## IN THE SUPREME COURT OF THE STATE OF NEVADA

NATHANIEL HELTON, AN INDIVIDUAL,

Appellant,

VS.

NEVADA VOTERS FIRST PAC, A NEVADA COMMITTEE FOR POLITICAL ACTION; TODD L. BICE, IN HIS CAPACITY AS THE PRESIDENT OF NEVADA VOTERS FIRST PAC; AND BARBARA K. CEGAVSKE, IN HER CAPACITY AS NEVADA SECRETARY OF STATE.

Respondents,

Case No. 84110

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**VOLUME I** 

DATED this 1st day of April 2022.

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## **CERTIFICATE OF SERVICE**

I hereby certify that I am an employee of Pisanelli Bice PLLC, and that on the 1st day of April 2022, I electronically filed and served by electronic mail a true and correct copy of the above and foregoing **SUPPLEMENTAL APPENDIX** to:

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1	Case No. 20 0C 00172 1B ORIGINAL
2	Department No. II
3	
4	IN THE FIRST JUDICIAL DISTRICT COURT OF THE STATE OF NEVADA
5	IN AND FOR CARSON CITY
6	HONORABLE JAMES WILSON, DISTRICT JUDGE
7	
8	NATHANIEL HELTON, an individual,
9	Plaintiff,
10	VS.
11	NEVADA VOTERS FIRST PAC, a Nevada Committee for Political Action;
12	TODD L. BICE, in his capacity as the President of NEVADA VOTERS
13 14	FIRST PAC; and BARBARA CEGAVSKE, in her capacity as NEVADA SECRETARY OF STATE,
15	Defendants.
16	/
17	JAVS CD-ROM TRANSCRIPT OF PROCEEDINGS
18	TELEPHONIC-RECORDED ORAL ARGUMENT
19	WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 5, 2022
20	CARSON CITY, NEVADA
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23	
24	Transcribed by: Shellie Loomis, RPR
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	CAPITOL REPORTERS (775) 882-5322

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1	CARSON CITY, NEVADA, WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 5, 2022
2	-000-
3	
4	(Transcription was to the best of the ability
5	of the transcriber with the audio-recording quality.)
6	THE COURT: I'm going to go through individually
7	to make sure everyone can, but this is 21-OC-172, Helton
8	versus Nevada Voters First Pac.
9	Todd Bice in his capacity as President versus
10	Nevada Voters and the Secretary of State.
11	I'm going to have you state your appearances,
12	starting with the Plaintiff. If you could speak a little
13	slower than normal and enunciate a little more than you would
14	in person, it makes it a little easier for me to hear.
15	Mr. Schrazer.
16	MR. SCHRAZER: Yes, good morning. Brandon
17	Schrazer with the Plaintiff, Nathaniel Helton, and with me is
18	Ms. McAleer, Lindsay McAleer, from the Alliance Law Group and
19	she'll be making our presentation today by virtue of her
20	admission pro hac vice by order of the Court.
21	THE COURT: Thank you.
22	Mr. Bice.
23	MR. BICE: Good morning, Your Honor, Todd Bice on
24	behalf of Nevada Voters First and myself. Also with me will

```
be Mr. Smith, Jordan Smith, and John Horton from my office,
 2
     but I'll be making the arguments today, Your Honor.
 3
                  THE COURT:
                             All right. Mr. Newby.
                  MR. NEWBY: Good morning, Your Honor, Craig Newby
 5
     on behalf of the Secretary of State.
 6
                  THE COURT: I have a couple of callers that I
 7
     can't identify. When you're not speaking, if you could mute
 8
     your computer or phone, whichever you're using orally.
     help cut down on the feedback and, again, make it easier to --
10
     for me to hear.
11
                  Mr. Schrazer, where are you located?
12
                  MR. SCHRAZER: In Las Vegas, Your Honor.
13
                             And Ms. McAleer?
                  THE COURT:
14
                  MS. MCALEER: I'm in Seattle, Your Honor.
15
                  THE COURT:
                             Mr. Bice?
16
                             Las Vegas, Your Honor.
                  MR. BICE:
17
                  THE COURT: Mr. Smith?
18
                  MR. SMITH: Also Las Vegas, Your Honor.
19
                  THE COURT:
                             And Mr. Forton.
20
                  MR. FORTON: Las Vegas, Your Honor.
21
                  THE COURT: Mr. Newby?
22
                  MR. NEWBY:
                             Las Vegas.
23
                  THE COURT:
                              Is there any of you that are not able
24
     to hear me clearly?
```

1	(No audible response.)
2	THE COURT: Is there any of you that are not able
3	to hear any other counsel clearly?
4	(No audible response.)
5	THE COURT: All right. This is being recorded on
6	the court's recording system.
7	I have read all of the substantive papers that
8	have been filed and formed some preliminary opinions not
9	opinions, preliminary impressions. My intention is to have an
10	order signed and filed today.
11	So with that, did you say Ms. McAleer was going
12	to argue, Mr. Schrazer?
13	MS. MCALEER: Yes, that's
14	THE COURT: Or Ms. McAleer.
15	MR. SCHRAZER: That's correct, yes.
16	THE COURT: Go ahead.
17	MS. MCALEER: And I before, if I can confirm
18	timing, so are we splitting 45 minutes, 15, by (indiscernible)
19	Mr. Bice (indiscernible).
20	THE COURT: 45 minutes.
21	MR. BICE: I do not intend to take that much
22	time, Your Honor. So I have no problem with that with
23	Mr. Newby and I and the balance of all the defense time.
24	Mr. Newby will have plenty of time.

