

NEVADA'S PROTECTION & ADVOCACY SYSTEM FOR INDIVIDUALS WITH DISABILITIES

PROTECTION & ADVOCACY FOR VOTING ACCESS (PAVA)

WWW.NDALC.ORG

TABLE OF CONTENTS

About Nevada Disability Advocacy & Law Center (NDALC)	.1
Help America Vote Act of 2002 (HAVA)	1
Know Your Registrar	2
Protection and Advocacy for Voting Access (PAVA)	3
Some of Nevada's Voting Laws	3
Voting Rights for Individuals Who Have Guardians	.3
Voting Rights for Ex-Felons	.4
Pre-Registration for 17 Year Olds	.4
Same Day Voter Registration	.4
Updates to Nevada Elections (as of July 2021)4 -	6
Problems/Complaints	6

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ABOUT NDALC

The Nevada Disability Advocacy & Law Center (NDALC) is a private, statewide non-profit organization that serves as Nevada's federally-mandated protection and advocacy system for human, legal, and service rights for individuals with disabilities.

Services provided by NDALC include, but are not limited to: information and referral services, education, training, negotiation, mediation, investigation of reported or suspected abuse/neglect, legal counsel, technical assistance, litigation services, and public policy work.

This publication is intended to help individuals with disabilities understand their rights in regards to registering to vote and in participating in the voting process. Individuals who have been denied their rights in the electoral process can contact one of our offices listed at the back of this booklet.

HELP AMERICA VOTE ACT OF 2002 (HAVA)

On October 29, 2002, the President of the United States signed into law the Help America Vote Act of 2002 (HAVA), to improve the administration of elections. HAVA provides financial assistance to states and creates minimum standards for states to follow in several key areas. Among other things, the standards concern voting systems, voting accessibility, statewide computerized voter registration lists, provisional voting, information provided to voters, and voter registration by mail.

HAVA seeks to improve voting access to individuals with disabilities as follows:

- Establishes a Voting Protection agency and authorizes funding
- Makes accessibility grants available to states and local units of government to improve physical and non-visual access to polling places
- Creates minimum standards for accessibility of voting systems that states must follow
- Requires states to include individuals with disabilities in developing the State Plan for compliance with HAVA's requirements
- Provides funds for research on accessible voting technology

Other important non-disability provisions of HAVA include:

- Establishes the Elections Assistance Commission, a new federal agency to serve as a clearinghouse for election administration information
- Provides funding to states to improve election administration and to replace punch card and lever style voting systems
- Create minimum standards for states to follow in several key areas of election administration
- Establishes a state administrative procedure for voting complaints



KNOW YOUR REGISTRAR

Every Nevada county and city has a person responsible for making sure the county or city complies with state and federal law. The County Clerk or Registrar is the person to whom you should address your questions and concerns.

COUNTY CONTACTS - as of August 2021

CARSON CITY:

885 East Musser Street Suite 1025 Carson City, Nevada 89701-4475 (775)-887-2087 FAX-(775)-887-2146 www.carson.org

CHURCHILL COUNTY:

155 N Taylor St, Suite 110 Fallon, Nevada 89406-2748 (775)-423-6028 FAX-(775)-423-7069 www.churchillcounty.org

CLARK COUNTY

Elections Department:

965 Trade Drive Suite A North Las Vegas, NV 89030-7802 (702)-455-8683 FAX-(702)-455-2793 www.clarkcountynv.gov/vote

CLARK COUNTY

Elections Mailing Address:

P.O. Box 3909 Las Vegas, Nevada 89127-3909 E-mail: einfo@clarkcountyNV.gov

DOUGLAS COUNTY:

1616 8th Street, 2nd Floor P.O. Box 218 Minden, Nevada 89423-0218 (775)-782-9014 FAX-(775)-782-9016 doi.org/10.2016/journal.org/

ELKO COUNTY:

550 Court St. 3rd Floor Elko, Nevada 89801-3518 (775)-753-4600 FAX-(775)-753-4610 www.elkocountynv.net

ESMERALDA COUNTY:

233 Crook Avenue P.O. Box 547 Goldfield, Nevada 89013-0547 (775)-485-6367 FAX-(775)-485-6376 www.accessesmeralda.com

EUREKA COUNTY:

