

AMENDMENTS TO LB514

Introduced by Government, Military and Veterans Affairs.

1           1. Strike the original sections and insert the following new  
2 sections:

3           Section 1. Section 2-3213, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is  
4 amended to read:

5           2-3213 (1) Except as provided in subsections (2), (3), and (4) of  
6 this section, each district shall be governed by a board of directors of  
7 five, seven, nine, eleven, thirteen, fifteen, seventeen, nineteen, or  
8 twenty-one members. The board of directors shall determine the number of  
9 directors and in making such determination shall consider the complexity  
10 of the foreseeable programs and the population and land area of the  
11 district. Districts shall be political subdivisions of the state, shall  
12 have perpetual succession, and may sue and be sued in the name of the  
13 district.

14           (2) ~~At Except as provided by subsection (7) of this section, at~~  
15 least six months prior to the primary election, the board of directors of  
16 any natural resources district may change the number of directors for the  
17 district and may change subdistrict boundaries to accommodate the  
18 increase or decrease in the number of directors.

19           (3) The board of directors shall utilize the criteria found in  
20 subsection (1) of this section and in subsection (2) of section 2-3214  
21 when changing the number of directors. Except as provided in subsection  
22 (6) of this section, no director's term of office shall be shortened as a  
23 result of any change in the number of directors. Any reduction in the  
24 number of directors shall be made as directors take office during the two  
25 succeeding elections or more quickly if the reduction can be made by not  
26 filling vacancies on the board and if desired by the board. If necessary  
27 to preserve staggered terms for directors when the reduction in number is

1 made in whole or in part through unfilled vacancies, the board may  
2 provide for a one-time election of one or more directors for a two-year  
3 term. The board of directors shall inform the Secretary of State whenever  
4 any such one-time elections have been approved. Notwithstanding  
5 subsection (1) of this section, the district may be governed by an even  
6 number of directors during the two-year transition to a board of reduced  
7 number.

8 (4) Whenever any change of boundaries, division, or merger results  
9 in a natural resources district director residing in a district other  
10 than the one to which such director was elected to serve, such director  
11 shall automatically become a director of the board of the district in  
12 which he or she then resides. Except as provided in subsection (6) of  
13 this section, all such directors shall continue to serve in office until  
14 the expiration of the term of office for which they were elected.  
15 Directors or supervisors of other special-purpose districts merged into a  
16 natural resources district shall not become members of the natural  
17 resources district board but may be appointed as advisors in accordance  
18 with section 2-3228. No later than six months after any change, division,  
19 or merger, each affected board, in accordance with the procedures and  
20 criteria found in this section and section 2-3214, shall determine the  
21 number of directors for the district as it then exists, the option chosen  
22 for nomination and election of directors, and, if appropriate, new  
23 subdistrict boundaries.

24 (5) To facilitate the task of administration of any board increased  
25 in size by a change of boundaries or merger, such board may appoint an  
26 executive committee to conduct the business of the board in the interim  
27 until board size reductions can be made in accordance with this section.  
28 An executive committee shall be empowered to act for the full board in  
29 all matters within its purview unless specifically limited by the board  
30 in the establishment and appointment of the executive committee.

31 (6) Notwithstanding the provisions of section 2-3214 and subsections

1 (4) and (5) of this section, the board of directors of any natural  
2 resources district established by merging two or more districts in their  
3 entirety may provide that all directors be nominated and elected at the  
4 first primary and general elections following the year in which such  
5 merger becomes effective. In districts which have one director elected  
6 from each subdistrict, each director elected from an even-numbered  
7 subdistrict shall be elected for a two-year term and each director from  
8 an odd-numbered district and any member to be elected at large shall be  
9 elected for a four-year term. In districts which have two directors  
10 elected from each subdistrict, the four candidates receiving the highest  
11 number of votes at the primary election shall be carried over to the  
12 general election, and at such general election the candidate receiving  
13 the highest number of votes shall be elected for a four-year term and the  
14 candidate receiving the second highest number of votes shall be elected  
15 for a two-year term. Thereafter each director shall be elected for a  
16 four-year term.

17 ~~(7) Following the release of the 2020 Census of Population data by~~  
18 ~~the United States Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, as~~  
19 ~~required by Public Law 94-171, any natural resources district that will~~  
20 ~~have a change to the number of directors as a result of any adjustment to~~  
21 ~~the boundaries of election districts shall provide to the election~~  
22 ~~commissioner or county clerk (a) written notice of the need and necessity~~  
23 ~~of his or her office to perform such adjustments and (b) a revised~~  
24 ~~election district boundary map that has been approved by the board of~~  
25 ~~directors and subjected to all public review and challenge ordinances of~~  
26 ~~the natural resources district by December 30, 2021.~~

27 Sec. 2. Section 2-3214, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is  
28 amended to read:

29 2-3214 (1) District directors shall be elected as provided in  
30 section 32-513. Elections shall be conducted as provided in the Election  
31 Act. Registered voters residing within the district shall be eligible for

1 nomination as candidates for any at-large position or, in those districts  
2 that have established subdistricts, as candidates from the subdistrict  
3 within which they reside.

4 (2) The board of directors may choose to: (a) Nominate candidates  
5 from subdistricts and from the district at large who shall be elected by  
6 the registered voters of the entire district; (b) nominate and elect each  
7 candidate from the district at large; or (c) nominate and elect  
8 candidates from subdistricts of substantially equal population except  
9 that any at-large candidate would be nominated and elected by the  
10 registered voters of the entire district. Unless the board of directors  
11 determines that the nomination and election of all directors will be at  
12 large, the board shall strive to divide the district into subdistricts of  
13 substantially equal population, except that no subdistrict shall have a  
14 population greater than three times the population of any other  
15 subdistrict within the district. Such subdistricts shall be consecutively  
16 numbered and shall be established with due regard to all factors  
17 including, but not limited to, the location of works of improvement and  
18 the distribution of population and taxable values within the district.  
19 ~~The Except as provided by subsection (7) of this section,~~ the boundaries  
20 and numbering of such subdistricts shall be designated at least six  
21 months prior to the primary election. Unless the district has been  
22 divided into subdistricts with substantially equal population, all  
23 directors shall be elected by the registered voters of the entire  
24 district and all registered voters shall vote on the candidates  
25 representing each subdistrict and any at-large candidates. If a district  
26 has been divided into subdistricts with substantially equal population,  
27 the board of directors may determine that directors shall be elected only  
28 by the registered voters of the subdistrict except that an at-large  
29 director may be elected by registered voters of the entire district.

30 (3) Except in districts which have chosen to have a single director  
31 serve from each subdistrict, the number of subdistricts for a district

1 shall equal a number which is one less than a majority of directors for  
2 the district. In districts which have chosen to have a single director  
3 serve from each subdistrict, the number of subdistricts shall equal a  
4 number which is equal to the total number of directors of the district or  
5 which is one less than the total number of directors for the district if  
6 there is an at-large candidate. If the number of directors to be elected  
7 exceeds the number of subdistricts or if the term of the at-large  
8 director expires in districts which have chosen to have a single director  
9 serve from each subdistrict, candidates may file as a candidate from the  
10 district at large. Registered voters may each cast a number of votes not  
11 larger than the total number of directors to be elected.

12 (4) Elected directors shall take their oath of office in the same  
13 manner provided for county officials.

14 (5) At least six months prior to the primary election, the board of  
15 directors may choose to have a single director serve from each  
16 subdistrict.

17 (6) The board of directors shall certify to the Secretary of State  
18 and the election commissioners or county clerks the number of directors  
19 to be elected at each election and the length of their terms as provided  
20 in section 32-404.

21 ~~(7) Following the release of the 2020 Census of Population data by~~  
22 ~~the United States Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, as~~  
23 ~~required by Public Law 94-171, any board of directors requesting the~~  
24 ~~adjustment of the boundaries of election districts shall provide to the~~  
25 ~~election commissioner or county clerk (a) written notice of the need and~~  
26 ~~necessity of his or her office to perform such adjustments and (b) a~~  
27 ~~revised election district boundary map that has been approved by the~~  
28 ~~board and subjected to all public review and challenge ordinances of the~~  
29 ~~natural resources district by December 30, 2021.~~

30 Sec. 3. Section 16-202, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is  
31 amended to read:

1           16-202 (1) Except as otherwise provided in subsection (4) of this  
2 section, the power to sell and convey any real estate owned by a city of  
3 the first class, including park land, shall be exercised by ordinance  
4 directing the conveyance of such real estate and the manner and terms  
5 thereof. Notice of such sale and the terms thereof shall be published for  
6 three consecutive weeks in a legal newspaper in or of general circulation  
7 in such city immediately after the passage and publication of such  
8 ordinance.

9           (2) If within thirty days after the passage and publication of such  
10 ordinance a remonstrance petition against such sale, that conforms to  
11 section 32-628, is signed by registered voters of the city equal in  
12 number to thirty percent of the registered voters of the city voting at  
13 the last regular city election held therein and is filed with the city  
14 council, the property shall not then, nor within one year thereafter, be  
15 sold. If the date for filing the petition falls upon a Saturday, Sunday,  
16 or legal holiday, the signatures shall be collected within the thirty-day  
17 period, but the filing shall be considered timely if filed or postmarked  
18 on or before the next business day. Upon the receipt of the petition, the  
19 city council, with the aid and assistance of the election commissioner or  
20 county clerk, shall determine the validity and sufficiency of signatures  
21 on the petition. The city council shall deliver the petition to the  
22 election commissioner or county clerk by hand carrier, by use of law  
23 enforcement officials, or by certified mail, return receipt requested.  
24 Upon receipt of the petition, the election commissioner or county clerk  
25 shall issue to the city council a written receipt that the petition is in  
26 the custody of the election commissioner or county clerk. The election  
27 commissioner or county clerk shall compare the signature of each person  
28 signing the petition with the voter registration records to determine if  
29 each signer was a registered voter on or before the date on which the  
30 petition was filed with the city council. The election commissioner or  
31 county clerk shall also compare the signer's printed name, street and

1 number or voting precinct, and city, village, or post office address with  
2 the voter registration records to determine whether the signer was a  
3 registered voter. The signature and address shall be presumed to be valid  
4 only if the election commissioner or county clerk determines that the  
5 printed name, street and number or voting precinct, and city, village, or  
6 post office address matches the registration records and that the  
7 registration was received on or before the date on which the petition was  
8 filed with the city council. The determinations of the election  
9 commissioner or county clerk may be rebutted by any credible evidence  
10 which the city council finds sufficient. The express purpose of the  
11 comparison of names and addresses with the voter registration records, in  
12 addition to helping to determine the validity of the petition, the  
13 sufficiency of the petition, and the qualifications of the signer, shall  
14 be to prevent fraud, deception, and misrepresentation in the petition  
15 process. Upon completion of the comparison of names and addresses with  
16 the voter registration records, the election commissioner or county clerk  
17 shall prepare in writing a certification under seal setting forth the  
18 name and address of each signer found not to be a registered voter and  
19 the signature page number and line number where the name is found, and if  
20 the reason for the invalidity of the signature or address is other than  
21 the nonregistration of the signer, the election commissioner or county  
22 clerk shall set forth the reason for the invalidity of the signature. If  
23 the election commissioner or county clerk determines that a signer has  
24 affixed his or her signature more than once to the petition and that only  
25 one person is registered by that name, the election commissioner or  
26 county clerk shall prepare in writing a certification under seal setting  
27 forth the name of the duplicate signature and shall count only the  
28 earliest dated signature. The election commissioner or county clerk shall  
29 certify to the city council the number of valid signatures necessary to  
30 constitute a valid petition. The election commissioner or county clerk  
31 shall deliver the petition and the certifications to the city council

1 within forty days after the receipt of the petition from the city  
2 council. The delivery shall be by hand carrier, by use of law enforcement  
3 officials, or by certified mail, return receipt requested. Not more than  
4 twenty signatures on one signature page shall be counted.

5 (3) The city council shall, within thirty days after the receipt of  
6 the petition and certifications from the election commissioner or county  
7 clerk, hold a public hearing to review the petition and certifications  
8 and receive testimony regarding them. The city council shall, following  
9 the hearing, vote on whether or not the petition is valid and shall  
10 uphold the petition if sufficient valid signatures have been received.

11 (4) This section does not apply to (a) real estate used in the  
12 operation of public utilities, (b) real estate for state armory sites for  
13 the use of the State of Nebraska as expressly provided in section 16-201,  
14 or (c) real estate for state veterans' cemetery sites for the use of the  
15 State of Nebraska as expressly provided in section 12-1301.

16 Sec. 4. Section 16-404, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is  
17 amended to read:

18 16-404 (1) All ordinances and resolutions or orders for the  
19 appropriation or payment of money in a city of the first class shall  
20 require for their passage or adoption the concurrence of a majority of  
21 all members elected to the city council. The mayor may vote on any such  
22 matter when his or her vote will provide the additional vote required to  
23 create a number of votes equal to a majority of the number of members  
24 elected to the city council, and the mayor shall, for the purpose of such  
25 vote, be deemed to be a member of the city council.

