
The intent of [NRS 293.176](#) is to preserve party integrity by preventing political opportunism or interparty raiding. To permit so transparent an attempt as cancelling a previous registration after the September 1 cutoff date and reregistering into another party at a later date as the basis for allowing a candidate to run in the other party's primary, would be to patently frustrate the legislative intent of [NRS 293.176](#). Statutes and words therein should be construed so as to avoid absurd results. *Western Pacific R.R. v. State*, [69 Nev. 66](#), 241 P.2d 846 (1952). Every statute must be construed in light of its purpose. *Berney v. Alexander*, [42 Nev. 423](#), 178 P. 978 (1919).

CONCLUSION—QUESTION FOUR

It is the advice of this office that a candidate may not, after the September 1 date prior to the closing filing date for the next election, circumvent [NRS 293.176](#) by cancelling his voter registration in one party and, after a period of time, reregistering as a voter in another party.

Respectfully submitted,

ROBERT LIST, *Attorney General*

By DONALD KLASIC, *Deputy Attorney General*

198 [NRS 294A.010](#) and [294A.020](#)—The term “district,” as used in [NRS 294A.010](#) and [294A.020](#), means not only multicounty districts, but also intracounty districts such as general improvement districts, school trustee districts, hospital trustee districts, etc.

CARSON CITY, January 28, 1976

THE HONORABLE WM. D. SWACKHAMER, *Secretary of State*, The Capitol, Carson City, Nevada 89710

DEAR MR. SWACKHAMER:

You have requested advice regarding the campaign contribution and expenditure reporting requirements of Chapter 294A of Nevada Revised Statutes.

QUESTION

Does the term “district,” as used in [NRS 294A.010](#) and [294A.020](#), refer only to multicounty district offices, such as legislators or district judges, or does it also refer to intracounty district offices, such as general improvement districts, school trustee districts, hospital trustee districts, etc.?

ANALYSIS

[NRS 294A.010](#) states that:

Every candidate for state, district, county, city or township office at a primary or general election shall, within 15 days after the primary election and 30 days after the general election, report the total amount of all of his campaign contributions to the secretary of state on affidavit forms to be designed and provided by the secretary of state.

[NRS 294A.020](#) provides that:

Every candidate for state, district, county, city or township office at a primary or general election shall, within 15 days after the primary election and 30 days after the general election, report his campaign expenses to the secretary of state on affidavit forms to be designed and provided by the secretary of state.

The ultimate determination of the meaning of a term used in a statute must rest, as always is the case, upon a finding of legislative intention. In construing a statute, the prime concern of any court is to determine legislative intent. Board of School Trustees v. Bray, [60 Nev. 345](#), 109 P.2d 274 (1941).

If the language of a statute does not clearly express the intent of the Legislature, it is permissible to look to the title of the statute for the purposes of construction. A Minor Girl v. Clark County Juvenile Court Servs., [87 Nev. 544](#), 490 P.2d 1248 (1971); Torreyson v. Board of Examiners, [7 Nev. 19](#) (1871). For the purposes of construction, two statutes relating to the same subject may be considered *in pari materia*. State v. Esser, [35 Nev. 429](#) (1913).

Applying these principles of statutory construction of Chapter 294A of Nevada Revised Statutes, it should be noted that the [NRS Chapter is](#) an amalgamation of Chapters 406 and 719 of the 1975 Statutes of Nevada. The purpose of Chapter 719 is to place campaign expenditure *limits* on political candidates. The title to Chapter 719 reads:

An Act relating to elections; setting limits on campaign expenses of candidates for *specified* state, county and city offices; and providing other matters properly relating thereto. (Italics added.)

The title makes no reference to “district” offices. Indeed, it is designed to apply only to specified offices. The act, now codified as [NRS 294A.030](#), applies to candidates for Governor, Lieutenant Governor, Secretary of State, State Treasurer, State Controller, Attorney General, Justices of the Supreme Court, district judges, justices of the peace, and all elective city, county and township officers. No reference whatever is made in the statute to university regents, school district trustees, water district trustees, hospital district trustees, general improvement district trustees, etc.¹ Therefore, there are no campaign expenditure limits for those offices.

Chapter 406, now codified as [NRS 294A.010](#) and [294A.020](#), requires candidates to file campaign contribution and expenditure *reports*. The title for this statute reads:

An Act relating to elections; requiring the reporting of campaign contributions and expenditures by candidates for *all* elective offices; establishing powers and duties of the secretary of state in connection therewith; providing penalties; and providing other matters properly relating thereto. (Italics added.)

¹Campaign expenditure limits for legislators are found in [NRS 218.032](#).

Thus, [NRS 294A.010](#) and [294A.020](#) apply to “Every candidate for state, district, county, city or township office. * * *”

By reading the title to Chapter 406 and by comparing this title to the more limited title and provisions of Chapter 719, this office concludes that the intent of the Legislature was to apply [NRS 294A.010](#) and [294A.020](#) to all elective officers in the State, with no exceptions. Township, city, special district, county, multicounty district and state elected

officers must all file campaign contribution and expenditure reports with the Secretary of State.

CONCLUSION

It is the advice of this office that the term “district,” as used in [NRS 294A.010](#) and [294A.020](#), means not only multicounty district officers, such as legislators or district judges, but also means intracounty districts, such as general improvement districts, school trustee districts, hospital trustee districts and etc. In short, all elected officers in Nevada are covered by the two statutes and all elected officers must file the required campaign contribution and expenditure reports with the Secretary of State.

On the other hand, only those officers specified in [NRS 294A.030](#) are subject to the campaign expenditure limits imposed upon them. All other officers not named have no such limits.

Respectfully submitted,

ROBERT LIST, *Attorney General*

By DONALD KLASIC, *Deputy Attorney General*

199 Recording Fee for Notices of Location and Location Certificates Pertaining to Mining Claims—No specific statutory fee is provided for the recording of Notices of Location and Location Certificates; the general fee provisions of [NRS 247.305](#), subsection 1, apply to these documents and a fee of \$3 for the first page and \$1 for each additional page is to be charged by county recorders.

CARSON CITY, February 9, 1976

THE HONORABLE PETER L. KNIGHT, *Nye County District Attorney*, P.O. Box 593,
Tonopah, Nevada 89049

DEAR MR. KNIGHT:

This is in response to your letter of January 14, 1976, wherein you requested the formal opinion of this office in regard to the question of what recording fees are to be charged by county recorders for the recording of Location Certificates and Notices of Location pertaining to mining claims.

QUESTION

What recording fee is to be charged for recording of Location Certificates and Notices of Location pertaining to mining claims?

ANALYSIS

The repeal of [NRS 517.330](#) by the 1975 Nevada State Legislature removed from the Nevada Revised Statutes any reference to a specific statutory fee to be charged for the recording of Notices of Location of mining claims. [NRS 517.330](#) was apparently repealed because it was no longer consistent with existing statutory law which had done away with separate mining district recorders by consolidating this function in the county recorders in the State of Nevada making them ex officio mining district recorders. See [NRS 517.320](#). By this consolidation of functions, the requirement to file duplicate Notices of Location with the county recorders as provided in [NRS 517.330](#), subsection 4, became redundant. [NRS 517.330](#), subsection 4, had provided for a recording fee of \$1 to be paid to the