NRS 293D.200, on the day of an election, the election boards receiving the absent voters’ ballots from the county clerk shall, in the presence of a majority of the election board officers, remove the ballots from the ballot box and the containers in which the ballots were transported pursuant to NRS 293.325 and deposit the ballots in the regular ballot box in the following manner:

1. The name of the voter, as shown on the return envelope or approved electronic transmission must be called and checked as if the voter were voting in person;
2. The signature on the back of the return envelope or on the approved electronic transmission must be compared with that on the application to register to vote;
3. If the board determines that the absent voter is entitled to cast a ballot, the envelope must be opened, the numbers on the ballot and envelope or approved electronic transmission compared, the number strip or stub detached from the ballot and, if the numbers are the same, the ballot deposited in the regular ballot box; and
4. The election board officers shall indicate in the roster “Voted” by the name of the voter.

Sec. 10. NRS 293.335 is hereby amended to read as follows:

293.335 When all absent ballots delivered to the election boards have been voted or rejected, except as otherwise provided in NRS 293D.200, the empty envelopes and the envelopes and approved electronic transmissions containing rejected ballots must be returned to the county clerk. On all envelopes and approved electronic transmissions containing rejected ballots the cause of rejection must be noted and the envelope or approved electronic transmission signed by a majority of the election board officers.

Sec. 11. NRS 293.469 is hereby amended to read as follows:

293.469 Each county clerk is encouraged to:

1. Not later than the earlier date of the notice provided pursuant to NRS 293.203 or the first notice provided pursuant to subsection 4 of NRS 293.560, notify the public, through means designed to reach members of the public who are elderly or disabled, of the provisions of NRS 293.2955, 293.296, 293.313, [subsection 1 of NRS 293.315, NRS] 293.316 and 293.3165.
2. Provide in alternative audio and visual formats information concerning elections, information concerning how to register to vote and information concerning the manner of voting for use by a person who is elderly or disabled, including, without limitation,
providing such information through a telecommunications device that is accessible to a person who is deaf.

3. Not later than 5 working days after receiving the request of a person who is elderly or disabled, provide to the person, in a format that can be used by the person, any requested material that is:
   (a) Related to elections; and
   (b) Made available by the county clerk to the public in printed form.

**Sec. 12.** Chapter 293C of NRS is hereby amended by adding thereto a new section to read as follows:

As used in NRS 293C.305 to 293C.340, inclusive, “sufficient written notice” means a:

1. Written request for an absent ballot that is signed by the registered voter and returned to the city clerk in person or by approved electronic transmission;

2. Form prescribed by the Secretary of State that is completed and signed by the registered voter and returned to the city clerk in person or by mail or facsimile machine; or

3. Form provided by the Federal Government.

**Sec. 13.** NRS 293C.310 is hereby amended to read as follows:

293C.310 1. Except as otherwise provided in NRS 293.502 and 293C.265, a registered voter may request an absent ballot if, before 5 p.m. on the seventh calendar day preceding the election, the registered voter:
   (a) Provides sufficient written notice to the city clerk; and
   (b) Has identified himself or herself to the satisfaction of the city clerk.

2. A city clerk shall consider a request from a voter who has given sufficient written notice on a form provided by the Federal Government as:
   (a) A request for the primary city election and the general city election unless otherwise specified in the request; and
   (b) A request for an absent ballot for the primary and general elections immediately following the date on which the city clerk received the request.

3. It is unlawful for a person fraudulently to request an absent ballot in the name of another person or to induce or coerce another person fraudulently to request an absent ballot in the name of another person. A person who violates any provision of this subsection is guilty of a category E felony and shall be punished as provided in NRS 193.130.

4. As used in this section, “sufficient written notice” means a:
— (a) Written request for an absent ballot that is signed by the registered voter and returned to the city clerk in person or by mail or facsimile machine; 
— (b) Form prescribed by the Secretary of State that is completed and signed by the registered voter and returned to the city clerk in person or by mail or facsimile machine; or 
— (c) Form provided by the Federal Government.] 

Sec. 14. NRS 293C.312 is hereby amended to read as follows:

293C.312  1.  Every request for an absent ballot must be made available for public inspection. 

2.  [When the voter has identified himself or herself to the satisfaction of the city clerk, the voter is entitled to receive the appropriate ballot or ballots, but only for his or her own use. 