10 S. Main Street P.O. Box 694 Eureka, Nevada 89316-0694 (775)-237-5263 FAX-(775)-237-5614 co.eureka.nv.us

HUMBOLDT COUNTY:

50 W. 5th Street, #207 Winnemucca, Nevada 89445-3199 (775)-623-6343 FAX-(775)-623-6309 www.hcnv.us

LANDER COUNTY:

50 State Route 305
Battle Mountain, Nevada 89820-9998
(775)-635-5738 FAX-(775)-635-0394
www.landercountynv.org

LINCOLN COUNTY:

181 North Main Street, Suite 201 P.O. Box 90 Pioche, Nevada 89043-0090 (775)-962-8077 FAX-(775)-962-5180 https://lincolncountynv.org

LYON COUNTY:

27 South Main Street Yerington, Nevada 89447-2571 (775)-463-6501 FAX-(775)-463-5305 www.lyon-county.org

MINERAL COUNTY:

105 South "A" Street, Suite 1 P.O. Box 1450 Hawthorne, Nevada 89415-0400 (775)-945-2446 FAX-(775)-945-0706 www.mineralcountynv.us

NYE COUNTY:

101 Radar Road, P.O. Box 1031 Tonopah, Nevada 89049-1031 (775)-482-8127 FAX-(775)-482-8133 ww.nyecounty.net

PERSHING COUNTY:

398 Main Street
P.O. Box 820
Lovelock, Nevada 89419-0820
(775)-273-2208 FAX-(775)-273-3015
www.pershingcountyNV.gov

STOREY COUNTY:

26 S. "B" Street Drawer "D" Virginia City, Nevada 89440-0139 (775)-847-0969 FAX-(775)-847-0921 Website: www.storeycounty.org

WASHOE COUNTY Elections Department:

1001 E. Ninth Street Bldg. A, Room 135 Reno, NV 89512-2845 (775)-328-3670 FAX-(775)-328-3747 www.washoecounty.us/voters

WHITE PINE COUNTY:

801 Clark Street #4 Ely, Nevada 89301-1994 (775) 293-6509 FAX-(775)-289-2544 www.whitepinecounty.net

PROTECTION & ADVOCACY FOR VOTING ACCESS (PAVA)

NDALC receives funds under HAVA for Protection and Advocacy for Voting Access (PAVA) on behalf of individuals with disabilities. NDALC focuses on the following services under PAVA:

Voter Registration

NDALC distributes Voter Registration Applications at outreach meetings and makes them available at its offices, or through the mail. NDALC encourages other agencies who provide services to individuals with disabilities to make Voter Registration Applications available.

Access To Polling Places

NDALC advocates that both State and County Election Officials in Nevada assure that all polling places are accessible. NDALC further advocates that the State and County Election Officials purchase and make available at least one accessible voting machine at each polling place in Nevada.

NDALC assists individuals with disabilities in filing complaints regarding access issues (and other voting issues) under the State of Nevada based grievance procedure.

Develop and Distribute Information Related To Voting and HAVA

NDALC publishes and distributes information to provide individuals with disabilities with the opportunity to register to vote, know their legal voting rights, and access polling places.

SOME OF NEVADA'S VOTING LAWS

- NRS 293.5235 provides that any person may assist an individual with a disability in completing the Voter Registration Application.
- NRS 293.5237 provides registration of a person at home by a field Registrar.
- NRS 293.296 provides that any person with a physical disability, or an inability to read or write English, or who is unable to mark a ballot or use a voting device is able to have assistance from any person they chose, unless the person is: a) the voter's employer; b) an officer or agent of the voter's union.
- NRS 293.2955 provides for the accessibility of the polling place, ballot, and election materials to an individual with a
 disability.
- NRS 293.305 provides that if, at the hour of closing the polls, there are registered voters or electors waiting in line, the doors must be closed <u>after</u> they have been admitted to the polling place. Registration of the electors and voting by the registered voters must then continue until both have been completed.
- NRS 427A.755 provides for and authorizes the use of a signature stamp, for all purposes including those related to voting, for people with a physical disability who are unable to write their name.