26 (2)(a) Ordinances of a general or permanent nature in a city of the  
27 first class shall be read by title on three different days unless three-  
28 fourths of the city council members vote to suspend this requirement,  
29 except that in a city having a commission plan of government such  
30 requirement may be suspended by a three-fifths majority vote.

31 (b) Regardless of the form of government, such requirement shall not



1 be suspended (i) for any ordinance for the annexation of territory or the  
2 redrawing of boundaries for city council election districts or wards  
3 ~~except as otherwise provided in subsection (4) of this section~~ or (ii) as  
4 otherwise provided by law.

5 (c) In case such requirement is suspended, the ordinances shall be  
6 read by title or number and then moved for final passage.

7 (d) Three-fourths of the city council members may require a reading  
8 of any such ordinance in full before enactment under either procedure set  
9 out in this section, except that in a city having a commission plan of  
10 government, such reading may be required by a three-fifths majority vote.

11 (3) Ordinances in a city of the first class shall contain no subject  
12 which is not clearly expressed in the title, and, except as provided in  
13 section 19-915, no ordinance or section thereof shall be revised or  
14 amended unless the new ordinance contains the entire ordinance or section  
15 as revised or amended and the ordinance or section so amended is  
16 repealed, except that:

17 (a) For an ordinance revising all the ordinances of a city of the  
18 first class, the only title necessary shall be An ordinance of the city  
19 of ....., revising all the ordinances of the city. Under such title  
20 all the ordinances may be revised in sections and chapters or otherwise,  
21 may be corrected, added to, and any part suppressed, and may be repealed  
22 with or without a saving clause as to the whole or any part without other  
23 title; and

24 (b) For an ordinance used solely to revise ordinances or code  
25 sections or to enact new ordinances or code sections in order to adopt  
26 statutory changes made by the Legislature which are specific and  
27 mandatory and bring the ordinances or code sections into conformance with  
28 state law, the title need only state that the ordinance revises those  
29 ordinances or code sections affected by or enacts ordinances or code  
30 sections generated by legislative changes. Under such title, all such  
31 ordinances or code sections may be revised, repealed, or enacted in

1 sections and chapters or otherwise by a single ordinance without other  
2 title.

3 ~~(4) Following the release of the 2020 Census of Population data by~~  
4 ~~the United States Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, as~~  
5 ~~required by Public Law 94-171, the city council of any city of the first~~  
6 ~~class requesting the adjustment of the boundaries of election districts~~  
7 ~~shall provide to the election commissioner or county clerk (a) written~~  
8 ~~notice of the need and necessity of his or her office to perform such~~  
9 ~~adjustments and (b) a revised election district boundary map that has~~  
10 ~~been approved by the requesting city council and subjected to all public~~  
11 ~~review and challenge ordinances of the city by December 30, 2021. The~~  
12 ~~revised election district boundary map shall be adopted by ordinance.~~  
13 ~~Such ordinance shall be read by title on three different days unless~~  
14 ~~three-fourths of the city council members vote to suspend this~~  
15 ~~requirement.~~

16 Sec. 5. Section 17-614, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is  
17 amended to read:

18 17-614 (1)(a) All ordinances and resolutions or orders for the  
19 appropriation or payment of money shall require for their passage or  
20 adoption the concurrence of a majority of all members elected to the city  
21 council in a city of the second class or village board of trustees. The  
22 mayor of a city of the second class may vote when his or her vote would  
23 provide the additional vote required to attain the number of votes equal  
24 to a majority of the number of members elected to the city council, and  
25 the mayor shall, for the purpose of such vote, be deemed to be a member  
26 of the city council.

27 (b) Ordinances of a general or permanent nature shall be read by  
28 title on three different days unless three-fourths of the city council or  
29 village board of trustees vote to suspend this requirement. Such  
30 requirement shall not be suspended (i) for any ordinance for the  
31 annexation of territory or the redrawing of boundaries for city council

1 or village board of trustees election districts or wards ~~except as~~  
2 ~~otherwise provided in subsection (3) of this section~~ or (ii) as otherwise  
3 provided by law.

4 (c) In case such requirement is suspended, the ordinances shall be  
5 read by title and then moved for final passage.

6 (d) Three-fourths of the city council or village board of trustees  
7 may require a reading of any such ordinance in full before enactment  
8 under either procedure set out in this section.

9 (2) Ordinances shall contain no subject which is not clearly  
10 expressed in the title, and, except as provided in section 19-915, no  
11 ordinance or section of such ordinance shall be revised or amended unless  
12 the new ordinance contains the entire ordinance or section as revised or  
13 amended and the ordinance or section so amended is repealed, except that:

14 (a) For an ordinance revising all the ordinances of the city of the  
15 second class or village, the title need only state that the ordinance  
16 revises all the ordinances of the city or village. Under such title all  
17 the ordinances may be revised in sections and chapters or otherwise, may  
18 be corrected, added to, and any part suppressed, and may be repealed with  
19 or without a saving clause as to the whole or any part without other  
20 title; and

21 (b) For an ordinance used solely to revise ordinances or code  
22 sections or to enact new ordinances or code sections in order to adopt  
23 statutory changes made by the Legislature which are specific and  
24 mandatory and bring the ordinances or code sections into conformance with  
25 state law, the title need only state that the ordinance revises those  
26 ordinances or code sections affected by or enacts ordinances or code  
27 sections generated by legislative changes. Under such title, all such  
28 ordinances or code sections may be revised, repealed, or enacted in  
29 sections and chapters or otherwise by a single ordinance without other  
30 title.

31 ~~(3) Following the release of the 2020 Census of Population data by~~

1 ~~the United States Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, as~~  
2 ~~required by Public Law 94-171, the city council of any city of the second~~  
3 ~~class or village board of trustees requesting the adjustment of the~~  
4 ~~boundaries of election districts shall provide to the election~~  
5 ~~commissioner or county clerk (a) written notice of the need and necessity~~  
6 ~~of his or her office to perform such adjustments and (b) a revised~~  
7 ~~election district boundary map that has been approved by the requesting~~  
8 ~~city council or village board of trustees and subjected to all public~~  
9 ~~review and challenge ordinances of the city or village by December 30,~~  
10 ~~2021. The revised election district boundary map shall be adopted by~~  
11 ~~ordinance. Such ordinance shall be read by title on three different days~~  
12 ~~unless three-fourths of the members of the city council or village board~~  
13 ~~of trustees vote to suspend this requirement.~~

14 Sec. 6. Section 18-2518, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is  
15 amended to read:

16 18-2518 (1) Each signed petition ~~Signed petitions~~ shall be filed  
17 with the city clerk for signature verification. The city clerk shall  
18 immediately notify the county clerk or election commissioner of the  
19 signed petition. Upon the filing of a petition, a municipality, upon  
20 passage of a resolution by the governing body of such municipality, and  
21 the county clerk or election commissioner of the county in which such  
22 municipality is located may by mutual agreement provide that the county  
23 clerk or election commissioner shall ascertain whether the petition is  
24 signed by the requisite number of voters. The municipality shall  
25 reimburse the county for any costs incurred by the county clerk or  
26 election commissioner. When the verifying official has determined that  
27 one hundred percent of the necessary signatures required by the Municipal  
28 Initiative and Referendum Act have been obtained, he or she shall notify  
29 the governing body of the municipality of that fact and shall immediately  
30 forward to the governing body a copy of the petition.

31 (2) In order for an initiative or referendum proposal to be

1 submitted to the governing body and the voters, the necessary signatures  
2 shall be on file with the city clerk within six months from the date the  
3 prospective petition was authorized for circulation. If the necessary  
4 signatures are not obtained by such date, the petition shall be void.

5 Sec. 7. Section 32-101, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement,  
6 2022, is amended to read:

7 32-101 Sections 32-101 to 32-1551 and sections 9, 23, 33, and 48 of  
8 this act shall be known and may be cited as the Election Act.

9 Sec. 8. Section 32-103, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement,  
10 2022, is amended to read:

11 32-103 For purposes of the Election Act, the definitions found in  
12 sections 32-104 to 32-120 and section 9 of this act shall be used.

13 Sec. 9. (1) Electioneering means the deliberate, visible display or  
14 audible or physical dissemination of information for the purpose of  
15 advocating for or against:

16 (a) Any candidate for an office on the ballot for the election at  
17 which such display or dissemination is occurring;

18 (b) Any officeholder of an elected state constitutional office or  
19 federal office at the time of the election at which such display or  
20 dissemination is occurring; or

21 (c) Any political party on the ballot for the election at which such  
22 display or dissemination is occurring.

23 (2) For purposes of this section, information includes: (a) A  
24 candidate's name, likeness, logo, or symbol; (b) a button, hat, pencil,  
25 pen, shirt, sign, or sticker containing information described by this  
26 section; and (c) audible information or any literature, writing, or  
27 drawing referring to a candidate, an officeholder, or a political party  
28 described in this section.

29 Sec. 10. Section 32-307, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is  
30 amended to read:

31 32-307 No materials advocating or advertising any political issue,

1 candidate, ~~or~~ party, or ballot measure shall be displayed or distributed  
2 within fifty feet of any voter registration site. No alcohol shall be  
3 served within fifty feet of any voter registration site. The registration  
4 procedure shall be conducted in a neutral manner and shall not be  
5 connected with anything unrelated to the object of registering electors  
6 except as otherwise provided in sections 32-308 to 32-310.

7 Sec. 11. Section 32-318.01, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement,  
8 2022, is amended to read:

9 32-318.01 (1)(a) Except as provided by subsection (2) of this  
10 section, a person who registers to vote by mail after January 1, 2003,  
11 and has not previously voted in an election within the state shall  
12 present a photographic identification which is current and valid or a  
13 copy of a utility bill, bank statement, government check, paycheck, or  
14 other government document which is dated within the sixty days  
15 immediately prior to the date of presentation and which shows the same  
16 name and residence address of the person provided on the registration  
17 application in order to avoid identification requirements at the time of  
18 voting pursuant to section 32-914 or 32-947.

19 (b) Such documentation may be presented at the time of application  
20 for registration, after submission of the application for registration,  
21 or at the time of voting. The documentation must be received by the  
22 election commissioner or county clerk not later than 6 p.m. on the second  
23 Friday preceding the election to avoid additional identification  
24 requirements at the time of voting at the polling place if the voter  
25 votes in person. If the voter is voting using a ballot for early voting,  
26 the documentation must be received by the election commissioner or county  
27 clerk prior to the date on which the ballot is mailed to the voter to  
28 avoid additional identification requirements at the time of voting.  
29 Documentation received after the ballot has been mailed to the voter but  
30 not later than the deadline for the receipt of ballots specified in  
31 subsection (2) of section 32-908 will be considered timely for purposes

1 of determining the applicant's eligibility to vote in the election.

2 (c) Such documentation may be presented in person, by mail, ~~or~~ by  
3 facsimile transmission, or by electronic mail.

4 (d) Failure to present such documentation may result in the ballot  
5 not being counted pursuant to verification procedures prescribed in  
6 sections 32-1002 and 32-1027.

7 (2) A person who registers to vote by mail after January 1, 2003,  
8 and has not previously voted in an election within the state shall not be  
9 required to present identification if he or she:

10 (a) Has provided his or her Nebraska driver's license number or the  
11 last four digits of his or her social security number and the election  
12 commissioner or county clerk verifies the number provided pursuant to  
13 subsection (2) of section 32-312.03;

14 (b) Is a member of the armed forces of the United States who by  
15 reason of active duty is absent from his or her place of residence where  
16 the member is otherwise eligible to vote;

17 (c) Is a member of the United States Merchant Marine who by reason  
18 of service is away from his or her place of residence where the member is  
19 otherwise eligible to vote;

20 (d) Is a spouse or dependent of a member of the armed forces of the  
21 United States or United States Merchant Marine who is absent from his or  
22 her place of residence due to the service of that member;

23 (e) Resides outside the United States and but for such residence  
24 would be qualified to vote in the state if the state was the last place  
25 in which the person was domiciled before leaving the United States; or

26 (f) Is elderly or handicapped and has requested to vote by  
27 alternative means other than by casting a ballot at his or her polling  
28 place on election day.

29 Sec. 12. Section 32-320.01, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement,  
30 2022, is amended to read:

31 32-320.01 (1) Except as provided in subsection (2) of this section,

1 any person or organization distributing voter registration applications  
2 by mail shall:

3 (a) Use use the form prescribed by the Secretary of State. The form  
4 shall contain on the top of the first page in bold type (i) ~~(a)~~ the  
5 identity of the person or organization distributing the form and (ii) ~~(b)~~  
6 the following statements:

7 You may submit this form if you wish to register to vote or update  
8 your voter registration. You do not need to complete this form if you  
9 have already registered to vote; and -

10 (b) If enclosing a return envelope, have either a blank address or  
11 the address of the election commissioner or county clerk printed on the  
12 envelope.