3.  A city clerk who allows a person to copy information from an application for an absent ballot is immune from any civil or criminal liability for any damage caused by the distribution of that information, unless the city clerk knowingly and willingly allows a person who intends to use the information to further an unlawful act to copy the information.

Sec. 15. NRS 293C.317 is hereby amended to read as follows:

293C.317  1.  Any registered voter who is unable to go to the polls: 

(a) Because of an illness or disability resulting in confinement in a hospital, sanatorium, dwelling or nursing home; or 
(b) Because the registered voter is suddenly hospitalized, becomes seriously ill or is called away from home after the time has elapsed for requesting an absent ballot as provided in NRS 293C.310, may submit a written request to the city clerk for an absent ballot. The request may be submitted at any time before 5 p.m. on the day of the election.

2.  If the city clerk determines that a request submitted pursuant to subsection 1 includes the information required pursuant to subsection 3, the city clerk shall, at the office of the city clerk, deliver an absent ballot to the person designated in the request to obtain the ballot for the registered voter.

3.  A written request submitted pursuant to subsection 1 must include:

(a) The name, address and signature of the registered voter requesting the absent ballot;
(b) The name, address and signature of the person designated by the registered voter to obtain, deliver and return the ballot for the registered voter;

(c) A brief statement of the illness or disability of the registered voter or of facts sufficient to establish that the registered voter was called away from home after the time had elapsed for requesting an absent ballot;

(d) If the voter is confined in a hospital, sanatorium, dwelling or nursing home, a statement that he or she will be confined therein on the day of the election; and

(e) Unless the person designated pursuant to paragraph (b) will mark and sign an absent ballot on behalf of the registered voter pursuant to subsection 5, a statement signed under penalty of perjury that only the registered voter will mark and sign the ballot.

4. Except as otherwise provided in subsection 5, after marking the ballot the voter must:

(a) Place it in the identification envelope;

(b) Affix his or her signature on the back of the envelope; and

(c) Return it to the office of the city clerk.

5. A person designated in a request submitted pursuant to subsection 1 may, on behalf of and at the direction of the registered voter, mark and sign the absent ballot. If the person marks and signs the ballot, the person shall indicate next to his or her signature that the ballot has been marked and signed on behalf of the registered voter.

6. A request for an absent ballot submitted pursuant to this section must be made, and the ballot delivered to the voter and returned to the city clerk, not later than the time the polls close on election day.

7. The procedure authorized by this section is subject to all other provisions of this chapter relating to voting by absent ballot to the extent that those provisions are not inconsistent with the provisions of this section.

Sec. 16. NRS 293C.318 is hereby amended to read as follows:

293C.318 1. A registered voter who, because of a physical disability, is unable to mark or sign a ballot or use a voting device without assistance may submit a written statement or who is at least 65 years of age and provides sufficient written notice to the appropriate city clerk requesting may request that the registered voter receive an absent ballot for all elections at which the registered voter is eligible to vote.
2. A written statement submitted pursuant to subsection 1 must:
   (a) Designate the person who will assist the registered voter in marking and signing the absent ballot on behalf of the registered voter; and
   (b) Include the name, address and signature of the person designated pursuant to paragraph (a).

3. Except as otherwise provided in subsection 4, upon receipt of a written statement request submitted by a registered voter pursuant to subsection 1, the city clerk shall, if the statement includes the information required pursuant to subsection 2, issue:
   (a) Issue an absent ballot for each primary city election, general city election and special city election that is conducted during the year immediately succeeding the date the written statement is submitted to the city clerk.

4. A person designated pursuant to paragraph (a) of subsection 2 may:
   (b) Inform the county clerk of receipt of the written statement. Upon receipt of the notice from the city clerk, the county clerk shall issue an absent ballot for each primary election, general election and special election that is not a city election that is conducted after the date the county clerk receives notice from the city clerk.

3. If, at the direction of the registered voter, a person:
   (a) Marks and signs an absent ballot issued to a registered voter pursuant to the provisions of this section on behalf of the registered voter, mark and sign an absent ballot issued to the registered voter pursuant to the provisions of this section. If the person marks and signs the ballot, the person must indicate:
      (1) Indicate next to his or her signature that the ballot has been marked and signed on behalf of the registered voter.
      (2) Submit a written statement with the absent ballot that includes the name, address and signature of the person.
   (b) Assists a registered voter to mark and sign an absent ballot issued to the registered voter pursuant to this section, the person or registered voter must submit a written statement with the absent ballot that includes the name, address and signature of the person.