1	THE COURT: All right. Thank you.
2	Go ahead, Ms. McAleer.
3	MS. MCALEER: Thank you, Your Honor. It's
4	McAleer.
5	THE COURT: McAleer.
6	MS. MCALEER: Thank you, Your Honor.
7	If it may please the Court, my name is Lindsay
8	McAleer, and I represent the Plaintiff, Mr. Helton. Voting is
9	fundamental to our democracy. But for voting to function as
10	it should democracy the electorate must be informed about who
11	or what they are choosing or implying.
12	Mr. Helton challenged the Petition at issue
13	entitled, "Separate Voting Nevada Initiative," because it
14	failed to inform voters about two radical (indiscernible)
15	makes the Nevada Constitution.
16	Mr. Helton (indiscernible) three challenges to
17	the Petition. First, Petitioner to choose such
18	(indiscernible) in violation of Nevada (indiscernible) subject
19	to (indiscernible).
20	Second, the Petition mandates significant and
21	expensive changes to Nevada's primary and general elections
22	without allocating or regulating (indiscernible), in violation
23	of the Nevada Constitution.
24	Third, the (indiscernible) confusing discussed

(indiscernible) most failed to inform voters and to make a decision about whether or not (indiscernible). Before I (indiscernible) substance (indiscernible) issue (indiscernible).

With removing the function (indiscernible)

democracy (indiscernible) has to be informed about who or what

they are (indiscernible) state constitution while eliminating

the Nevada post primary (indiscernible) and replacing it with

a top prior open primary and getting rid of plurality voting

in the general election (indiscernible) a new (indiscernible)

with the voting system.

These two changes are as brief and independent of one another and they cannot be valid (indiscernible) by the (indiscernible) general topic which (indiscernible) mainly, quote, how voters elect (indiscernible), or the Division (indiscernible) title (indiscernible) voting Nevada.

This is clear in the Nevada Supreme Court's rejection of the similar subject of the voter approval and that (indiscernible) results that the (indiscernible) general (indiscernible). He knew (indiscernible) polarized (indiscernible) rejection.

The Petition (indiscernible), quote, the recall effect (indiscernible) officer (indiscernible) (indiscernible) remove officer to general category (indiscernible) subject to

how voters elect by (indiscernible).

Here, there's two different mechanisms and two different types of elections that each cover different purposes. After all the electing officers (indiscernible) recalling them.

Second, regarding Mr. Helton's (indiscernible) mandate thing. Defendants don't have (indiscernible) the position including the (indiscernible) without (indiscernible) expending additional costs.

The reality is that no money was sent to the administration of the primary general elections would occur in a way that violates the law.

The new law required (indiscernible) obvious (indiscernible) the Division doesn't find the changes that (indiscernible). There's no mention of costs in this instruction (indiscernible) either.

The Nevada Supreme Court recognized similar (indiscernible), it's just that no such (indiscernible) this (indiscernible).

Third, ultimately we have been (indiscernible) is the fact that (indiscernible) change (indiscernible) change for a candidate, have a party relation, listing that with their name on the general election ballot without a (indiscernible) primary, whether no longer (indiscernible)

report (indiscernible) party (indiscernible) does, in fact, operate (indiscernible).

The division itself recognizes it. It is required (indiscernible) quote conspicuous disclaimer stating that (indiscernible) pardons office (indiscernible) (indiscernible) the candidate (indiscernible) not implied, but the candidate is nominated for (indiscernible) party or (indiscernible) party (indiscernible) or associate with that candidate.

Yes, despite the (indiscernible) theoretic recognition of this very true and important fact that the position that (indiscernible) voter will find no one casting their ballot. There's no mention of it in the description of the (indiscernible).

The (indiscernible) (indiscernible) result to inform voters of that investigation (indiscernible) after the (indiscernible) (indiscernible).

Rather than acknowledge (indiscernible) to assure the voters are informed about the content, in fact,

Petitioners required that (indiscernible) defendants

(indiscernible) Mr. Helton in viewing the Nevada voters quote uninformed and unsophisticated.