VOTING RIGHTS FOR INDIVIDUALS WHO HAVE GUARDIANS

NRS 159.0594 provides that a person under a guardianship retains his/her right to vote unless the court specifically states otherwise <u>and</u> issues a court order indicating such. If you have a guardian and have questions about your voting rights, please contact NDALC directly for further assistance.

VOTING RIGHTS FOR EX-FELONS

The restoration of voting rights is automatic and immediate upon the individual's release from prison regardless of the category of felony committed, or whether the individual is on either parole or probation.

PRE-REGISTRATION FOR 17 YEAR OLDS

United States citizens who are 17 years old, but less than 18, may pre-register to vote using any method available to any other person eligible to vote; including online at www.RegisterToVote.gov. A person who is pre-registered to vote is automatically deemed registered to vote on his/her 18th birthday, unless the person's pre-registration is cancelled.

SAME DAY VOTER REGISTRATION

Nevada permits same day registration to vote on Election Day. Nevada voters can register to vote or update existing voter registration information in person at the polling place either during early voting, or on Election Day.

Updates to Nevada Elections – as of July 2021

Mail Ballot and In-Person Voting (AB321)

All Mail Ballot Elections: Starting in 2022, Nevada will have all-mail ballot elections. All voters who are registered to vote no later than 14 days before Election Day will receive a mail ballot whether or not they requested one, unless they opt-out.

To opt out, you must submit a written or online request to not receive a mail ballot. The Nevada Secretary of State will provide the online option and the Election Department will immediately receive the request. The Election Department must receive all requests no later than 60 days before Election Day.

In-Person Voting: You may still vote in person on a voting machine at any one of the many convenient early voting sites or Election Day vote centers, even if you receive a mail ballot. Check with your county elections department for your respective location option(s).

If you do not opt out of mail ballot voting and vote in person instead of by mail:

- If you have your mail ballot with you, you must surrender it at the voting site.
- If you do <u>not</u> have your mail ballot with you, you must sign an affirmation that you are not voting twice in the same election.

Mail Ballot Drop Boxes: The Election Department will make secure mail ballot drop boxes easily accessible, conveniently located, and widely available; including at all early voting sites and all Election Day vote centers. It will be a felony for anyone other than the Election Department to provide these boxes. You may deposit your mail ballot in a locked, strong drop box instead of sending it through the postal mail. Your ballot must still be sealed inside the postage-paid return envelope provided specifically for you, showing your name and address, and you must also sign the outside of that envelope before placing it in the drop box (do not put your ballot in another voter's return envelope). Drop box locations and hours will be in your mail ballot packet, in your sample ballot.

Mail Ballot Delivery: Delivery of mail ballots will remain the same. It will begin no later than 20 days before Election Day for in-state voters and no later than 40-45 days before Election Day for out-of-state voters. If you do not receive your mail ballot packet by the start of early voting, immediately call your respective county elections department.

Mail Ballot Postmark and Receiving Deadlines: Voted mail ballots sent through the Post Office must be: (1) Mailed in the postage-paid return envelope provided specifically for you, showing your name and address, and you must also sign the outside of that envelope before mailing it (do <u>not</u> put your ballot in another voter's return envelope); (2) Postmarked on or before Election Day; and (3) Received by the Election Department on or before by 5:00 p.m. on the <u>fourth</u> day after Election Day.

Mail Ballot Signatures:

- Your signature on the outside of your mail ballot return envelope may be reviewed electronically, manually, or both.
 Electronic signature verification devices will be tested for accuracy before an election and audited daily during the processing of ballots.
- If an issue arises with your signature on the outside of your mail ballot return envelope, the Election Department will notify you using the contact information in your voter registration. If you need to "cure" your signature by providing an actual signature or a signature confirmation, you must do so by the sixth day after Election Day.
- At least once per year, all staff who administer elections must complete a forensic signature verification class approved by the Nevada Secretary of State.

<u>Presidential Preference Primary (AB126)</u>

A Presidential Preference Primary (PPP) Replaces Major Party Caucuses: Starting in 2024, Nevada will have a Presidential Preference Primary (PPP) instead of caucuses to determine the preferences of registered Democratic and Republican voters for their major party's nominee for U.S. President from among multiple candidates in their party. You may only vote for candidates from your own party (the party you specified in your voter registration).