13 (2) This section shall not apply to voter registration applications  
14 distributed by the Secretary of State, an election commissioner, a county  
15 clerk, the State Department of Education, the Department of Health and  
16 Human Services, or the Department of Motor Vehicles.

17 Sec. 13. Section 32-330, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement,  
18 2022, is amended to read:

19 32-330 (1) Except as otherwise provided in subsection (3) of section  
20 32-301, the voter registration register shall be a public record. Any  
21 person may examine the register at the office of the election  
22 commissioner or county clerk, but no person other than the Secretary of  
23 State, the election commissioner, the county clerk, or law enforcement  
24 shall be allowed to make copies of the register. Copies of the register  
25 shall only be used for list maintenance as provided in section 32-329 or  
26 law enforcement purposes. The electronic records of the original voter  
27 registrations created pursuant to section 32-301 may constitute the voter  
28 registration register. The Secretary of State, election commissioner, or  
29 county clerk shall withhold information in the register designated as  
30 confidential under section 32-331. No portion of the register made  
31 available to the public and no list distributed pursuant to this section



1 shall include the digital signature of any voter.

2 (2) The Secretary of State, election commissioner, or county clerk  
3 shall make available a list of registered voters that contains no more  
4 than the information authorized in subsections (3) and (7) of this  
5 section and, if requested, a list that only contains such information for  
6 registered voters who have voted in an election held more than thirty  
7 days prior to the request for the list. The Secretary of State, election  
8 commissioner, or county clerk shall establish the price of the lists at a  
9 rate that fairly covers the actual production cost of the lists, not to  
10 exceed three cents per name. Lists shall be used solely for purposes  
11 related to elections, political activities, voter registration, law  
12 enforcement, or jury selection. Lists shall not be posted, displayed, or  
13 used for commercial purposes or made accessible on the Internet.

14 (3)(a) The Secretary of State, election commissioner, or county  
15 clerk shall withhold from any list of registered voters distributed  
16 pursuant to subsection (2) of this section any information in the voter  
17 registration records which is designated as confidential under section  
18 32-331 or marked private on the voter registration application or voter  
19 registration record.

20 (b) Except as otherwise provided in subdivision (a) of this  
21 subsection, a list of registered voters distributed pursuant to  
22 subsection (2) of this section shall contain no more than the following  
23 information:

- 24 (i) The registrant's name;
- 25 (ii) The registrant's residential address;
- 26 (iii) The registrant's mailing address;
- 27 (iv) The registrant's telephone number;
- 28 (v) The registrant's voter registration status;
- 29 (vi) The registrant's voter identification number;
- 30 (vii) The registrant's birth year;
- 31 (viii) The registrant's date of voter registration;

- 1 (ix) The registrant's voting precinct;
- 2 (x) The registrant's polling site;
- 3 (xi) The registrant's political party affiliation;
- 4 (xii) The political subdivisions in which the registrant resides;
- 5 and
- 6 (xiii) The registrant's voter history.

7 (4) Any person who acquires a list of registered voters under  
8 subsection (2) of this section shall provide his or her name, address,  
9 telephone number, email address, and campaign committee name or  
10 organization name, if applicable, the state of organization, if  
11 applicable, and the reason for requesting the list, and shall take and  
12 subscribe to an oath in substantially the following form:

13 I hereby swear that I will use the list of registered voters  
14 of ..... County, Nebraska, (or the State of Nebraska) only for the  
15 purposes prescribed in section 32-330 and for no other purpose, that I  
16 will not permit the use or copying of such list for unauthorized  
17 purposes, and that I will not post, display, or make such list accessible  
18 on the Internet.

19 I hereby declare under the penalty of election falsification that  
20 the statements above are true to the best of my knowledge.

21 The penalty for election falsification is a Class IV felony.

22 (Signature of person acquiring list) .....

23 Subscribed and sworn to before me this .... day of ..... 20.. .

24 (Signature of officer) .....

25 (Name and official title of officer) .....

26 (5) The Secretary of State, election commissioner, or county clerk  
27 shall provide, upon request and free of charge, a complete and current  
28 listing of all registered voters and their addresses to the Clerk of the  
29 United States District Court for the District of Nebraska. Such list  
30 shall be provided no later than December 31 of each even-numbered year.

31 (6) The Secretary of State, election commissioner, or county clerk

1 shall provide, upon request and free of charge, a complete and current  
2 listing of all registered voters containing only the information  
3 authorized under subsection (3) of this section to the state party  
4 headquarters of each political party and to the county chairperson of  
5 each political party.

6 (7) The Secretary of State shall make available to each jury  
7 commissioner a list of registered voters that contains the information  
8 authorized in this section and in subsection (1) of section 25-1654 the  
9 ~~registrant's motor vehicle operator's license number or state~~  
10 ~~identification card number.~~

11 (8) Nothing in this section shall prevent a political party or  
12 candidate from using the list of registered voters for campaign  
13 activities.

14 (9) Any person who acquires a list of registered voters under  
15 subsection (2) of this section shall, following discovery or notification  
16 of a breach in the security of the storage of the information, disclose  
17 the breach in security to the Secretary of State, election commissioner,  
18 or county clerk without delay.

19 Sec. 14. Section 32-404, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement,  
20 2022, is amended to read:

21 32-404 (1) When any political subdivision holds an election in  
22 conjunction with the statewide primary or general election, the election  
23 shall be held as provided in the Election Act. Any other election held by  
24 a political subdivision shall be held as provided in the act unless  
25 otherwise provided by the charter, code, or bylaws of the political  
26 subdivision.

27 (2) No later than December 1 of each odd-numbered year, the  
28 Secretary of State, election commissioner, or county clerk shall give  
29 notice to each political subdivision of the filing deadlines for the  
30 statewide primary election. No later than January 5 of each even-numbered  
31 year, the governing board of each political subdivision which will hold

1 an election in conjunction with a statewide primary election shall  
2 certify to the Secretary of State, the election commissioner, or the  
3 county clerk the name of the subdivision, the number of officers to be  
4 elected, the length of the terms of office, the vacancies to be filled by  
5 election and length of remaining term, and the number of votes to be cast  
6 by a registered voter for each office.

7 (3) No later than June 15 of each even-numbered year, the governing  
8 board of each reclamation district, county weed district, village, county  
9 under township organization, public power district receiving annual gross  
10 revenue of less than forty million dollars, or educational service unit  
11 which will hold an election in conjunction with a statewide general  
12 election shall certify to the Secretary of State, the election  
13 commissioner, or the county clerk the name of the subdivision, the number  
14 of officers to be elected, the length of the terms of office, the  
15 vacancies to be filled by election and length of remaining term, and the  
16 number of votes to be cast by a registered voter for each office.

17 (4) The Secretary of State shall prescribe the forms to be used for  
18 certification to him or her, and the election commissioner or county  
19 clerk shall prescribe the forms to be used for certification to him or  
20 her.

21 (5) Each city, village, township, school district, public power  
22 district, sanitary and improvement district, metropolitan utilities  
23 district, fire district, natural resources district, regional  
24 metropolitan transit authority, community college area, learning  
25 community coordinating council, educational service unit, hospital  
26 district, reclamation district, library board, and airport authority  
27 shall furnish to the Secretary of State and election commissioner or  
28 county clerk any maps and additional information which the Secretary of  
29 State and election commissioner or county clerk may require in the proper  
30 performance of their duties in the conduct of elections and certification  
31 of results.

1           Sec. 15. Section 32-405, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement,  
2 2022, is amended to read:

3           32-405 Any special election under the Election Act shall be held on  
4 the first Tuesday following the second Monday of the selected month  
5 unless otherwise specifically provided. Except as otherwise specifically  
6 provided, no No special election shall be held under the Election Act in  
7 April, May, June, October, November, or December of an even-numbered year  
8 unless it is held in conjunction with the statewide primary or general  
9 election. No special election shall be held under the Election Act in  
10 September of an even-numbered year except as provided in section 32-564  
11 and except for a special election by a political subdivision pursuant to  
12 section 13-519 or 77-3444 to approve a property tax levy or exceed a  
13 property tax levy limitation. A special election for a Class III, IV, or  
14 V school district which is located in whole or in part in a county in  
15 which a city of the primary or metropolitan class is located may be held  
16 in conjunction with the primary or general election for a city of the  
17 primary or metropolitan class which is governed by a home rule charter.

18           Sec. 16. Section 32-552, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement,  
19 2022, is amended to read:

20           32-552 (1) ~~At~~ ~~Except as provided by subsection (4) of this section,~~  
21 ~~at~~ least five months prior to an election, the governing board of any  
22 political subdivision requesting the adjustment of the boundaries of  
23 election districts shall provide to the election commissioner or county  
24 clerk (a) written notice of the need and necessity of his or her office  
25 to perform such adjustments and (b) a revised election district boundary  
26 map that has been approved by the requesting political subdivision's  
27 governing board and subjected to all public review and challenge  
28 ordinances of the political subdivision.

29           (2) After each ~~the next~~ federal decennial census, the election  
30 commissioner of the county in which the greater part of a Class IV school  
31 district is situated shall, subject to review by the school board, divide

1 the school district into seven numbered districts, substantially equal in  
2 population as determined by the most recent federal decennial census. The  
3 election commissioner shall consider the location of schools within the  
4 district and their boundaries. The election commissioner shall adjust the  
5 boundaries of the election districts, subject to final review and  
6 adjustment by the school board, to conform to changes in the territory  
7 and population of the school district and also following each federal  
8 decennial census. Except when specific procedures are otherwise provided,  
9 section 32-553 shall apply to all Class IV school districts.

10 (3) For purposes of election of members to the board of education of  
11 a Class V school district such : ~~(a)(i) The Legislature hereby divides~~  
12 ~~such~~ school district shall be divided into nine numbered election  
13 districts of compact and contiguous territory and of as nearly equal  
14 population as may be practical. Each election district shall be entitled  
15 to one member on the board of education of such Class V school district.  
16 ~~The Legislature adopts the official population figures and maps from the~~  
17 ~~2010 Census Redistricting (Public Law 94-171) TIGER/Line Shapefiles~~  
18 ~~published by the United States Department of Commerce, Bureau of the~~  
19 ~~Census. The numbers and boundaries of the election districts are~~  
20 ~~designated and established by a map identified and labeled as OPS-13-002,~~  
21 ~~filed with the Clerk of the Legislature, and incorporated by reference as~~  
22 ~~part of Laws 2013, LB125. Such districts are drawn using the boundaries~~  
23 ~~of the Class V school district as they existed on February 12, 2013; (ii)~~  
24 ~~the Clerk of the Legislature shall transfer possession of the map~~  
25 ~~referred to in subdivision (a)(i) of this subsection to the Secretary of~~  
26 ~~State and the election commissioner of the county in which the greater~~  
27 ~~part of the school district is situated on February 12, 2013; (iii) when~~  
28 ~~questions of interpretation of such election district boundaries arise,~~  
29 ~~the map referred to in subdivision (a)(i) of this subsection in~~  
30 ~~possession of such election commissioner shall serve as the indication of~~  
31 ~~the legislative intent in drawing the election district boundaries; and~~

1 ~~(iv) the Secretary of State and such election commissioner shall also~~  
2 ~~have available for viewing on his or her website the map referred to in~~  
3 ~~subdivision (a)(i) of this subsection identifying the boundaries for such~~  
4 ~~election districts; and (b) After each the next federal decennial census,~~  
5 ~~the election commissioner of the county in which the greater part of a~~  
6 ~~Class V school district is situated shall divide the school district into~~  
7 ~~nine numbered districts of compact and contiguous territory and of as~~  
8 ~~nearly equal population as may be practical. The election commissioner~~  
9 ~~shall adjust the boundaries of such districts, subject to final review~~  
10 ~~and adjustment by the school board, to conform to changes in the~~  
11 ~~territory of the school district and also following each federal~~  
12 ~~decennial census.~~

13 ~~(4) Following the release of the 2020 Census of Population data by~~  
14 ~~the United States Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, as~~  
15 ~~required by Public Law 94-171, the governing board of any political~~  
16 ~~subdivision requesting the adjustment of the boundaries of election~~  
17 ~~districts shall provide to the election commissioner or county clerk (a)~~  
18 ~~written notice of the need and necessity of his or her office to perform~~  
19 ~~such adjustments and (b) a revised election district boundary map that~~  
20 ~~has been approved by the requesting political subdivision's governing~~  
21 ~~board and subjected to all public review and challenge ordinances of the~~  
22 ~~political subdivision by December 30, 2021.~~

23 ~~(5) The Secretary of State may grant additional days upon request of~~  
24 ~~the political subdivision if precinct maps are not delivered to the~~  
25 ~~political subdivision by November 1, 2021, or for an extraordinary~~  
26 ~~circumstance.~~

27 Sec. 17. Section 32-553, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement,  
28 2022, is amended to read:

29 32-553 (1)(a) When any political subdivision except a public power  
30 district nominates or elects members of the governing board by districts,  
31 such districts shall be substantially equal in population as determined

1 by the most recent federal decennial census.