Mr. Helton is a Nevada voter and the entire purpose of the rejection (indiscernible) (indiscernible) offer

1 to ensure that voters are important and that interested parties that Nevada (indiscernible) initiative that long 3 (indiscernible) (indiscernible) client (indiscernible) voter (indiscernible). 5 The Defendant, Nevada voter current 6 (indiscernible) (indiscernible) needs (indiscernible) political action committee (indiscernible) package of this 8 (indiscernible). 9 If anyone has interest there it is that Mr. 10 Helton brings the challenge to protect the rights of the 11 Nevada voter. 12 (Indiscernible) (indiscernible) to 13 (indiscernible) specific (indiscernible) to each challenge. 14 (Indiscernible) (indiscernible) (indiscernible). 15 The Petition violates the single subject rule because it seeks to action (indiscernible) independent 16 17 constitutional amendment (indiscernible) (indiscernible). 18 But the (indiscernible) changes (indiscernible) 19 and subject (indiscernible) for (indiscernible) eliminate 20 votes for primary where traditionally voters elect their 21 (indiscernible) nominee (indiscernible) petitioner would

(Indiscernible) petition will eliminate original

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replace that spoken primary with its novel (indiscernible)

voting advanced mechanism.

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locate (indiscernible) general (indiscernible) entirely different novel (indiscernible) the new (indiscernible) multi (indiscernible) voting (indiscernible).

(Indiscernible) subject which means that the part (indiscernible) must be functionally related and germane to each other and the initiative (indiscernible) subject (indiscernible) importantly (indiscernible) initiative (indiscernible) while it may not circumvent (indiscernible) law subject (indiscernible) (indiscernible) generality. That is putting (indiscernible) provisions (indiscernible) (indiscernible) category.

(Indiscernible) lawful (indiscernible) subject together (indiscernible) potentially unpopular vision to a more (indiscernible) or to a more attractive (indiscernible) or feeling (indiscernible) lengthy complex mission.

And this is what the Petition has. The packaging and (indiscernible) primary which general election (indiscernible) voting creation (indiscernible) or duty constitutional provision (indiscernible) (indiscernible) require each of (indiscernible) in one (indiscernible) working together to endorse (indiscernible) over chat (indiscernible) and (indiscernible) (indiscernible) general.

To figure out the (indiscernible) purpose (indiscernible) catching language and (indiscernible)

purposes.

Here (indiscernible) changes election together (indiscernible) under the Petition can (indiscernible) better voting Nevada and (indiscernible) briefing (indiscernible) (indiscernible) foundation of quote how voter elects (indiscernible).

That language is subject to voter will not stay intact here. This is standard (indiscernible) (indiscernible) generality and would circumvent the (indiscernible) single subject rule.

When one considers the specific changes that the Petition would make, it's clear that they refer to the (indiscernible) just as (indiscernible) attack here.

Like here (indiscernible) (indiscernible) actually cover to (indiscernible) one (indiscernible) go voter approval first agreement (indiscernible) (indiscernible) you there are things you got to (indiscernible), but once here the (indiscernible) are used for the purpose which supplies the voter with bigger input (indiscernible) approval for (indiscernible).

But then (indiscernible) voter approval with (indiscernible) general (indiscernible) linked these two together.

Like that initiative, the only common language

needed to (indiscernible) to change it (indiscernible) is that they involve the general act of voting which is too general given the subject.

It's just like in the (indiscernible) here

(indiscernible) (indiscernible) changes (indiscernible). The

primary has traditionally (indiscernible) election which voter

(indiscernible) (indiscernible) party to their standard

(indiscernible) while the general operates for a different

purpose to actually hold back public (indiscernible) to

office.

Defendants proposed subject (indiscernible)

(indiscernible) ignored that the primary (indiscernible) the

current method (indiscernible) canned date that should be more

or less (indiscernible) be only the general election is

(indiscernible) by which (indiscernible) actually elected.

If anything, (indiscernible) changed more (indiscernible) (indiscernible) (indiscernible) had merit because of those two entirely different methods of voter (indiscernible) election.

(Indiscernible) and ultimately is in Colorado Supreme Court rejection initiative that (indiscernible) changed (indiscernible) Colorado (indiscernible) single subject rule.

(Indiscernible) (indiscernible) before

(indiscernible) definition (indiscernible) changed the profit of the messy recall election, and secondly, the additional subject officials subject in that office which is two different subjects that the State (indiscernible).

(Indiscernible) (indiscernible) petition here which (indiscernible) changes Nevada current primary to a (indiscernible) primary such that new voters (indiscernible) subject to this profits (indiscernible) and second, dramatically changes the general election from a winner take all over to (indiscernible) voting (indiscernible) candidate choose their own (indiscernible).

This is obviously more problematic. At least in (indiscernible) 76, the changes the (indiscernible) single voting act. (Indiscernible) also (indiscernible) two different mechanisms like two separate elections. Defense own arguments regarding the purpose the Petition made clear the difference (indiscernible) issue.

Defendants say that the Petition's primary purpose was to address the (indiscernible) problem that (indiscernible) Nevada voter (indiscernible) identifying for not (indiscernible) (indiscernible) quote, disenfranchise because they (indiscernible) statement (indiscernible) primary and have a big choice in the general.