4. A city clerk may not mail an absent ballot requested by a registered voter pursuant to subsection 1 if, after the request is submitted:
(a) The registered voter is designated inactive pursuant to NRS 293.530; or
(b) The county clerk cancels the registration of the person pursuant to NRS 293.527, 293.530, 293.535 or 293.540.

5. The procedure authorized pursuant to this section is subject to all other provisions of this chapter relating to voting by absent ballot to the extent that those provisions are not inconsistent with the provisions of this section.

Sec. 17. NRS 293C.320 is hereby amended to read as follows:

293C.320  The city clerk shall determine before issuing an absent ballot that the person who requested the absent ballot is a registered voter in the proper city.

Sec. 18. NRS 293C.322 is hereby amended to read as follows:

293C.322  1. Except as otherwise provided in subsection 2 and chapter 293D of NRS, if the request for an absent ballot is made by mail or approved electronic transmission, the city clerk shall, as soon as the official absent ballot for the precinct or district in which the applicant resides has been printed, send to the 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 on the official absent ballot:
(a) An absent ballot;
(b) A return envelope;
(c) An envelope or similar device into which the ballot is inserted to ensure its secrecy; and
(d) Instructions.

2. If the city clerk fails to send an absent ballot pursuant to subsection 1 to a voter who resides within the continental United States, the city clerk may use approved electronic transmission to send an absent ballot and instructions to the voter. The voter may mail the absent ballot to the city clerk or submit the absent ballot by approved electronic transmission.

3. The return envelope sent pursuant to subsection 1 must include postage prepaid by first-class mail if the absent voter is within the boundaries of the United States, its territories or possessions or on a military base.

4. Nothing may be enclosed or sent with an absent ballot except as required by subsection 1 or 2 and chapter 293D of NRS.

5. Before depositing a ballot with the United States Postal Service or sending a ballot by approved electronic transmission, the city clerk shall record the date the
ballot is issued, the name of the registered voter to whom it is issued, the registered voter’s precinct or district, the number of the ballot and any remarks the city clerk finds appropriate.

6. The Secretary of State shall adopt regulations to carry out the provisions of subsection 2.

Sec. 19. NRS 293C.330 is hereby amended to read as follows:

Sec. 19. NRS 293C.330 is hereby amended to read as follows:

293C.330  1. Except as otherwise provided in subsection 2 of NRS 293C.322 and chapter 293D of NRS, and any regulations adopted pursuant thereto, when an absent voter receives an absent ballot, the absent voter must mark and fold it in accordance with the instructions, deposit it in the return envelope, seal the envelope, affix his or her signature on the back of the envelope in the space provided therefor and mail the return envelope.

2. Except as otherwise provided in subsection 3, if an absent voter who has requested a ballot by mail applies to vote the ballot in person at:

(a) The office of the city clerk, the absent voter must mark the ballot, seal it in the return envelope and affix his or her signature in the same manner as provided in subsection 1, and deliver the envelope to the city clerk.

(b) A polling place, including, without limitation, a polling place for early voting, the absent voter must surrender the absent ballot and provide satisfactory identification before being issued a ballot to vote at the polling place. A person who receives a surrendered absent ballot shall mark it “Cancelled.”

3. If an absent voter who has requested a ballot by mail applies to vote in person at the office of the city clerk or a polling place, including, without limitation, a polling place for early voting, and the voter does not have the absent ballot to deliver or surrender, the voter must be issued a ballot to vote if the voter:

(a) Provides satisfactory identification;

(b) Is a registered voter who is otherwise entitled to vote; and

(c) Signs an affirmation under penalty of perjury on a form prepared by the Secretary of State declaring that the voter has not voted during the election.

4. Except as otherwise provided in NRS 293C.3165 or 293C.317, it is unlawful for any person to return an absent ballot other than the voter who requested the absent ballot or, at the request of the voter, a member of the voter’s family. A person who returns an absent ballot and who is a member of the family of the voter who requested the absent ballot shall, under penalty of perjury, indicate on a form prescribed by the city clerk that the person is a member of the family of the voter who requested the absent ballot.
and that the voter requested that the person return the absent ballot. A person who violates the provisions of this subsection is guilty of a category E felony and shall be punished as provided in NRS 193.130.