2 (b) ~~Any Except as provided by subdivision (c) of this subsection,~~  
3 ~~(i) any such political subdivision that~~ which has districts in place on  
4 the date the census figures used in drawing district boundaries for the  
5 Legislature are required to be submitted to the state by the United  
6 States Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, shall, if necessary  
7 to maintain substantial population equality as required by this  
8 subsection, have new district boundaries drawn within six months after  
9 the passage and approval of the legislative bill providing for  
10 reestablishing legislative districts. ~~Any and (ii) any such political~~  
11 ~~subdivision in existence on the date the census figures used in drawing~~  
12 ~~district boundaries for the Legislature are required to be submitted to~~  
13 ~~the state by the United States Department of Commerce, Bureau of the~~  
14 ~~Census, and which has not established any district boundaries shall~~  
15 ~~establish district boundaries pursuant to this section within six months~~  
16 ~~after such date.~~

17 ~~(c) Following the release of the 2020 Census of Population data by~~  
18 ~~the United States Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, as~~  
19 ~~required by Public Law 94-171, any such political subdivision which has~~  
20 ~~districts in place on the date the census figures used in drawing~~  
21 ~~district boundaries for the Legislature are required to be submitted to~~  
22 ~~the state by the United States Department of Commerce, Bureau of the~~  
23 ~~Census, shall, if necessary to maintain substantial population equality~~  
24 ~~as required by this subsection, have new district boundaries drawn and~~  
25 ~~submitted to the election commissioner or county clerk by December 30,~~  
26 ~~2021, after the passage and approval of the legislative bill providing~~  
27 ~~for reestablishing legislative districts. Any such political subdivision~~  
28 ~~in existence on the date the census figures used in drawing district~~  
29 ~~boundaries for the Legislature are required to be submitted to the state~~  
30 ~~by the United States Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, and~~  
31 ~~which has not established any district boundaries shall establish~~



1 ~~district boundaries and submit the boundaries to the election~~  
2 ~~commissioner or county clerk pursuant to this section by December 30,~~  
3 ~~2021.~~

4 ~~(d) The Secretary of State may grant additional days upon request of~~  
5 ~~the political subdivision if precinct maps are not delivered to the~~  
6 ~~political subdivision by November 1, 2021, or for an extraordinary~~  
7 ~~circumstance.~~

8 ~~(c) (e)~~ If the deadline for drawing or redrawing district boundary  
9 lines imposed by this section is not met, the procedures set forth in  
10 section 32-555 shall be followed.

11 (2) The governing board of each such political subdivision shall be  
12 responsible for drawing its own district boundaries and shall, as nearly  
13 as possible, follow the precinct lines created by the election  
14 commissioner or county clerk after each federal decennial census, except  
15 that the election commissioner of any county in which a Class IV or V  
16 school district is located shall draw district boundaries for such school  
17 district as provided in this section and section 32-552.

18 Sec. 18. Section 32-564, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is  
19 amended to read:

20 32-564 (1) Except as otherwise provided in subsection (2) of this  
21 section:

22 (a) If a vacancy occurs in the office of Representative in Congress  
23 on or after August 1 in an even-numbered year and prior to the statewide  
24 general election in such year, the Governor shall order a special  
25 election to be held in conjunction with such statewide general election.  
26 The only candidates who may appear on the ballot for such office at such  
27 special election are those who were nominated at the statewide primary  
28 election in such year, those who comply with section 32-616, and those  
29 who comply with section 32-627 to fill a vacancy on the ballot if such a  
30 vacancy exists. The candidate receiving the most votes at such special  
31 election shall serve for the remainder of the vacated term and for the

1 succeeding term of office;

2 (b) If a vacancy occurs in the office of Representative in Congress  
3 on or after the day of the statewide general election and prior to the  
4 end of the term of the office which is vacated, no special election shall  
5 be called; and

6 (c) If a vacancy occurs in such office at any time other than as  
7 described in subdivision (a) or (b) of this subsection, the Governor  
8 shall order a special election to be held not less than seventy-five days  
9 nor more than ~~within~~ ninety days after the vacancy occurs. Such election  
10 shall be held on a Tuesday. Each political party which polled at least  
11 five percent of the entire vote in the district in which the vacancy  
12 occurs may select a candidate following the applicable procedures in  
13 subsection (2) of section 32-627, except that the certificate and filing  
14 fee shall be submitted at least sixty-seven ~~sixty-five~~ days prior to the  
15 day of the election. Any candidate so selected shall have his or her name  
16 placed on the ballot with the appropriate political party designation.  
17 Any other person may have his or her name placed on the ballot without a  
18 political party designation by filing petitions pursuant to sections  
19 32-617 and 32-618 and paying the filing fee as provided by section  
20 32-608, except that the deadline for filing the petitions and paying the  
21 fee shall be sixty-seven ~~sixty-five~~ days prior to the day of the  
22 election. The candidate receiving the most votes at such special election  
23 shall serve for the remainder of the vacated term.

24 (2)(a) If the Speaker of the United States House of Representatives  
25 announces that there are more than one hundred vacancies in the House of  
26 Representatives requiring special elections according to 2 U.S.C. 8, as  
27 such section existed on July 18, 2008, and there is any vacancy in the  
28 office of Representative in Congress representing Nebraska, the Governor  
29 shall issue a writ of election. The writ of election shall specify the  
30 date of a special election to fill such vacancy to be held within forty-  
31 nine days after the Speaker's announcement.

1 (b) The Secretary of State shall notify the chairperson and  
2 secretary of each political party which polled at least five percent of  
3 the entire vote in the district in which the vacancy occurs that the  
4 party may select a candidate following the applicable procedures in  
5 subsection (2) of section 32-627, except that the certificate and filing  
6 fee shall be submitted within seven days after notification by the  
7 Secretary of State. Any candidate so selected shall have his or her name  
8 placed on the ballot with the appropriate political party designation.

9 (c) The ballot for any voter meeting the criteria of section 32-939  
10 shall be transmitted to such voter within fifteen days after the  
11 Speaker's announcement and shall be accepted if received by the election  
12 commissioner or county clerk within forty-five days after transmission to  
13 the voter.

14 (d) The candidate receiving the most votes at such special election  
15 shall serve for the remainder of the vacated term.

16 Sec. 19. Section 32-565, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is  
17 amended to read:

18 32-565 (1) When a vacancy occurs in the representation of the State  
19 of Nebraska in the Senate of the United States, the office shall be  
20 filled by the Governor. The Governor shall appoint a suitable person  
21 possessing the qualifications necessary for senator to fill such vacancy.

22 (2)(a) If the vacancy occurs on or after August 1 ~~sixty days or less~~  
23 prior to a statewide general election and if the term vacated expires on  
24 the following January 3, the appointee shall serve until the following  
25 January 3.

26 (b) If the vacancy occurs on or after August 1 ~~sixty days or less~~  
27 prior to a statewide general election and if the term extends beyond the  
28 following January 3, the appointee shall serve until January 3 following  
29 the second statewide general election next succeeding the vacancy ~~his or~~  
30 ~~her appointment~~ and at such election a senator shall be elected to serve  
31 the unexpired term if any.

1           (c) ~~(3)~~ If the vacancy occurs at any time not described in  
2 subdivision (a) or (b) of this subsection ~~more than sixty days prior to a~~  
3 ~~statewide general election~~, the appointee shall serve until January 3  
4 following the next statewide general election next succeeding the vacancy  
5 and at such election a senator shall be elected to serve the unexpired  
6 term if any.

7           Sec. 20. Section 32-606, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement,  
8 2022, is amended to read:

9           32-606 (1) Any candidate may place his or her name on the primary  
10 election ballot by filing a candidate filing form prescribed by the  
11 Secretary of State as provided in section 32-607. Except as otherwise  
12 provided in subsection (4) of this section, if a candidate for an  
13 elective office is an incumbent of any elective office, the filing period  
14 for filing the candidate filing form shall be between January 5 and  
15 February 15 prior to the date of the primary election. No incumbent who  
16 resigns from elective office prior to the expiration of his or her term  
17 shall file for any office after February 15 of that election year. All  
18 other candidates shall file for office between January 5 and March 1  
19 prior to the date of the primary election. A candidate filing form and a  
20 copy of payment of the filing fee, if applicable, may be transmitted by  
21 facsimile for the offices listed in subdivision (2)(a) ~~(1)~~ of section  
22 32-607 if (a) the transmission is received in the office of the filing  
23 officer by the filing deadline and (b) the original filing form and  
24 payment of the filing fee, if applicable, is mailed to the filing officer  
25 with a legible postmark bearing a date on or prior to the filing deadline  
26 and is in the office of the filing officer no later than seven days after  
27 the filing deadline.

28           (2) Any candidate for a township office in a county under township  
29 organization, the board of trustees of a village, the board of directors  
30 of a reclamation district, the county weed district board, the board of  
31 directors of a public power district receiving annual gross revenue of

1 less than forty million dollars, or the board of an educational service  
2 unit may place his or her name on the general election ballot by filing a  
3 candidate filing form prescribed by the Secretary of State as provided in  
4 section 32-607. Except as otherwise provided in subsection (4) of this  
5 section, if a candidate for an elective office is an incumbent of any  
6 elective office, the filing period for filing the candidate filing form  
7 shall be between January 5 and July 15 prior to the date of the general  
8 election. No incumbent who resigns from elective office prior to the  
9 expiration of his or her term shall file for any office after July 15 of  
10 that election year. All other candidates shall file for office between  
11 January 5 and August 1 prior to the date of the general election. A  
12 candidate filing form may be transmitted by facsimile for the offices  
13 listed in subdivision (2)(a) ~~(1)~~ of section 32-607 if (a) the  
14 transmission is received in the office of the filing officer by the  
15 filing deadline and (b) the original filing form is mailed to the filing  
16 officer with a legible postmark bearing a date on or prior to the filing  
17 deadline and is in the office of the filing officer no later than seven  
18 days after the filing deadline.

19 (3) Any city having a home rule charter may provide for filing  
20 deadlines for any person desiring to be a candidate for the office of  
21 council member or mayor.

22 (4) If a candidate for an elective office was appointed to an  
23 elective office to fill a vacancy after the deadline for an incumbent to  
24 file a candidate filing form in subsection (1) or (2) of this section but  
25 before the deadline for all other candidates, the candidate may file a  
26 candidate filing form for any office on or before the deadline for all  
27 other candidates.

28 Sec. 21. Section 32-607, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement,  
29 2022, is amended to read:

30 32-607 (1)(a) All candidate filing forms shall contain the  
31 following statement: I hereby swear that I will abide by the laws of the

1 State of Nebraska regarding the results of the primary and general  
2 elections, that I am a registered voter and qualified to be elected, and  
3 that I will serve if elected. Candidate filing forms shall also contain  
4 the following information regarding the candidate: Name, as provided  
5 under subdivision (b) of this subsection; residence address; mailing  
6 address if different from the residence address; telephone number; office  
7 sought; party affiliation if the office sought is a partisan office; a  
8 statement as to whether or not civil penalties are owed pursuant to the  
9 Nebraska Political Accountability and Disclosure Act; and, if civil  
10 penalties are owed, whether or not a surety bond has been filed pursuant  
11 to subdivision (4)(b) of section 32-602. An email address shall also be  
12 included on the filing form as an optional field.

13 (b) The name contained on a candidate filing form shall be the name  
14 by which the candidate is generally known in the community and by which  
15 the candidate is distinguished from others and shall not contain titles,  
16 characterizations, or designations.

17 (2) Candidate filing forms shall be filed with the following filing  
18 officers:

19 (a) {1} For candidates for national, state, or congressional office,  
20 directors of public power and irrigation districts, directors of  
21 reclamation districts, directors of natural resources districts,  
22 directors of metropolitan utilities districts, members of the boards of  
23 educational service units, members of governing boards of community  
24 colleges, delegates to national conventions, and other offices filled by  
25 election held in more than one county and judges desiring retention, in  
26 the office of the Secretary of State;

27 (b) {2} For officers elected within a county, in the office of the  
28 election commissioner or county clerk;

29 (c) {3} For officers in school districts which include land in  
30 adjoining counties, in the office of the election commissioner or county  
31 clerk of the county in which the greatest number of registered voters

1 entitled to vote for the officers reside; and

2 ~~(d) (4)~~ For city or village officers, in the office of the election  
3 commissioner or county clerk.

4 (3) Objections to the name of a candidate submitted on a candidate  
5 filing form may be made and passed upon in the same manner as objections  
6 to a candidate filing form pursuant to section 32-624.