So the only changes to the Petition have an

effect that the purpose for those in the primary

(indiscernible) instituting the (indiscernible) choice voting

in a general election does not open a primary to allow

(indiscernible) (indiscernible) (indiscernible), nor

(indiscernible) change how many options that are here on the

ballot in the general.

Instead, it changed how votes are cast (indiscernible) tallied in the general election.

(Indiscernible) difference here, but strategic (indiscernible) voter case (indiscernible) when they have the ballot constitutes separate subject (indiscernible) purchase recall changes that don't depend on one another textually, logically, (indiscernible) insufficient (indiscernible).

This is further evidenced by the fact there's not even a single (indiscernible) (indiscernible). The two sections (indiscernible) each stands on its own.

Defendants try to avoid (indiscernible) qualify (indiscernible) primary and general (indiscernible) with voting are must be necessarily the same. And that range with voting with be (indiscernible) necessarily two candidates on the ballot. (Indiscernible) further argument incorrectly in Nevada and it can't get on the ballot.

Now a major party can't (indiscernible) ballot throughout (indiscernible) outside of the primary office.

That there's no functional way between (indiscernible). 1 2 petition failed in the subject act. 3 (Indiscernible) unmandated challenge this is a relevant (indiscernible) (indiscernible). (Indiscernible) 4 credible (indiscernible) in Section 6 of the constitution and 5 it should not include a (indiscernible) (indiscernible) 6 (indiscernible). 8 Defendant does not (indiscernible) or thing 9 (indiscernible) (indiscernible) redacted, Nevada officials 10 would have to spend money to get (indiscernible) primary and 11 general election (indiscernible) (indiscernible) new law. 12 So there's no method of paying the costs 13 (indiscernible) sufficient (indiscernible) void. It's as 14 simple as that. In fact, it's not entirely (indiscernible) (indiscernible) burden (indiscernible) Petitioner 15 16 (indiscernible) violate Section 10. 17 (Indiscernible) (indiscernible) (indiscernible) all the changes in the law (indiscernible) (indiscernible) 18 19 financial burden, and (indiscernible) concerned 20 (indiscernible). 21 (Indiscernible) (indiscernible) for these two 22 reasons. First, it's not true that all changes to the law

required that (indiscernible) required by (indiscernible) and

an obvious example is the Supreme Court (indiscernible)

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(indiscernible) as the Court (indiscernible) (indiscernible)
(indiscernible) (indiscernible) initiative not mandate any
type of (indiscernible) looking down (indiscernible) officials
(indiscernible) (indiscernible) (indiscernible).

Second, if Defendants are contending a burden, a financial burden associated with the change of (indiscernible) (indiscernible) that (indiscernible) way (indiscernible) it's an obvious matter other jurisdictions (indiscernible) with (indiscernible) voting (indiscernible) (indiscernible) (indiscernible).

For example, (indiscernible) population in Nevada, the estimated cost of that (indiscernible) was over \$900,000. And just the (indiscernible) campaign (indiscernible) voting you have (indiscernible) voting are (indiscernible) \$15 million.

And they're going to account for costs associated with the primary which will presumably have (indiscernible) (indiscernible) running (indiscernible) (indiscernible) account.

So more importantly, the Nevada Supreme Court (indiscernible) no costs(indiscernible) (indiscernible) to (indiscernible) sent (indiscernible) Supreme Court (indiscernible) initiative (indiscernible) ensure (indiscernible) health education was (indiscernible)

(indiscernible) necessary appreciation (indiscernible) for venture (indiscernible) any (indiscernible) prevented (indiscernible) requiring that be good (indiscernible) original emphasis on any.

If an initiative for Nevada officials

(indiscernible), Section 6 says of the Petition also provide
the way for raising that dollar and then petition going
forward (indiscernible) Nevada (indiscernible).

Defendants seem to say that the Petition is not (indiscernible) dollar toward new electoral and it doesn't (indiscernible) new requirement for funding an election. The Supreme Court rejected (indiscernible) in Section 6.

(Indiscernible) (indiscernible) not whether initiative by turn, but appropriate money, but rather (indiscernible) it takes away officials impression (indiscernible) not to spend money. That was the Petition.

If that (indiscernible) officials didn't spend money (indiscernible) or (indiscernible) voter (indiscernible), they would violate the new law and in realty there would be no election.

By the way, Defendants' argument that the (indiscernible) petition (indiscernible) (indiscernible) election officials (indiscernible) current expenses (indiscernible) can give the Nevada Legislature with

(indiscernible) implementing (indiscernible).

The test is not initiative take away initial instruction, it is (indiscernible) where or how and money, whether to take away their (indiscernible) spending money currently.

It is irrelevant that officials in the legislature (indiscernible) by which you (indiscernible) (indiscernible). For example, whether they want (indiscernible) public (indiscernible) (indiscernible) do unlawful election.

