

FINANCIAL IMPACT OF THE INITIATIVE PETITION TO AMEND THE NEVADA CONSTITUTION – IDENTIFIER: C-01-2025

FINANCIAL IMPACT – CANNOT BE DETERMINED

OVERVIEW

The Statewide Constitutional Initiative Petition – Identifier: C-01-2025 (Initiative) proposes to amend Article 2, Section 1A, of the *Nevada Constitution* to add a new subsection guaranteeing the right of all qualified voters in the state to fully participate in any publicly funded elections without limitation.

FINANCIAL IMPACT OF THE INITIATIVE

Pursuant to Article 19, Section 2 of the *Nevada Constitution*, an initiative proposing to amend the *Nevada Constitution* must be approved by the voters at two successive general elections in order to become a part of the *Constitution*. If this Initiative is approved by voters at the November 2026 and November 2028 General Elections, the provisions of the Initiative would become effective on the fourth Tuesday of November 2028 (November 28, 2028), when the votes are canvassed by the Supreme Court pursuant to NRS 293.395.

The provisions of the Initiative would allow voters to participate in any primary election after the effective date of the Initiative, regardless of political party affiliation. Based on information received from the Office of the Secretary of State (Office), such a law may eliminate the need for local governments to prepare separate primary election sample ballots and printed ballots for each major political party and instead prepare a single ballot containing all candidates for each partisan race. This may result in an increase in the number of pages required to be printed for each sample and printed ballot, thus potentially increasing costs to the State and local governments. However, the Office cannot anticipate the number of candidates who may choose to run for each partisan office in future primary elections, or the size of sample and printed ballots sent to each registered voter. Thus, the financial impact upon the State and local governments cannot be determined by the Fiscal Analysis Division with any reasonable degree of certainty.

The Office notes that this Initiative would not alter existing voter rights relating to the conduct of a general election as all qualified electors who are registered to vote may currently participate in general elections without limitation in relation to their selected party affiliation. Thus, the passage of the Initiative is anticipated to have no fiscal impact upon the State or local governments related to general elections, as compared to the current law.

In addition to regular primary elections, the Office notes that under NRS 304.230, a special election may be used to fill a vacancy in the office of Representative in Congress, including a special primary election for selecting the nominee of each major political party for the office. Under the provisions of this Initiative, future special primary elections to identify the nominee of each major political party would possibly necessitate a single ballot be sent to all eligible voters in the Congressional District, rather than only members of each eligible political party. Based on current statistics, the Office estimates that this could result in a significant increase in the number of voters, and thus ballots, than would be required if a special primary election were conducted under current law. The Office anticipates that such an event would likely result in an increase in costs to the State for sample and printed ballots. However, given the inability to predict when such a circumstance may occur or the number of additional ballots that may be required, the Fiscal Analysis Division cannot determine the impact upon the State with any reasonable degree of certainty.

Finally, passage of the Initiative would require the Legislature to pass laws during the 2029 Legislative Session to implement its provisions. However, because it is not known how the Legislature may choose to implement these provisions, or whether the Legislature may choose to implement provisions beyond those anticipated by the Office or by the Fiscal Analysis Division, any further impacts upon the State and local governments, if any, cannot be determined with any reasonable degree of certainty.

Prepared by the Fiscal Analysis Division of the Legislative Counsel Bureau – December 12, 2025