Sec. 20. NRS 293C.332 is hereby amended to read as follows:

293C.332 Except as otherwise provided in NRS 293D.200, on the day of an election, the election boards receiving the absent voters’ ballots from the city clerk shall, in the presence of a majority of the election board officers, remove the ballots from the ballot box and the containers in which the ballots were transported pursuant to NRS 293C.325 and deposit the ballots in the regular ballot box in the following manner:

1. The name of the voter, as shown on the return envelope or approved electronic transmission must be called and checked as if the voter were voting in person;
2. The signature on the back of the return envelope or on the approved electronic transmission must be compared with that on the application to register to vote;
3. If the board determines that the absent voter is entitled to cast a ballot, the envelope must be opened, the numbers on the ballot and envelope or approved electronic transmission compared, the number strip or stub detached from the ballot and, if the numbers are the same, the ballot deposited in the regular ballot box; and
4. The election board officers shall indicate in the roster “Voted” by the name of the voter.

Sec. 21. NRS 293C.335 is hereby amended to read as follows:

293C.335 When all absent ballots delivered to the election boards have been voted or rejected, except as otherwise provided in NRS 293D.200, the empty envelopes and the envelopes and approved electronic transmissions containing rejected ballots must be returned to the city clerk. On all envelopes and approved electronic transmissions containing the rejected ballots the cause of rejection must be noted and the envelope or approved electronic transmission signed by a majority of the election board officers.

Sec. 22. NRS 293C.720 is hereby amended to read as follows:

293C.720 Each city clerk is encouraged to:

1. Not later than the earlier date of the first notice provided pursuant to subsection 4 of NRS 293.560 or NRS 293C.187, notify the public, through means designed to reach members of the public who are elderly or disabled, of the provisions of NRS 293C.281, 293C.282, 293C.310, and subsection 1 of NRS 293C.312.
2. Provide in alternative audio and visual formats information concerning elections, information concerning how to register to vote and information concerning the manner of voting for use by a person who is elderly or disabled, including, without limitation, providing such information through a telecommunications device that is accessible to a person who is deaf.

3. Not later than 5 working days after receiving the request of a person who is elderly or disabled, provide to the person, in a format that can be used by the person, any requested material that is:
   (a) Related to elections; and
   (b) Made available by the city clerk to the public in printed form.

Sec. 23. NRS 293D.300 is hereby amended to read as follows:

293D.300 1. A covered voter who is registered to vote in this State may apply for a military-overseas ballot by submitting a federal postcard application, as prescribed under section 101(b)(2) of the Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act, 42 U.S.C. § 1973ff(b)(2), or the application’s electronic equivalent, pursuant to this section.

2. A covered voter who is not registered to vote in this State may use the federal postcard application or the application’s electronic equivalent simultaneously to apply to register to vote pursuant to NRS 293D.230 and to apply for a military-overseas ballot.

3. The Secretary of State shall ensure that the system of approved electronic transmission described in subsection 2 of NRS 293D.200 is capable of accepting the submission of:
   (a) Both a federal postcard application and any other approved electronic military-overseas ballot application sent to the appropriate local elections official; and
   (b) A digital signature or an electronic signature of a covered voter on the documents described in paragraph (a).

4. A covered voter may use approved electronic transmission or any other method approved by the Secretary of State to apply for a military-overseas ballot.

5. A covered voter may use the declaration accompanying the federal write-in absentee ballot, as prescribed under section 103 of the Uniformed and Overseas Citizens Absentee Voting Act, 42 U.S.C. § 1973ff-2, as an application for a military-overseas ballot simultaneously with the submission of the federal write-in absentee ballot, if the declaration is received by the appropriate local elections official by the seventh day before the election.
6. To receive the benefits of this chapter, a covered voter must inform the appropriate local elections official that he or she is a covered voter. Methods of informing the appropriate local elections official that a person is a covered voter include, without limitation:
   (a) The use of a federal postcard application or federal write-in absentee ballot;
   (b) The use of an overseas address on an approved voting registration application or ballot application; and
   (c) The inclusion on an application to register to vote or an application for a military-overseas ballot of other information sufficient to identify that the person is a covered voter.

7. This chapter does not prohibit a covered voter from applying for an absent ballot pursuant to the provisions of chapter 293 or 293C of NRS or voting in person.

Sec. 24. This act becomes effective on July 1, 2017.