The fact that (indiscernible) (indiscernible) which costs money to comply (indiscernible) (indiscernible) (indiscernible) (indiscernible) have to pay for them (indiscernible) (indiscernible).

Finally, (indiscernible) challenge

(indiscernible) (indiscernible) that destruction of that challenge, because (indiscernible) (indiscernible)

(indiscernible) party (indiscernible).

But, in the event Petition's (indiscernible) or (indiscernible) is (indiscernible) another reason that Defendants shouldn't be allowed to (indiscernible) form because it's confusing, deceptive and misleading.

(Indiscernible) (indiscernible) earlier, the Petition recognizes that the critically important fact that

under (indiscernible) party (indiscernible) and (indiscernible) will not reflect a party's (indiscernible) including (indiscernible) disclaimer (indiscernible) require (indiscernible) to place on the general and primary election ballot.

And remember that all thought they think it's enough to put on the ballot, it is not significant enough to put in a description of the fact.

(Indiscernible) (indiscernible) (indiscernible) ballot after the Petition (indiscernible) to inform voters (indiscernible). This is too late. NRS 295.009 requires voters to be informed of the Petition (indiscernible) important (indiscernible) of (indiscernible) things (indiscernible) when voters for initiative.

Defendants try to (indiscernible) way

(indiscernible) heavily on the Supreme Court (indiscernible)

education initiative (indiscernible) voter (indiscernible)

(indiscernible) secretary (indiscernible).

But it has to be (indiscernible) (indiscernible) take time (indiscernible). (Indiscernible) in order to do that we would only (indiscernible) (indiscernible) in cases like (indiscernible) and (indiscernible) would come up (indiscernible).

The subject recognizes that leading the

(indiscernible) initiative, particularly along significant
(indiscernible) like we have here. (Indiscernible)
(indiscernible) voter generally will issue (indiscernible)
past (indiscernible) brief interaction (indiscernible)
(indiscernible) to sign the Petition.

(Indiscernible) requirement, it says

(indiscernible) require for voter time (indiscernible) not to mention (indiscernible) that they don't need to know or not required (indiscernible) to actually own (indiscernible) initiative (indiscernible). That will allow an entire (indiscernible) controversial aspect measure would (indiscernible) initiative.

That's why (indiscernible) sanctuary requires (indiscernible) and (indiscernible) pack that leaving out important, potentially (indiscernible) (indiscernible) ramification render the description defective and its (indiscernible).

But this is not the only place where the description falls short. They also (indiscernible) other potentially problematic and problematic at the Petition (indiscernible) and it tends to minimize the changes with (indiscernible).

This does not make it a (indiscernible) drafted (indiscernible). Globally (indiscernible) word used

(indiscernible) omitted or (indiscernible).

Specifically, the (indiscernible) informed voter that they don't want to (indiscernible) voter candidate on the ballot, it (indiscernible) their vote might not be included in the final tally, it does not tell the voter (indiscernible) converting Nevada (indiscernible) would require a significant investment of public funds.

(Indiscernible) not (indiscernible) of civil (indiscernible) that under the (indiscernible) system, the candidate with the top (indiscernible) choice, but the greatest number of voters being no longer guaranteed (indiscernible).

Instead, the instruction be not (indiscernible) which is (indiscernible) controversial act (indiscernible) voting. So I'm suggesting that the function is the same the traditional (indiscernible) candidate and a (indiscernible) 50 percent of the vote (indiscernible) and (indiscernible) in the general election, rather is (indiscernible).

In our briefing, the Defendants (indiscernible). Noting that the primary function for a completely different offices that are covered by this petition, a general election isn't required if a candidate would be (indiscernible).

(Indiscernible) but obviously required (indiscernible) voter be 50 percent of the vote. He elected

not the traditional rule for the general election, but

(indiscernible) including a (indiscernible).

In fact, the Nevada Constitution was added by

(indiscernible) 1854 before Nevada was even paid

(indiscernible) 1854 before Nevada was even paid (indiscernible) Section 14 of (indiscernible) be provided at as a default (indiscernible) plural at in vote have an election by the people shall constitute choice.

There's no reasonable date that a plurality is sufficient under the current (indiscernible). It does not under the (indiscernible) function quote act traditionally as the description (indiscernible).

In closing, for the reasons this (indiscernible) say and in addition to those provided in briefing, we ask that the Court find the Petition legally deficient and enjoin (indiscernible) from (indiscernible) signature, and also enjoin the Secretary of State from leaving the Petition on ballot.

And if the Court has no further questions, we'll reserve our remaining time for rebuttal.

THE COURT: Thank you, Ms. McAleer. I do not have any questions at this point.

Mr. Bice?

MR. BICE: Good morning, Your Honor. Again, for the record, Todd Bice on behalf of the Committee and myself.

Your Honor, let me address these subject matters in the order in which they were presented by counsel. The single subject matter -- well, (indiscernible) Your Honor, is wrong under Nevada law.