Election Date: The first Tuesday in February in presidential election years is the date for the PPP. In 2024, it will be February 6, 2024.

Early Voting Dates: Early voting for the PPP will start 10 days before Election Day and end the Friday before Election Day. In 2024, PPP early voting will be from January 27 (Saturday) to February 2 (Friday).

Same-Day Registration Online (AB321)

Same-Day Registration Online (SDRO) Has Been Extended: Starting in 2022, you may register to vote online after the standard close of registration <u>up to and including Election Day</u>. SDRO voters may only cast a provisional ballot in person at a voting site (mail ballot voting is not allowed).

Automatic Voter Registration (AB432)

Expansion of Automatic Voter Registration (AVR) Agencies: Agencies that provide AVR as well as standard registration will include the Department of Motor Vehicles (DMV) plus:

- The Department of Health and Human Services and the agencies it designates that are involved with Medicaid and/or the Silver State Health Insurance Exchange; and
- Any other state agency, including the Executive Department or tribal agency that meets certain requirements and is approved by the Governor.

Procedures for Automatic Voter Registration (AVR):

- An AVR agency may not electronically transmit a person's voter registration related data to the county Election
 Department or Nevada Secretary of State if that person did not provide the AVR agency in the normal course of
 business enough information to show he or she was qualified to vote; including proof of identity, citizenship, residency,
 and date of birth. However, such a person may still register to vote by other means than AVR at the agency (manually
 complete a paper form, for example).
- The Election Department must contact a voter registration applicant to obtain additional information if the AVR agency submitted incomplete information.
- The Election Department must send an informative notice to AVR applicants who successfully register. The notice must include how to opt out of voter registration or choose another party affiliation.
- The Election Department may not reject a voter registration application solely because the AVR agency did not provide the applicant's electronic facsimile signature. The Election Department must obtain this signature by a wide variety of other means as specified in the law.

Registration and Death Records (AB321)

Secretary of State and Vital Statistics Cooperation: The Nevada Secretary of State is authorized to enter into a cooperative agreement with the State Registrar of Vital Statistics to match statewide voter registration information with Vital Statistics records concerning deaths at least once a month to maintain the statewide voter registration list.

Provisions for Voters with Disabilities (AB121) - EASE

Expanded Registration and Voting Options: The same voting infrastructure known as EASE (Effective Absentee System for Elections) originally established for certain uniformed military and overseas voters may be used by a person with a disability to register to vote and also by a registered voter with a disability to cast a mail ballot. See updated access and information on the Nevada EASE site at NVEASE.gov as it is available. System availability will be at least 45 days before election day for each federal election and remain available until the close of polls on election day for that election.

PROBLEMS/COMPLAINTS

To report an accessibility issue or other voting problem at the poll:

Nevada Disability Advocacy & Law Center

Contact information is printed on the following page. Please contact the office closest to you.

To file an ADA (disability) complaint regarding a violation of HAVA, contact:

The United States Department of Justice - Civil Rights Division
950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
4CON, 9th Floor
Washington, DC 20530
(800) 253-3931 (Voice) - (202) 305-0082 (TTY) www.ada.gov/t2cmpfrm.htm

To Report a Potential Election Law Violation in Nevada contact:

The Nevada Secretary of State - Elections Division 101 N. Carson City Street, Suite 3 Carson City, NV 89701-3714 (775) 684-5718 https://nvsos.gov

NDALC OFFICES

SOUTHERN OFFICE

2820 W. Charleston Blvd., Suite B-11

Las Vegas, NV 89102 Phone: 702-257-8150

Toll Free: 1-888-349-3843

Nevada Relay: 711 Fax: 702-257-8170 lasvegas@ndalc.org

Se Habla Español

NORTHERN OFFICE

1875 Plumas Street, Suite 1

Reno, NV 89502

Phone: 775-333-7878

Toll Free: 1-800-992-5715

Nevada Relay: 711

Fax: 775-786-2520

reno@ndalc.org Se Habla Español

ELKO OFFICE

557 W. Silver Street, Suite 203

Elko, NV 89801

Phone: 775-777-1590

Toll Free: 1-800-992-5715

Nevada Relay: 711

Fax: 775-753-1690

elko@ndalc.org

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