7 Sec. 22. Section 32-608, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement,  
8 2022, is amended to read:

9 32-608 (1) Except as provided in subsection (4) or (5) of this  
10 section, a filing fee shall be paid by or on behalf of each candidate  
11 prior to filing for office. For candidates who file in the office of the  
12 Secretary of State as provided in subdivision (2)(a) ~~(1)~~ of section  
13 32-607, the filing fee shall be paid to the Secretary of State who shall  
14 remit the fee to the State Treasurer for credit to the Election  
15 Administration Fund. For candidates for any city or village office, the  
16 filing fee shall be paid to the city or village treasurer of the city or  
17 village in which the candidate resides. For candidates who file in the  
18 office of the election commissioner or county clerk, the filing fee shall  
19 be paid to the election commissioner or county clerk in the county in  
20 which the office is sought. The election commissioner or county clerk  
21 shall remit the fee to the county treasurer. The fee shall be placed in  
22 the general fund of the county, city, or village. No candidate filing  
23 forms shall be filed until the proper payment or the proper receipt  
24 showing the payment of such filing fee is presented to the filing  
25 officer. On the day of the filing deadline, the city or village  
26 treasurer's office shall remain open to receive filing fees until the  
27 hour of the filing deadline.

28 (2) Except as provided in subsection (4) or (5) of this section, the  
29 filing fees shall be as follows:

30 (a) For the office of United States Senator, state officers,  
31 including members of the Legislature, Representatives in Congress, county

1 officers, and city or village officers, except the mayor or council  
2 members of cities having a home rule charter, a sum equal to one percent  
3 of the annual salary as of November 30 of the year preceding the election  
4 for the office for which he or she files as a candidate;

5 (b) For directors of public power and irrigation districts in  
6 districts receiving annual gross revenue of forty million dollars or  
7 more, twenty-five dollars, and in districts receiving annual gross  
8 revenue of less than forty million dollars, ten dollars;

9 (c) For directors of reclamation districts, ten dollars; and

10 (d) For Regents of the University of Nebraska, members of the State  
11 Board of Education, and directors of metropolitan utilities districts,  
12 twenty-five dollars.

13 (3) All declared write-in candidates shall pay the filing fees that  
14 are required for the office at the time that they present the write-in  
15 affidavit to the filing officer.

16 (4) No filing fee shall be required for any candidate filing for an  
17 office in which a per diem is paid rather than a salary or for which  
18 there is a salary of less than five hundred dollars per year. No filing  
19 fee shall be required for any candidate for membership on a school board,  
20 on the board of an educational service unit, on the board of governors of  
21 a community college area, on the board of directors of a natural  
22 resources district, or on the board of trustees of a sanitary and  
23 improvement district.

24 (5) No filing fee shall be required of any candidate completing an  
25 affidavit requesting to file for elective office in forma pauperis. A  
26 pauper shall mean a person whose income and other resources for  
27 maintenance are found under assistance standards to be insufficient for  
28 meeting the cost of his or her requirements and whose reserve of cash or  
29 other available resources does not exceed the maximum available resources  
30 that an eligible individual may own. Available resources shall include  
31 every type of property or interest in property that an individual owns



1 and may convert into cash except:

2 (a) Real property used as a home;

3 (b) Household goods of a moderate value used in the home; and

4 (c) Assets to a maximum value of three thousand dollars used by a  
5 recipient in a planned effort directed towards self-support.

6 (6) If any candidate dies prior to an election, the spouse of the  
7 candidate may file a claim for refund of the filing fee with the proper  
8 governing body prior to the date of the election. Upon approval of the  
9 claim by the proper governing body, the filing fee shall be refunded.

10 Sec. 23. (1) Any person who has filed for elective office pursuant  
11 to subsection (1) of section 32-606 whose legal name has changed since  
12 filing may change the name to appear on the ballot to reflect the  
13 person's changed legal name by March 1 before the primary election. The  
14 candidate shall provide any documentation verifying the legal name change  
15 to the filing officer by March 1.

16 (2) Any person who has filed for elective office pursuant to  
17 subsection (2) of section 32-606 or a nominee for elective office for the  
18 general election whose legal name has changed since filing may change the  
19 name to appear on the ballot to reflect the person's changed legal name  
20 by September 1 before the general election. The candidate shall provide  
21 any documentation verifying the legal name change to the filing officer  
22 by September 1.

23 (3) Any objection to a name change pursuant to subsection (1) or (2)  
24 of this section may be made and passed upon in the same manner as an  
25 objection to a candidate filing form pursuant to section 32-624, except  
26 that any objection pursuant to this subsection shall be made within seven  
27 days after the documentation verifying the legal name change is provided  
28 to the filing officer.

29 (4) Any candidate may file a name change on or before the filing  
30 deadline, and such name change shall conform to the requirements of  
31 subdivision (1)(b) of section 32-607. Any objection to a name change

1 pursuant to this subsection may be made pursuant to subsection (3) of  
2 section 32-607.

3 Sec. 24. Section 32-613, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is  
4 amended to read:

5 32-613 Any petition to place a person's name on the primary election  
6 ballot for President of the United States shall contain the names of not  
7 less than one hundred voters registered with the appropriate political  
8 party from each congressional district of the state, except that if the  
9 political party dissolves as provided in subsection (2) of section  
10 32-720, the Secretary of State shall not accept a petition under this  
11 section. The name of the candidate for President shall be placed upon the  
12 ballot only when written consent of such person has been filed with the  
13 Secretary of State not less than sixty days before the primary election.  
14 The form of the petition shall comply with the requirements of section  
15 32-628 and shall as nearly as possible conform to the form prescribed by  
16 the Secretary of State. All signed petitions not filed with the Secretary  
17 of State shall become invalid if not filed by August 1 of the  
18 presidential election year.

19 Sec. 25. Section 32-615, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement,  
20 2022, is amended to read:

21 32-615 (1) Except as otherwise provided in subsection (2) of this  
22 section, any candidate engaged in or pursuing a write-in campaign shall  
23 file a notarized affidavit of his or her intent together with the receipt  
24 for any filing fee with the filing officer as provided in section 32-608  
25 no earlier than January 5 and no later than the second Friday prior to  
26 the election.

27 (2) For any county office elected pursuant to sections 32-517 to  
28 32-529 which is subject to subdivision (1)(b) of section 32-811, a  
29 candidate may engage in or pursue a write-in campaign if he or she files  
30 a notarized affidavit of his or her intent together with the receipt for  
31 the filing fee with the filing officer as provided in section 32-608 on

1 or before March 3 of the year of the statewide primary election. If such  
2 an affidavit is filed as prescribed, the election commissioner or county  
3 clerk shall place that county office on the statewide primary election  
4 ballot with the names of the candidate properly filed for the nomination  
5 of the applicable political party and a line for write-in candidates.

6 (3) A candidate submitting an affidavit under this section for a  
7 partisan office on the statewide primary election ballot shall be a  
8 registered voter of the political party named in the affidavit unless the  
9 political party allows candidates not affiliated with the party by not  
10 adopting a rule under section 32-702.

11 (4) A candidate who has been defeated as a candidate in the primary  
12 election or defeated as a write-in candidate in the primary election  
13 shall not be eligible as a write-in candidate for the same office in the  
14 general election unless (a) a vacancy on the ballot exists pursuant to  
15 section 32-625 or (b) the candidate was a candidate for an office  
16 described in sections 32-512 to 32-550 and the candidate lost the  
17 election as a result of a determination pursuant to section 32-1122 in  
18 the case of a tie vote.

19 (5) A candidate who files a notarized affidavit shall be entitled to  
20 all write-in votes for the candidate even if only the last name of the  
21 candidate has been written if such last name is reasonably close to the  
22 proper spelling.

23 Sec. 26. Section 32-617, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is  
24 amended to read:

25 32-617 (1) Petitions for nomination for partisan and nonpartisan  
26 offices shall conform to the requirements of section 32-628. Petitions  
27 shall state the office to be filled and the name and address of the  
28 candidate. Petitions for partisan office shall also indicate the party  
29 affiliation of the candidate. A sample copy of the petition shall be  
30 filed with the filing officer prior to circulation. Petitions shall be  
31 signed by registered voters residing in the district or political

1 subdivision in which the officer is to be elected and shall be filed with  
2 the filing officer in the same manner as provided for candidate filing  
3 forms in section 32-607. Petition signers and petition circulators shall  
4 conform to the requirements of sections 32-629 and 32-630. No petition  
5 for nomination shall be filed unless there is attached thereto a receipt  
6 showing the payment of the filing fee required pursuant to section  
7 32-608. Such petitions shall be filed by September 1 in the year of the  
8 general election, and all signed petitions not filed with the Secretary  
9 of State by such date shall become invalid.

10 (2) The filing officer shall verify the signatures according to  
11 section 32-631. Within three days after the signatures on a petition for  
12 nomination have been verified pursuant to such section and the filing  
13 officer has determined that pursuant to section 32-618 a sufficient  
14 number of registered voters signed the petitions, the filing officer  
15 shall notify the candidate so nominated by registered or certified mail  
16 or electronic mail, and the candidate shall, within five days after the  
17 date of receiving such notification, file with such officer his or her  
18 acceptance of the nomination or his or her name will not be printed on  
19 the ballot.

20 (3) A candidate placed on the ballot by petition shall be termed a  
21 candidate by petition. The words BY PETITION shall be printed upon the  
22 ballot after the name of each candidate by petition.

23 Sec. 27. Section 32-630, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is  
24 amended to read:

25 32-630 (1) Each person who signs a petition shall, at the time of  
26 and in addition to signing, personally affix the date, print his or her  
27 last name and first name in full, and affix his or her date of birth and  
28 address, including the street and number or a designation of a rural  
29 route or voting precinct and the city or village or a post office  
30 address. A person signing a petition may use his or her initials in place  
31 of his or her first name if such person is registered to vote under such

1 ~~initials. No signer shall use ditto marks as a means of personally~~  
2 ~~affixing the date or address to any petition. A wife shall not use her~~  
3 ~~husband's first name when she signs a petition but shall personally affix~~  
4 ~~her first name and her last name by marriage or her surname. Any~~  
5 ~~signature using ditto marks as a means of personally affixing the date or~~  
6 ~~address of any petition or any signature using a spouse's first name~~  
7 ~~instead of his or her own shall be invalid.~~

8 (2) Each circulator of a petition shall personally witness the  
9 signatures on the petition and shall sign the circulator's affidavit.

10 (3) No person shall:

11 (a) Sign any name other than his or her own to any petition;

12 (b) Knowingly sign his or her name more than once for the same  
13 petition effort or measure;

14 (c) Sign a petition if he or she is not a registered voter and  
15 qualified to sign the same except as provided in section 32-1404;

16 (d) Falsely swear to any signature upon any such petition;

17 (e) Accept money or other thing of value for signing any petition;

18 or

19 (f) Offer money or other thing of value in exchange for a signature  
20 upon any petition.

21 Sec. 28. Section 32-632, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is  
22 amended to read:

23 32-632 (1) Any person may remove his or her name from a petition by  
24 an affidavit signed and sworn to by such person before the election  
25 commissioner, the county clerk, or a notary public. Name removal  
26 affidavits shall be filed with the following officers:

27 (a) For initiative and referendum petitions, new political party  
28 petitions, and petitions for President of the United States, with the  
29 Secretary of State;

30 (b) For candidate petitions, with the filing officer prescribed in  
31 section 32-607;

1       (c) For recall petitions, with the filing officer prescribed in  
2 section 32-1301; and

3       (d) For all other petitions, with the applicable election  
4 commissioner, county clerk, or city clerk.

5       (2) The affidavit shall be presented to the officer prescribed in  
6 subsection (1) of this section by the following deadlines:

7       (a) For initiative and referendum petitions, by the deadline for  
8 filing petitions pursuant to section 32-1407;

9       (b) For new political party petitions, prior to or on the day the  
10 petition is filed for verification with the Secretary of State;

11       (c) For petitions for President of the United States, by the  
12 deadline for filing petitions pursuant to section 32-613 for the primary  
13 election or section 32-620 for the general election;

14       (d) For candidate petitions, by the deadline for filing petitions  
15 pursuant to section 32-617; and

16       (e) For all other petitions, prior to or on the day the petition is  
17 filed for verification with the election commissioner, county clerk, or  
18 city clerk Secretary of State, election commissioner, or county clerk  
19 prior to or on the day the petition is filed for verification with the  
20 election commissioner or county clerk.