The subject matter before the Court and the subject of this initiative is how the voters choose (indiscernible) or choose (indiscernible) source. That is (indiscernible) the Nevada Supreme Court has proved under the single subject requirement.

The standard is whether -- on the statute is whether or not the provisions of the initiative functionally relate to and are germane to the subject of the initiative. It is not, as counsel says, where she made the argument that each provision must be dependent on the other.

That actually is not the standard and I think that was a tail, that argument was a tail, because their -- that is their contention is that each provision -- if any provision has standalone, must be a standalone initiative. And that isn't the law in Nevada and, frankly, that's not the law virtually anywhere else.

And I'll address the reliance upon this criticized Colorado decision here momentarily. But what the Nevada Supreme Court has said, Your Honor, if we could just —they're summarized in our brief and I know that Your Honor

already knows these cases pretty much back and forth, and that is the Nevada Supreme Court is (indiscernible) because Nevada has a single (indiscernible) requirement in the constitution for the legislature, which is worded almost verbatim on the same as single subject requirement that exists for voter initiatives.

And what that requires, Your Honor, is that (indiscernible) single subject and then all the provisions in the initiative have to relate to that subject and that's what we have done here.

We have proposed an initiative to change the manner in which the voters choose their representatives for these specified losses.

The fact that you have a primary election as a step in that process doesn't mean that primary is somehow a separate subject from the general. The fact of the matter is that this is single subject. It's far narrower than (indiscernible) tail regarding eminent domain as it did in the Heller decision.

The Nevada Supreme Court simply -- specifically said, eminent domain is a single subject and is one of the provisions related to the subject matter, the general subject is eminent domain. Those provisions were all valid under the (indiscernible) requirement.

They then said the same thing, Your Honor, with respect to (indiscernible) education and the Nevada job (indiscernible) where the Court tells, in that case, you had -- the (indiscernible) purpose was to fund education and there they made the exact -- the challengers made the exact same argument the Plaintiff is making here.

They made the argument that, well, there were two separate taxes that were involved in that case. Some voters might choose one tax over another or they might prefer one over another. Those taxes could stand independently. They were both separate and had to be treated like separate initiatives and the Nevada Supreme Court said, no, that's not right. That's wrong.

The standard isn't does one depend on the other. The standard is whether or not the provision functionally relates to the subject matter of the initiative. And here obviously the primary and the general relate to this election of (indiscernible) holders. That's how they get into office.

The fact that someone can also get into office,

Your Honor, they (indiscernible) election. (Indiscernible)

primary process in circumstances, that doesn't negate the fact
that the primary is the principle way in which people get into
the general. That doesn't in any way negate the fact that
they weren't even complying with each other.

And that's -- the same was true, Your Honor, in the sanctuary cities case, which I acknowledge is an unpublished decision.

But in that case, the description was from -- the subject was sanctuary cities and the Nevada Supreme Court specifically upheld that and said that it's in all the provisions, yeah, they were very wrong in that case, but since all of them relate to the subject matter of sanctuary cities, the initiatives go out for signature to the voters -- or for signature (indiscernible).

This proposed amendment, again, Your Honor, is far narrower than those that the Supreme Court in the past has approved them because what we have proposed is a process for change how (indiscernible) offices are, in fact, selected.

And we site to, Your Honor, the Alaska Supreme Court's decision. It involved a very similar initiative for the Alaska Supreme Court's (indiscernible).

These provisions about open and binary are nonpartisan primary and are linked to one's voting are interrelated with (indiscernible) because that's the (indiscernible) accomplishing at the end of the initiative. That's what it means to be (indiscernible) related and germane.

That's how the process is supposed to work and

their criticism and their (indiscernible) Alaska Supreme Court (indiscernible) the Alaska Supreme Court is completely different than Nevada is just dead wrong.

The Nevada Supreme Court has specifically said this provision single subject requirement provision under NRS 295.409 is supposed to be broadly interpreted so as to (indiscernible) the public's right to propose initiatives, which is the same thing that the Alaska Supreme Court said in rejecting the exact same single subject (indiscernible).

Now, let me turn now briefly (indiscernible) decision, which was the first time in their reply was quite interesting. (Indiscernible) is red flagged and Westlaw because it held Supreme Court revised its decision subsequently in 2019.

And the other problem with this is

(indiscernible) it's a Colorado equivalent of our decision in

Nevada Judges Association versus Lau.

So what happened in that case, Colorado lost (indiscernible) provisions, one that dealt with election (indiscernible) and one that dealt with unelected public relations. All right.

Well, the proposed (indiscernible) issue proposed is an amendment that would deal with both (indiscernible) even though under existing law, there was already an existing

recall process for elected representatives, but there was no such process for unelected (indiscernible) public officials.

So what the Colorado Supreme Court there said was, well, this initiative lumps all of these true historically separate groups of people together into one initiative. One that was subject to a recall previously and one that was not, and that's why the Colorado Supreme Court there had an issue with that.

