

Nevada's 2024 General Election includes seven ballot questions. The Sec. of State's 2024 Ballot Question Guide includes each question's language, a short explanation, and pro and con arguments. You can access the Guide at: <https://www.nvsos.gov/sos/elections/election-information/2024-election-information>

**BQ 1** goes into effect immediately if it passes. This removes the Board of Regents, Nevada's higher education governing body, from the state Constitution. Proponents argue that the Board of Regents has overstepped its authority in managing Nevada's higher education institutions and taxpayer dollars. They argue having governing power under the legislature will ensure higher education is more responsive and accountable to Nevadans.

The opposition argues that Nevada's founders wanted consistent higher education governance independent from the more politically volatile legislature, so the Board of Regents should stay in the state Constitution.

**BQ 2** goes into effect immediately if it passes. It removes terms now deemed offensive from the state constitution by replacing "institutions" with "entities" and revising persons the State is required to foster and support from (1) "insane" to "persons with significant mental illness"; (2) "blind" to "persons who are blind or visually impaired"; and (3) "deaf and dumb" to "persons who are deaf or hard of hearing."

**BQ 3** goes into effect for the 2026 election if it passes. This opens the closed primary races at the top of the ballot to all voters, excluding the presidential race, similar to the current down-ballot open primary races. Voters will pick one candidate in each affected race, and the top five candidates in each affected race will move forward to the general election. This provides voters with more diversity and candidate options in the general election.

To avoid vote splitting in the general election, voters may rank up to 5 candidates, but one vote is valid. If a candidate receives 50%+1 votes, the candidate wins, and that race is over. If no candidate gets 50%+1, the race goes into an instant runoff. The candidate with the fewest votes is eliminated, and his/her voters' votes are redistributed electronically to their second-choice candidates.

This electronic process repeats until a candidate receives 50%+1 of the votes. If a voter only votes for one candidate and that candidate is not eliminated, the voter's vote will be counted in each instant run-off. If the voter's candidate is eliminated at any point, the voter has chosen not to participate in the instant run-off.

Alaska adopted this process in 2022, so you can research the effect through that state's experience.

**BQ 4** goes into effect immediately. It repeals language from the Nevada Constitution that allows for the use of slavery and involuntary servitude as criminal punishments.

**BQ 5** goes into effect immediately. It exempts all types of diapers from sales tax. It will reduce tax revenue.

**BQ 6** creates a constitutional right to an abortion. Because this is a citizen-petition constitutional amendment, it must pass in 2024 and 2026 to take effect in 2027. "This right to abortion would apply from the start of a person's pregnancy up until the start of "fetal viability," unless the pregnant person needs medical care to protect that person's life or health, in which case the right applies throughout the pregnancy." Currently, our state abortion law is protected under a citizens' referendum, so it cannot be changed without a vote of the people.

**BQ 7** is a citizen's petition constitutional amendment, so it must pass in 2024 and 2026 to take effect in 2028. Voters will either show an ID when voting in person or provide a unique code on their mail-in ballot. The list of acceptable identifications a voter can use when voting in person is long, so please refer to the Guide linked above. If voting by mail, the voter will write the last four numbers of his/her DMV identification, his/her social security number, or a unique number issued by the election department. Proponents provided no evidence of voter fraud needing to be addressed through voter ID but did provide Nevada polling data supporting voter ID.