21       Sec. 29. Section 32-716, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement,  
22 2022, is amended to read:

23       32-716 (1) Any person, group, or association desiring to form a new  
24 political party shall present to the Secretary of State petitions  
25 containing signatures totaling not less than one percent of the total  
26 votes cast for Governor at the most recent general election for such  
27 office. The signatures of registered voters on such petitions shall be so  
28 distributed as to include registered voters totaling at least one percent  
29 of the votes cast for Governor in the most recent gubernatorial election  
30 in each of the three congressional districts in this state. Petition  
31 signers and petition circulators shall conform to the requirements of

1 sections 32-629 and 32-630. The petitions shall be filed with the  
2 Secretary of State no later than January 15 before any statewide primary  
3 election for the new political party to be entitled to have ballot  
4 position in the primary election of that year. If the new political party  
5 desires to be established and have ballot position for the general  
6 election and not in the primary election of that year, the petitions  
7 shall be filed with the Secretary of State on or before July 15 of that  
8 year. Prior to the circulation of petitions to form a new political  
9 party, a sample copy of the petitions shall be filed with the Secretary  
10 of State by the person, group, or association seeking to establish the  
11 new party. The sample petition shall be accompanied by the name and  
12 address of the person or the names and addresses of the members of the  
13 group or association sponsoring the petition to form a new political  
14 party. Sponsors of the petition may be added or removed with the  
15 unanimous written consent of the original sponsor or sponsors at any time  
16 prior to or on the day the petition is filed for verification with the  
17 Secretary of State. The sponsor or sponsors of the petition shall file,  
18 as one instrument, all petition papers comprising a new political party  
19 petition for signature verification with the Secretary of State. All  
20 signed petitions in circulation but not filed with the Secretary of State  
21 shall become invalid after July 15 in the year of the statewide general  
22 election.

23 (2) The petition shall conform to the requirements of section  
24 32-628. The Secretary of State shall prescribe the form of the petition  
25 for the formation of a new political party. The petition shall be  
26 addressed to and filed with the Secretary of State and shall state its  
27 purpose and the name of the party to be formed. Such name shall not be or  
28 include the name of any political party then in existence or any word  
29 forming any part of the name of any political party then in existence,  
30 and in order to avoid confusion regarding party affiliation of a  
31 candidate or registered voter, the name of the party to be formed shall

1 not include the word "independent" or "nonpartisan". The petition shall  
2 contain a statement substantially as follows:

3 We, the undersigned registered voters of the State of Nebraska and  
4 the county of ....., being severally qualified to sign this  
5 petition, respectfully request that the above-named new political party  
6 be formed in the State of Nebraska, and each for himself or herself says:  
7 I have personally signed this petition on the date opposite my name; I am  
8 a registered voter of the State of Nebraska and county of .....  
9 and am qualified to sign this petition; and my date of birth and city,  
10 village, or post office address and my street and number or voting  
11 precinct are correctly written after my name.

12 Sec. 30. Section 32-802, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement,  
13 2022, is amended to read:

14 32-802 The notice of election for any election shall state the date  
15 on which the election is to be held and the hours the polls will be open  
16 and list all offices, candidates, and issues that will appear on the  
17 ballots. The notice of election shall be printed in English and in any  
18 other language required pursuant to the Voting Rights Act Language  
19 Assistance Amendments of 1992. In the case of a primary election, the  
20 notice of election shall list all offices and candidates that are being  
21 forwarded to the general election. The notice of election shall only  
22 state that amendments or referendums will be voted upon and that the  
23 Secretary of State will publish a true copy of the title and text of any  
24 amendments or referendums once each week for three consecutive weeks  
25 preceding the election. Such notice of election shall appear in at least  
26 one newspaper designated by the election commissioner, county clerk, city  
27 council, or village board no later than forty-two days prior to the  
28 election. The election commissioner or county clerk shall, not later than  
29 forty-two days prior to the election, (1) post in his or her office the  
30 same notice of election published in the newspaper and (2) provide a copy  
31 of the notice to the political subdivisions appearing on the notice of



1 ~~election ballot~~. The election commissioner or county clerk shall correct  
2 the ballot to reflect any corrections received within five days after  
3 mailing the notice as provided in section 32-819. The notice of election  
4 shall be posted in lieu of sample ballots until such time as sample  
5 ballots are printed. If joint elections are held in conjunction with the  
6 statewide primary or general election by a county, city, or village, only  
7 one notice of election need be published and signed by the election  
8 commissioner or county clerk.

9 Sec. 31. Section 32-808.01, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement,  
10 2022, is amended to read:

11 32-808.01 (1) Except as provided in subsection (2) of this section,  
12 any person or organization distributing an application by mail for a  
13 ballot for early voting shall:

14 ~~(a) Use~~ use the form prescribed by the Secretary of State. The form  
15 shall contain on the top of the first page in bold type (i) ~~(a)~~ the  
16 identity of the person or organization distributing the form and (ii) ~~(b)~~  
17 the following statements:

18 You may submit this form if you wish to request a ballot for early  
19 voting. You do not need to complete this form if you have already  
20 requested a ballot for early voting for this election; ~~and -~~

21 (b) If enclosing a return envelope, have either a blank address or  
22 the address of the election commissioner or county clerk printed on the  
23 envelope.

24 (2) This section shall not apply to an application for a ballot for  
25 early voting distributed by the Secretary of State, an election  
26 commissioner, or a county clerk.

27 Sec. 32. Section 32-903, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement,  
28 2022, is amended to read:

29 32-903 (1) The election commissioner or county clerk shall create  
30 precincts composed of compact and contiguous territory within the  
31 boundary lines of legislative districts. The precincts shall contain not

1 less than seventy-five nor more than one thousand seven hundred fifty  
2 registered voters based on the number of voters voting at the last  
3 statewide general election, except that a precinct may contain less than  
4 seventy-five registered voters if in the judgment of the election  
5 commissioner or county clerk it is necessary to avoid creating an undue  
6 hardship on the registered voters in the precinct. The election  
7 commissioner or county clerk shall create precincts based on the number  
8 of votes cast at the immediately preceding presidential election or the  
9 current list of registered voters for the precinct. The election  
10 commissioner or county clerk shall revise and rearrange the precincts and  
11 increase or decrease them at such times as may be necessary to make the  
12 precincts contain as nearly as practicable not less than seventy-five nor  
13 more than one thousand seven hundred fifty registered voters voting at  
14 the last statewide general election. The election commissioner or county  
15 clerk shall, when necessary and possible, readjust precinct boundaries to  
16 coincide with the boundaries of cities, villages, and school districts  
17 which are divided into districts or wards for election purposes. The  
18 election commissioner or county clerk shall not make any precinct changes  
19 in precinct boundaries or divide precincts into two or more parts between  
20 the statewide primary and general elections unless he or she has been  
21 authorized to do so by the Secretary of State. If changes are authorized,  
22 the election commissioner or county clerk shall notify each state and  
23 local candidate affected by the change.

24 (2) The election commissioner or county clerk may alter and divide  
25 the existing precincts, except that when any city of the first class by  
26 ordinance divides any ward of such city into two or more voting districts  
27 or polling places, the election commissioner or county clerk shall  
28 establish precincts or polling places in conformity with such ordinance.  
29 No such alteration or division shall take place between the statewide  
30 primary and general elections except as provided in subsection (1) of  
31 this section.

1           ~~(3) Following the release of the 2020 Census of Population data by~~  
2 ~~the United States Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census, as~~  
3 ~~required by Public Law 94-171, the election commissioner or county clerk~~  
4 ~~shall create, revise, or rearrange precincts in compliance with~~  
5 ~~subsections (1) and (2) of this section and deliver maps of the updated~~  
6 ~~precinct boundaries to all applicable political subdivisions within the~~  
7 ~~jurisdiction of the election commissioner or county clerk by November 1,~~  
8 ~~2021.~~

9           ~~(4) The Secretary of State may grant additional days for election~~  
10 ~~commissioners and county clerks to meet the requirements of subsection~~  
11 ~~(3) of this section for an extraordinary circumstance.~~

12           Sec. 33. If a person becomes a naturalized citizen of the United  
13 States after the voter registration deadline for any election, such  
14 person may register to vote after the voter registration deadline by  
15 completing the necessary voter registration application in the office of  
16 the election commissioner or county clerk of the county of such person's  
17 residence before one hour prior to the closing of the polls on election  
18 day. After completing the voter registration application and the  
19 citizenship attestation provided by section 32-928, such person shall  
20 then be allowed to vote in the office of the election commissioner or  
21 county clerk.

22           Sec. 34. Section 32-947, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement,  
23 2022, is amended to read:

24           32-947 (1) Upon receipt of an application or other request for a  
25 ballot to vote early, the election commissioner or county clerk shall  
26 determine whether the applicant is a registered voter and is entitled to  
27 vote as requested. If the election commissioner or county clerk  
28 determines that the applicant is a registered voter entitled to vote  
29 early and the application was received not later than the close of  
30 business on the second Friday preceding the election, the election  
31 commissioner or county clerk shall deliver a ballot to the applicant in

1 person or by nonforwardable mail, postage paid. The election commissioner  
2 or county clerk or any employee of the election commissioner or county  
3 clerk shall write or cause to be affixed his or her customary signature  
4 or initials on the ballot.

5 (2) An unsealed identification envelope shall be delivered with the  
6 ballot, and upon the back of the envelope shall be printed a form  
7 substantially as follows:

8 VOTER'S OATH

9 I, the undersigned voter, declare that the enclosed ballot or  
10 ballots contained no voting marks of any kind when I received them, and I  
11 caused the ballot or ballots to be marked, enclosed in the identification  
12 envelope, and sealed in such envelope.

13 To the best of my knowledge and belief, I declare under penalty of  
14 election falsification that:

15 (a) I, ....., am a registered voter  
16 in ..... County;

17 (b) I reside in the State of Nebraska at .....

18 (c) I have voted the enclosed ballot and am returning it in  
19 compliance with Nebraska law; and

20 (d) I have not voted and will not vote in this election except by  
21 this ballot.

22 ANY PERSON WHO SIGNS THIS FORM KNOWING THAT ANY OF THE INFORMATION  
23 IN THE FORM IS FALSE SHALL BE GUILTY OF ELECTION FALSIFICATION, A CLASS  
24 IV FELONY UNDER SECTION 32-1502 OF THE STATUTES OF NEBRASKA. THE PENALTY  
25 FOR ELECTION FALSIFICATION IS IMPRISONMENT FOR UP TO TWO YEARS AND TWELVE  
26 MONTHS POST-RELEASE SUPERVISION OR A FINE NOT TO EXCEED TEN THOUSAND  
27 DOLLARS, OR BOTH.

28 I also understand that failure to sign below will invalidate my  
29 ballot.

30 Signature .....

31 (3) If the ballot and identification envelope will be returned by

1 mail or by someone other than the voter, the election commissioner or  
2 county clerk shall include with the ballot an identification envelope  
3 upon the face of which shall be printed the official title and post  
4 office address of the election commissioner or county clerk.

5 (4) The election commissioner or county clerk shall also enclose  
6 with the ballot materials:

7 (a) A registration application, if the election commissioner or  
8 county clerk has determined that the applicant is not a registered voter  
9 pursuant to section 32-945, with instructions that failure to return the  
10 completed and signed application indicating the residence address as it  
11 appears on the voter's request for a ballot to the election commissioner  
12 or county clerk by the close of the polls on election day will result in  
13 the ballot not being counted;

14 (b) A registration application and the oath pursuant to section  
15 32-946, if the voter is without a residence address, with instructions  
16 that the residence address of the voter shall be deemed that of the  
17 office of the election commissioner or county clerk of the county of the  
18 voter's prior residence and that failure to return the completed and  
19 signed application and oath to the election commissioner or county clerk  
20 by the close of the polls on election day will result in the ballot not  
21 being counted; or

22 (c) Written instructions directing the voter to submit a copy of an  
23 identification document pursuant to section 32-318.01 if the voter is  
24 required to present identification under such section and advising the  
25 voter that failure to submit identification to the election commissioner  
26 or county clerk by the close of the polls on election day will result in  
27 the ballot not being counted.

28 (5) The election commissioner or county clerk may enclose with the  
29 ballot materials a separate return envelope for the voter's use in  
30 returning his or her identification envelope containing the voted ballot,  
31 registration application, and other materials that may be required.

1           Sec. 35. Section 32-950.01, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement,  
2 2022, is amended to read:

3           32-950.01 (1) If an election commissioner or county clerk maintains  
4 a secure ballot drop-box for voters to deposit completed ballots, the  
5 election commissioner or county clerk shall ensure that the secure ballot  
6 drop-box:

7           (a) Is securely fastened to the ground or a concrete slab connected  
8 to the ground;

9           (b) Is secured by a lock that can only be opened by the election  
10 commissioner or county clerk or by an election official designated by the  
11 election commissioner or county clerk; and

12           (c) Complies with the federal Americans with Disabilities Act of  
13 1990 and is accessible as determined by the election commissioner or  
14 county clerk.

15           (2) The election commissioner or county clerk shall inform the  
16 Secretary of State of each secure ballot drop-box's location no later  
17 than forty-two days prior to any statewide primary or general election.

18           (3) Except for a secure ballot drop-box for an election conducted  
19 under section 32-960, the The election commissioner or county clerk or an  
20 election official designated by the election commissioner or county clerk  
21 shall open each secure ballot drop-box no later than the sixth Friday  
22 prior to any statewide primary or general election and no later than the  
23 fourth Friday prior to any special election. For any statewide primary or  
24 general election, each secure ballot drop-box shall remain accessible to  
25 voters until the deadline for the receipt of ballots as provided in  
26 section 32-908. For any special election, at least one secure ballot  
27 drop-box shall remain accessible to voters until the deadline for the  
28 receipt of ballots as provided in section 32-954.