Similar to how the Nevada (indiscernible) and allow this initiative to support all. (Indiscernible) initiative term limits that apply to everyone and the Supreme Court said, well, that's a problem.

They lump judiciary again with what are known as career politicians or, in other words, (indiscernible) office holders. And that's what (indiscernible). That's now (indiscernible) done here.

This initiative applies to partisan office holders. We have defined specifically which office holders it applies. They're all subject to the primary process. They're all subject to the general election process and they have been historically always (indiscernible).

So the Colorado decision (indiscernible) is somehow being the significant decision raised in their reply, because now they've been criticized (indiscernible) itself

label (indiscernible). But it's also simply not square on the back of the case.

We are treating existing political officers the same way and we are separating out (indiscernible) like they were in the Colorado decision, Your Honor.

So under the articulation, the Nevada Supreme

Court has given us about the (indiscernible) requirement, we

have satisfied that. We have proposed an initiative that

is -- relates to and defines how these office holders elected

and each of the provision of the (indiscernible) functions

towards that same end and is interrelated with each other.

So they don't deny the open primary process and (indiscernible) vote or interrelated (indiscernible). What our (indiscernible) dependent on (indiscernible). That, again, as I said, that detail because I thought was standard.

If that was the standard, no unconstitutional would ever survive because they essentially argue that one (indiscernible) this is what I pointed out in our brief.

The recent amendment to the Nevada constitution adopting voter (indiscernible) rights. None of those constitute (indiscernible) 11 provisions in that constitutional amendment were, quote, dependent on each other. They all could have stood alone.

So the plaintiff's argument on the

(indiscernible) you have to have 11 different (indiscernible). The same would be true, Your Honor, in 1996 amendment where the voters of Nevada adopted campaign contribution limits for both the primary election and the general election in a single initiative.

Under the Plaintiff's articulation, well, those aren't dependent on each other. You can have a constitutional -- you can have a campaign contribution limit from the primary that is separate and distinct from the general and so, therefore, (indiscernible) was 5,000 for the primary and then an additional 5,000 for the general.

So if you were somebody who didn't participate in the primary, the campaign contribution limit wasn't even implicated. But no one has seriously (indiscernible) that the voters had to adopt constitutional initiatives in order to impose those campaign contribution limits just because the primary and the general are technically separate elections.

So they all relate to the subject matter,

Your Honor, and that's why it satisfies our articulation on
the single subject rule just like the civil initiative did in
the State of Alaska under their very similar single subject
rule requirements.

So, Your Honor, coming to the funding (indiscernible) issue, let me note first a procedural issue in

that I do object to the (indiscernible) reply brief now to introduce evidence. It's not actually evidence.

They site in a footnote 2,2 (indiscernible) where they claim for the first time now that this constitutes, I guess, their argument that this would necessarily impose a buddy requirement to do the election. That violates the rule of the court.

We raise (indiscernible) reply brief, number one, and number two, it's actually not evidence. I don't know what the Alaska system was and I don't know what the New York system was just like the Plaintiff here provides no baseline for how much the election process costs in Nevada.

And the Plaintiff met the burden here in Nevada, of course made that clear, has the burden of demonstrating that it's clearly unconstitutional. That's their burden. You can't shift that burden.

And again, I would submit this is a tail when the Plaintiff tries to shift that burden on the defense saying, well, we claim that it's going to cost a lot more money. We don't have any proof of that, but we claim it's a (indiscernible) for this (indiscernible) and that's not what the law requires.

If the Plaintiff actually was going to (indiscernible) theory that this is constituted, an unfunded

mandate, it is the Plaintiff's burden to prove that unfunded mandate and what that mandate (indiscernible).

They haven't done that at all. They just simply stated, well, (indiscernible). Nevada has conducted elections (indiscernible) the State.

There is zero evidence (indiscernible) offered by the Plaintiff that this initiative will cost any amount of money or that it won't even be the process (indiscernible) for the state (indiscernible).

All of the things that they (indiscernible) they say, well, it will cost (indiscernible) software. Do they have any (indiscernible) evidence of this? No. They will somehow cost (indiscernible) cost in terms of training.

Again, do they have any evidence this? No. These are all just open (indiscernible) content and not supported by anything.

But the bigger problem with this is the type of (indiscernible) argument about the types of (indiscernible) happen with any (indiscernible).

Those are the exact same arguments and I mean the exact same arguments that were advanced against (indiscernible) initiative and we site to the Court the portion of the record in (indiscernible) back (indiscernible) present evidence to the trial board that it was going to cost

money for that initiative under the theory of enforcement, law enforcement and changes in processes and procedures, because in that case, that initiative (indiscernible) legislature and law enforcement testified at the legislative hearing about how there was going to be the increase in costs.

The Nevada Supreme Court recognized that's not what this -- that's not what the provisions of the Nevada constitution where it talks about unfunded mandates is talking about. There's always going to be associated costs any time you change the law. But that's not here.