29           (4) After a secure ballot drop-box is made available for depositing  
30 ballots, the election commission or county clerk shall ensure that  
31 ballots deposited in such secure ballot drop-box are collected and

1 returned to the office of the election commissioner or county clerk at  
2 least once during each business day.

3 Sec. 36. Section 32-1203, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement,  
4 2022, is amended to read:

5 32-1203 (1) Each city, village, township, school district, public  
6 power district, sanitary and improvement district, metropolitan utilities  
7 district, fire district, natural resources district, regional  
8 metropolitan transit authority, community college area, learning  
9 community coordinating council, educational service unit, hospital  
10 district, reclamation district, library board, and airport authority  
11 shall pay for the costs of nominating and electing its officers as  
12 provided in subsection (2), (3), or (4) of this section. If a special  
13 issue is placed on the ballot at the time of the statewide primary or  
14 general election by any political subdivision, the political subdivision  
15 shall pay for the costs of the election as provided in subsection (2),  
16 (3), or (4) of this section. ~~The districts listed in this subsection~~  
17 ~~shall furnish to the Secretary of State and election commissioner or~~  
18 ~~county clerk any maps and additional information which the election~~  
19 ~~commissioner or county clerk may require in the proper performance of~~  
20 ~~their duties in the conduct of elections and certification of results.~~

21 (2) The charge for each primary and general election shall be  
22 determined by (a) ascertaining the total cost of all chargeable costs as  
23 described in section 32-1202, (b) dividing the total cost by the number  
24 of precincts participating in the election to fix the cost per precinct,  
25 (c) prorating the cost per precinct by the inked ballot inch in each  
26 precinct for each political subdivision, and (d) totaling the cost for  
27 each precinct for each political subdivision, except that the minimum  
28 charge for each primary and general election for each political  
29 subdivision shall be one hundred dollars.

30 (3) In lieu of the charge determined pursuant to subsection (2) of  
31 this section, the election commissioner or county clerk may charge public

1 power districts the fee for election costs set by section 70-610.

2 (4) In lieu of the charge determined pursuant to subsection (2) of  
3 this section, the election commissioner or county clerk may bill school  
4 districts directly for the costs of an election held under section  
5 10-703.01.

6 Sec. 37. Section 32-1205, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is  
7 amended to read:

8 32-1205 A political subdivision in which a recall petition is  
9 issued, a recall election is held, an official is recalled, or a vacancy  
10 needs to be filled as the result of a recall petition shall pay the costs  
11 of the recall procedure and any special election held as a result of a  
12 recall election. If a recall election is canceled pursuant to section  
13 32-1306, the political subdivision shall be responsible for costs  
14 incurred related to the canceled election. The costs shall include all  
15 chargeable costs as provided in section 32-1202 associated with preparing  
16 for and conducting a recall or special election.

17 Sec. 38. Section 32-1301, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is  
18 amended to read:

19 32-1301 For purposes of sections 32-1301 to 32-1309, filing officer  
20 means (1) clerk shall mean the election commissioner or county clerk for  
21 recall of elected officers of cities, villages, counties, irrigation  
22 districts, school districts, and hospital districts and (2) the Secretary  
23 of State for recall of elected officers of natural resources districts,  
24 public power districts, ~~school districts,~~ community college areas,  
25 educational service units, ~~hospital districts,~~ and metropolitan utilities  
26 districts.

27 Sec. 39. Section 32-1303, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement,  
28 2022, is amended to read:

29 32-1303 (1) A petition demanding that the question of removing an  
30 elected official or member of a governing body listed in section 32-1302  
31 be submitted to the registered voters shall be signed by registered



1 voters equal in number to at least thirty-five percent of the total vote  
2 cast for that office in the last general election, except that (a) for an  
3 office for which more than one candidate is chosen, the petition shall be  
4 signed by registered voters equal in number to at least thirty-five  
5 percent of the number of votes cast for the person receiving the most  
6 votes for such office in the last general election and (b) for a member  
7 of a governing body of a village, the petition shall be signed by  
8 registered voters of the village equal in number to at least forty-five  
9 percent of the total vote cast for the person receiving the most votes  
10 for that office in the last general election. The signatures shall be  
11 affixed to petition papers and shall be considered part of the petition.

12 (2) Petition circulators shall conform to the requirements of  
13 sections 32-629 and 32-630.

14 (3) The petition papers shall be procured from the filing officer  
15 ~~clerk~~. Prior to the issuance of such petition papers, a recall petition  
16 filing form shall be signed and filed with the filing officer ~~clerk~~ by at  
17 least one registered voter. Such voter or voters shall be deemed to be  
18 the principal circulator or circulators of the recall petition. The  
19 filing form shall state the name and office of the official sought to be  
20 removed, shall include in concise language of sixty words or less the  
21 reason or reasons for which recall is sought, and shall request that the  
22 filing officer ~~clerk~~ issue initial petition papers to the principal  
23 circulator for circulation. The filing officer ~~clerk~~ shall notify the  
24 official sought to be removed by any method specified in section  
25 25-505.01 or, if notification cannot be made with reasonable diligence by  
26 any of the methods specified in section 25-505.01, by leaving a copy of  
27 the filing form at the official's usual place of residence and mailing a  
28 copy by first-class mail to the official's last-known address. If the  
29 official chooses, he or she may submit a defense statement in concise  
30 language of sixty words or less for inclusion on the petition. Any such  
31 defense statement shall be submitted to the filing officer ~~clerk~~ within

1 twenty days after the official receives the copy of the filing form. The  
2 filing officer ~~clerk~~ shall prepare the petition papers within five  
3 business days after receipt of the defense statement. The principal  
4 circulator or circulators shall gather the petition papers within twenty  
5 days after being notified by the filing officer ~~clerk~~ that the petition  
6 papers are available. The filing officer ~~clerk~~ shall notify the principal  
7 circulator or circulators that the necessary signatures must be gathered  
8 within thirty days from the date of issuing the petitions.

9 (4) The filing officer ~~clerk~~, upon issuing the initial petition  
10 papers or any subsequent petition papers, shall enter in a record, to be  
11 kept in his or her office, the name of the principal circulator or  
12 circulators to whom the papers were issued, the date of issuance, and the  
13 number of papers issued. The filing officer ~~clerk~~ shall certify on the  
14 papers the name of the principal circulator or circulators to whom the  
15 papers were issued and the date they were issued. No petition paper shall  
16 be accepted as part of the petition unless it bears such certificate. The  
17 principal circulator or circulators who check out petitions from the  
18 filing officer ~~clerk~~ may distribute such petitions to persons who may act  
19 as circulators of such petitions.

20 (5) Petition signers shall conform to the requirements of sections  
21 32-629 and 32-630. Each signer of a recall petition shall be a registered  
22 voter and qualified by his or her place of residence to vote for the  
23 office in question.

24 Sec. 40. Section 32-1304, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is  
25 amended to read:

26 32-1304 (1) The Secretary of State shall design the uniform petition  
27 papers to be distributed by all filing officers ~~clerks~~ and shall keep a  
28 sufficient number of such blank petition papers on file for distribution  
29 to any filing officer ~~clerk~~ requesting recall petitions. The petition  
30 papers shall as nearly as possible conform to the requirements of section  
31 32-628.

1           (2) In addition to the requirements specified in section 32-628, for  
2 the purpose of preventing fraud, deception, and misrepresentation, every  
3 sheet of each petition paper presented to a registered voter for his or  
4 her signature shall have upon it, above the lines for signatures, (a) a  
5 statement that the signatories must be registered voters qualified by  
6 residence to vote for the office in question and support the holding of a  
7 recall election and (b) in letters not smaller than sixteen-point type in  
8 red print (i) the name and office of the individual sought to be  
9 recalled, (ii) the reason or reasons for which recall is sought, (iii)  
10 the defense statement, if any, submitted by the official, and (iv) the  
11 name of the principal circulator or circulators of the recall petition.  
12 The decision of a county attorney to prosecute or not to prosecute any  
13 individual shall not be stated on a petition as a reason for recall.

14           (3) Every sheet of each petition paper presented to a registered  
15 voter for his or her signature shall have upon it, below the lines for  
16 signatures, an affidavit as required in subsection (3) of section 32-628  
17 which also includes language substantially as follows: "and that the  
18 affiant stated to each signer, before the signer affixed his or her  
19 signature to the petition, the following: (a) The name and office of the  
20 individual sought to be recalled, (b) the reason or reasons for which  
21 recall is sought as printed on the petition, (c) the defense statement,  
22 if any, submitted by the official as printed on the petition, and (d) the  
23 name of the principal circulator or circulators of the recall petition".

24           (4) Each petition paper shall contain a statement entitled  
25 Instructions to Petition Circulators prepared by the Secretary of State  
26 to assist circulators in understanding the provisions governing the  
27 petition process established by sections 32-1301 to 32-1309. The  
28 instructions shall include the following statements:

29           (a) No one circulating this petition paper in an attempt to gather  
30 signatures shall sign the circulator's affidavit unless each person who  
31 signed the petition paper did so in the presence of the circulator.

1 (b) No one circulating this petition paper in an attempt to gather  
2 signatures shall allow a person to sign the petition until the circulator  
3 has stated to the person (i) the object of the petition as printed on the  
4 petition, (ii) the name and office of the individual sought to be  
5 recalled, (iii) the reason or reasons for which recall is sought as  
6 printed on the petition, (iv) the defense statement, if any, submitted by  
7 the official as printed on the petition, and (v) the name of the  
8 principal circulator or circulators of the recall petition.

9 Sec. 41. Section 32-1305, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement,  
10 2022, is amended to read:

11 32-1305 (1) The principal circulator or circulators shall file, as  
12 one instrument, all petition papers comprising a recall petition for  
13 signature verification with the filing officer ~~clerk~~ within thirty days  
14 after the filing officer ~~clerk~~ issues the initial petition papers to the  
15 principal circulator or circulators as provided in section 32-1303.

16 (2) If the filing officer ~~clerk~~ is the subject of a recall petition,  
17 the signature verification process shall be conducted by two election  
18 commissioners or county clerks appointed by the Secretary of State which  
19 shall not include the filing officer. Mileage and expenses incurred by  
20 officials appointed pursuant to this subsection shall be reimbursed by  
21 the political subdivision involved in the recall.

22 (3) Within fifteen business days after the filing of the petition,  
23 the filing officer ~~clerk~~ shall ascertain whether or not the petition is  
24 signed by the requisite number of registered voters. No new signatures  
25 may be added after the initial filing of the petition papers. No  
26 signatures may be removed unless the filing officer ~~clerk~~ receives an  
27 affidavit signed by the person requesting his or her signature be removed  
28 before the petitions are filed with the filing officer ~~clerk~~ for  
29 signature verification. If the petition is found to be sufficient, the  
30 filing officer ~~clerk~~ shall attach to the petition a certificate showing  
31 the result of such examination. If the requisite number of signatures has

1 not been gathered, the filing officer ~~clerk~~ shall file the petition in  
2 his or her office without prejudice to the filing of a new petition for  
3 the same purpose.

4 Sec. 42. Section 32-1306, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement,  
5 2022, is amended to read:

6 32-1306 (1) If the recall petition is found to be sufficient, the  
7 filing officer ~~clerk~~ shall notify the official whose removal is sought  
8 and the governing body of the affected political subdivision that  
9 sufficient signatures have been gathered. Notification of the official  
10 sought to be removed may be by any method specified in section 25-505.01  
11 or, if notification cannot be made with reasonable diligence by any of  
12 the methods specified in section 25-505.01, by leaving such notice at the  
13 official's usual place of residence and mailing a copy by first-class  
14 mail to the official's last-known address.

15 (2) The governing body of the political subdivision shall, within  
16 twenty-one days after receipt of the notification from the filing officer  
17 ~~clerk~~ pursuant to subsection (1) of this section, order an election. The  
18 date of the election shall be the first available date that complies with  
19 section 32-405 and that can be certified to the election commissioner or  
20 county clerk at least fifty days prior to the election, except that if  
21 any other election is to be held in that political subdivision within  
22 ninety days after such notification, the governing body of the political  
23 subdivision shall provide for the holding of the recall election on the  
24 same day.

25 (3) All resignations shall be tendered as provided in section  
26 32-562. If the official whose removal is sought resigns before the recall  
27 election is held, the governing body may cancel the recall election if  
28 the governing body notifies the election commissioner or county clerk of  
29 the cancellation on or before the fourth Thursday prior to the election,  
30 otherwise the recall election shall be held as scheduled.

31 (4) If a filing officer ~~clerk~~ is subject to a recall election, the

1 Secretary of State shall conduct the recall election.

2 Sec. 43. Section 32-1308, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is  
3 amended to read:

4 32-1308 (1) If a majority of the votes cast at a recall election are  
5 against the removal of the official named on the ballot or the election  
6 results in a tie, the official shall continue in office for the remainder  
7 of his or her term but may be subject to further recall attempts as  
8 provided in section 32-1309.

9 (2) If a majority of the votes cast at a recall election are for the  
10 removal of the official named on the ballot, he or she shall, regardless  
11 of any technical defects in the recall petition, be deemed removed from  
12 office unless a recount is ordered. If the official is deemed removed,  
13 the removal shall result in a vacancy in the office which shall be filled  
14 as provided in this section and sections 32-567 to 32-570 and 32-574.

15 (3) If the election results show a margin of votes equal to one  
16 percent or less between the removal or retention of the official in  
17 question, the Secretary of State, election commissioner, or county clerk  
18 shall order a recount of the votes cast unless the official named on the  
19 ballot files a written statement with the filing officer ~~clerk~~ that he or  
20 she does not want a recount.

21 (4) If there are vacancies in the offices of one-half or more of the  
22 members of any governing body at one time due to the recall of such  
23 members, a special election to fill such vacancies shall be conducted as  
24 expeditiously as possible by the Secretary of State, election  
25 commissioner, or county clerk.

26 (5) No official who is removed at a recall election or who resigns  
27 after the initiation of the recall process shall be appointed to fill the  
28 vacancy resulting from his or her removal or the removal of any other  
29 member of the same governing body during the remainder of his or her term  
30 of office.

31 Sec. 44. Section 32-1405, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement,

1 2022, is amended to read:

2 32-1405 (1) Prior to obtaining any signatures on an initiative or  
3 referendum petition, a statement of the object of the petition and the  
4 text of the measure shall be filed with the Secretary of State together  
5 with a sworn statement containing the names and street addresses of every  
6 person, corporation, or association sponsoring the petition. Sponsors of  
7 the petition may be added or removed with the unanimous written consent  
8 of the original sponsor or sponsors at any time prior to or on the day  
9 the petition is filed for verification with the Secretary of State.

10 (2) Upon receipt of the filing, the Secretary of State shall  
11 transmit the text of the proposed measure to the Revisor of Statutes. The  
12 Revisor of Statutes shall review the proposed measure and suggest changes  
13 as to form and draftsmanship. The revisor shall complete the review  
14 within ten business days after receipt from the Secretary of State. The  
15 Secretary of State shall provide the results of the review and suggested  
16 changes to the sponsor but shall otherwise keep the proposed measure, the  
17 review, and the sworn statement confidential for five days after receipt  
18 of the review by the sponsor. The Secretary of State shall then maintain  
19 the proposed measure, the opinion, and the sworn statement as public  
20 information and as a part of the official record of the initiative. The  
21 sponsor may make any changes recommended by the Revisor of Statutes and  
22 shall submit final language to the Secretary of State. If the final  
23 language is addressing a subject that is substantially different in form  
24 or substance from the initial filing or the changes recommended by the  
25 Revisor of Statutes, the Secretary of State shall reject it.

26 (3) The Secretary of State shall prepare the form of the petition  
27 from the final language filed by the sponsor and shall provide a copy of  
28 the form of the petition to the sponsor within five business days after  
29 receipt of the final language of the proposed measure. The sponsor shall  
30 print the petitions to be circulated from the forms provided. Prior to  
31 circulation, the sponsor shall file a sample copy of the petition to be

1 circulated with the Secretary of State.

2 Sec. 45. Section 32-1407, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement,  
3 2022, is amended to read:

4 32-1407 (1) Initiative petitions shall be filed in the office of the  
5 Secretary of State at least four months prior to the general election at  
6 which the proposal would be submitted to the voters.

7 (2) When a copy of the form of any initiative petition is filed with  
8 the Secretary of State prior to obtaining signatures, the issue presented  
9 by such petition shall be placed before the voters at the next general  
10 election occurring at least four months after the date that such copy is  
11 filed if the signed petitions are found to be valid and sufficient. All  
12 signed initiative petitions shall become invalid on the date of the first  
13 general election occurring at least four months after the date on which  
14 the copy of the form is filed with the Secretary of State.

15 (3) Petitions invoking a referendum shall be filed in the office of  
16 the Secretary of State within ninety days after the Legislature at which  
17 the act sought to be referred was passed has adjourned sine die or has  
18 adjourned for more than ninety days.

19 (4) At the time of filing the signed petitions, at least one sponsor  
20 shall sign an affidavit certifying that the petitions contain a  
21 sufficient number and distribution of signatures pursuant to Article III,  
22 section 2, of the Constitution of Nebraska to place the issue on the  
23 ballot if such number and distribution of signatures were found to be  
24 valid.

25 Sec. 46. Section 32-1524, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement,  
26 2022, is amended to read:

27 32-1524 ~~(1) For purposes of this section:~~

28 ~~(a) Electioneering means the deliberate, visible display or audible~~  
29 ~~or physical dissemination of information for the purpose of advocating~~  
30 ~~for or against:~~

31 ~~(i) Any candidate on the ballot for the election at which such~~



1 ~~display or dissemination is occurring;~~

2 ~~(ii) Any elected officeholder of a state constitutional office or~~  
3 ~~federal office at the time of the election at which such display or~~  
4 ~~dissemination is occurring;~~

5 ~~(iii) Any political party on the ballot for the election at which~~  
6 ~~such display or dissemination is occurring; or~~

7 ~~(iv) Any measure on the ballot for the election at which such~~  
8 ~~display or dissemination is occurring; and~~

9 ~~(b) Information includes:~~

10 ~~(i) Such a candidate's name, likeness, logo, or symbol;~~

11 ~~(ii) Such a ballot measure's number, title, subject matter, logo, or~~  
12 ~~symbol;~~

13 ~~(iii) A button, hat, pencil, pen, shirt, sign, or sticker containing~~  
14 ~~information prohibited by this section;~~

15 ~~(iv) Audible information prohibited by this section; and~~

16 ~~(v) Literature or any writing or drawing referring to a candidate,~~  
17 ~~officeholder, or ballot measure described in subdivision (a) of this~~  
18 ~~subsection.~~

19 ~~(1) (2) No judge or clerk of election or precinct or district~~  
20 ~~inspector shall do any electioneering or disseminate information or~~  
21 ~~materials advertising or advocating for or against any ballot measure~~  
22 ~~while acting as an election official.~~

23 ~~(2) (3) No person shall do any electioneering, disseminate~~  
24 ~~information or materials advertising or advocating for or against any~~  
25 ~~ballot measure, or circulate petitions within any polling place or any~~  
26 ~~building designated for voters to cast ballots by the election~~  
27 ~~commissioner or county clerk pursuant to the Election Act while the~~  
28 ~~polling place or building is set up for voters to cast ballots or within~~  
29 ~~two hundred feet of the entrances to any such polling place or building~~  
30 ~~except as otherwise provided in subsection (4) (5) of this section.~~

31 ~~(3) (4) No person shall do any electioneering or disseminate~~

1 information or materials advertising or advocating for or against any  
2 ballot measure within two hundred feet of any secure ballot drop-box.

3 (4) ~~(5)~~ Subject to any local ordinance, a person may display yard  
4 signs on private real property within two hundred feet of a polling  
5 place, ~~or~~ building, or secure ballot drop-box designated for voters to  
6 cast ballots if the property is not under common ownership with the  
7 property on which the polling place, ~~or~~ building, or secure ballot drop-  
8 box is located.

9 (5) ~~(6)~~ Any person violating this section shall be guilty of a Class  
10 V misdemeanor.

11 Sec. 47. Section 32-1525, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement,  
12 2022, is amended to read:

13 32-1525 (1) No person shall conduct an exit poll, a public opinion  
14 poll, or any other interview with voters on election day seeking to  
15 determine voter preference within twenty feet of the entrance of any  
16 polling place or, if inside the polling place or building, within one  
17 hundred feet of any voting booth.

18 (2)(a) No poll watcher shall interfere with any voter in the  
19 preparation or casting of such voter's ballot or prevent any election  
20 worker from performing the worker's duties.

21 (b) A poll watcher shall not provide assistance to a voter as  
22 described in section 32-918 unless selected by the voter to provide  
23 assistance as provided in section 32-918.

24 (c) A poll watcher shall not engage in electioneering or  
25 dissemination of information or materials advertising or advocating for  
26 or against any ballot measure as defined in section 32-1524 while engaged  
27 in observing at a polling place.

28 (d) A poll watcher shall maintain a distance of at least eight feet  
29 from the sign-in table, the sign-in register, the polling booths, the  
30 ballot box, and any ballots which have not been cast, except that if the  
31 polling place is not large enough for a distance of eight feet, the judge

1 of election shall post a notice of the minimum distance the poll watcher  
2 must maintain from the sign-in table, the sign-in register, the polling  
3 booths, the ballot box, and any ballots which have not been cast. The  
4 posted notice shall be clearly visible to the voters and shall be posted  
5 prior to the opening of the polls on election day. The minimum distance  
6 shall not be determined to exclude a poll watcher from being in the  
7 polling place.

8 (3) Any person violating this section shall be guilty of a Class V  
9 misdemeanor.

10 Sec. 48. Any person who knowingly and falsely swears to a sponsor's  
11 affidavit on a petition filed under section 32-1407 shall be guilty of a  
12 Class I misdemeanor.

13 Sec. 49. Section 70-663, Revised Statutes Cumulative Supplement,  
14 2022, is amended to read:

15 70-663 ~~(1) This subsection applies to charter amendments submitted~~  
16 ~~after December 31, 2021.~~ Upon such authorization as provided in section  
17 70-662 occurring, the proposed amendment shall thereupon be submitted to  
18 the Nebraska Power Review Board, together with a petition setting forth  
19 the reasons for the adoption of such amendment, and requesting that the  
20 same be approved. The Nebraska Power Review Board shall then cause notice  
21 to be given by publication for three consecutive weeks in two legal  
22 newspapers of general circulation within such district. Such notice shall  
23 set forth in full the proposed amendment and set a date, not sooner than  
24 three weeks after the last date of publication of the notice, for  
25 protests, complaints, or objections to be filed with the Nebraska Power  
26 Review Board in opposition to the adoption of such amendment. The cost of  
27 such publication shall be paid by such district. If any person residing  
28 in such district, or affected by the proposed amendment, shall, within  
29 the time provided, file a protest, complaint, or objection, the Nebraska  
30 Power Review Board shall schedule a hearing and give due notice thereof  
31 to the district, the district's representative, and the person who filed

1 such protest, complaint, or objection. Any person filing a protest,  
2 complaint, or objection may appear at such hearing and contest the  
3 approval by the Nebraska Power Review Board of such proposed amendment.  
4 After all protests, complaints, or objections have been heard, the  
5 Nebraska Power Review Board shall act upon the petition and either  
6 approve or disapprove the amendment. If no protests, complaints, or  
7 objections are properly filed, the board shall either approve the  
8 amendment without a hearing or schedule a hearing to determine whether or  
9 not the amendment should be approved. If a hearing is scheduled, due  
10 notice shall be provided to the district and the district representative.

11 ~~(2) This subsection applies to charter amendments submitted before~~  
12 ~~December 31, 2021. Following the release of the 2020 Census of Population~~  
13 ~~data by the United States Department of Commerce, Bureau of the Census,~~  
14 ~~as required by Public Law 94-171, any public power district seeking an~~  
15 ~~amendment to its charter shall submit the proposed amendment to the~~  
16 ~~Nebraska Power Review Board on or before December 17, 2021. If the~~  
17 ~~proposed amendment is in proper form, the Nebraska Power Review Board~~  
18 ~~shall give conditional approval of the amendment on or before December~~  
19 ~~30, 2021. The approval process provided in subsection (1) of this section~~  
20 ~~shall occur concurrent with the conditional approval process. If a~~  
21 ~~protest, complaint, or objection is filed and a hearing is set, any~~  
22 ~~decision from the Nebraska Power Review Board rejecting the amendment~~  
23 ~~shall be decided and notification provided to the Secretary of State by~~  
24 ~~March 1, 2022. Immediately upon receiving such notification, the~~  
25 ~~Secretary of State shall notify all election commissioners and county~~  
26 ~~clerks responsible for such elections within the public power district~~  
27 ~~that the conditionally approved boundaries were rejected and that the~~  
28 ~~previous boundaries shall be used for the primary and general elections.~~

29 Sec. 50. Original sections 2-3213, 2-3214, 16-202, 16-404, 17-614,  
30 18-2518, 32-307, 32-564, 32-565, 32-613, 32-617, 32-630, 32-632, 32-1205,  
31 32-1301, 32-1304, and 32-1308, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, and

1 sections 32-101, 32-103, 32-318.01, 32-320.01, 32-330, 32-404, 32-405,  
2 32-552, 32-553, 32-606, 32-607, 32-608, 32-615, 32-716, 32-802,  
3 32-808.01, 32-903, 32-947, 32-950.01, 32-1203, 32-1303, 32-1305, 32-1306,  
4 32-1405, 32-1407, 32-1524, 32-1525, and 70-663, Revised Statutes  
5 Cumulative Supplement, 2022, are repealed.