This initiative doesn't mandate (indiscernible) government do anything new. It simply mandates that when you conduct these elections, you do it in the following manner. You are already conducting it. You're already conducting the prior, which -- I'll address this shortly, which is a (indiscernible) expense and what you're really arguing is that once (indiscernible) parties (indiscernible) process and that was (indiscernible) will do away with.

Number two, you already conducted (indiscernible). The only difference now (indiscernible) are tabulated in that general election. They're not separate (indiscernible).

They're all these -- this process by which office workers are selected and there's no evidence in this record

offered by the Plaintiff that this is going to impose any sort of additional officers from the public.

And even if (indiscernible) argument about (indiscernible) self-evidence by the time (indiscernible) with any general change in the law, the Nevada Supreme Court just said is not what Article 19 said -- is talking about.

What they -- what the Court there explained in the education case for the (indiscernible) yes, provided for education and all they had. But that initiative was going to uphold a burden on the State (indiscernible) specified level and it was their board -- their (indiscernible) to remove the discretion that it already (indiscernible) existed in the law.

And by imposing that (indiscernible) spend X amount, you now (indiscernible) the demands of expenditure and you have the funds expenditure. That's not what we are doing. This is (indiscernible) again, the general change in the law, which again, leaves discretion to the legislative branch to determine how that process (indiscernible).

And then lastly, Your Honor, with (indiscernible) effect, I've been frankly (indiscernible) the Plaintiff provide (indiscernible) description of the (indiscernible).

Our description of effect shows exactly what the statute is signed to do.

It gives -- the statute gives up the obligation,

this whole (indiscernible) to provide the description of the initiative proposes to do in 200 words or (indiscernible) in 200 words. Our description does that.

Right in the first sentence, Your Honor, we point out (indiscernible) in front of me. We point out what the exact (indiscernible) right in the first sentence (indiscernible) to which (indiscernible) initiative apply and then we talk about the changes that we've made.

The changes are spelled out right there. It will eliminate the parties to primary, establishing a (indiscernible) open primary, followed by (indiscernible) election right in the first sentence. The following sentence then tells the voters how that process is going to work and we tell them the consequences of that change.

And contrary to the argument, I think -Your Honor, I think a court recognizes it is well understood
throughout the country, not just Nevada, that the traditional
rule is that if you get 50 percent plus one vote, you're a
winner. That's what we're saying there (indiscernible) votes,
that's -- that remains.

But what happens if somebody doesn't get

50 percent plus one of the initial first place first line

votes, then explain to the voters the exact (indiscernible).

And there's no dispute (indiscernible) because description

(indiscernible) pay (indiscernible) they concede that we have an accurate (indiscernible) on how it works.

What they then tried to do -- oh, and then to my last point, Your Honor, is we then inform our voters in the last sentence exactly what the legislature must implement (indiscernible) finding.

We only have 200 words (indiscernible), but the Nevada Supreme Court has said we it's the limited out of state, you have to tell (indiscernible) principles of what we're proposing, which is what we've done.

I've told them the offices of which it applies,
I've told them what the changes are we're making, how it's
going to work and how (indiscernible). Look at what the
Plaintiff proposes.

The Plaintiff proposes to not inform

(indiscernible) or supplies. The Plaintiff then goes in to engage in the most types of -- the most transparent type of partisan advocacy.

Spending time on things like (indiscernible) are misleading (indiscernible) claiming somehow their (indiscernible) rejected if they choose not to (indiscernible) ranking more than the initial candidate, which is, by the way, just flat out untruthful. That's not even a close call.

No (indiscernible), no ballot. I think voters

are sufficiently informed to understand that if you have a right to foreclosure, guess what happens? You can choose not to rank all the candidates, and when a candidate doesn't win, then your decision not to rank additional candidate means that you will not be participating in that ranking. I don't think that (indiscernible) understand that.

Similarly, you know, the claim that now they're also telling the voters, again falsely, that somehow the (indiscernible) guaranteed victory. The opposite is true. The highest vote count (indiscernible) in this system and, again, this isn't just partisan advocacy.

To find and use the description as an advocacy piece against the initiative as opposed to informing the voters what it actually does. And they highlight that when they put -- when they're talking about political parties. It's the impact on the political party that's supposed to impact voters. And that is what this -- that's what this fight is really about.

And then the last point (indiscernible), Your Honor, the Nevada Supreme Court made this clear, the description and purpose is not to engage in evidence.

It is to inform voters and they're trying to highjack this description as an advocacy piece against the initiative as opposed to actually letting the voter make up

their mind based upon an objective statement of what the 1 2 changes that were at issue. 3 And with that, Your Honor, I will answer any 4 questions you have and I thank the Court for its time. 5 THE COURT: I do not have any questions, 6 Mr. Bice. Thank you. Mr. Newby? 8 MR. NEWBY: Good afternoon, Your Honor --9 actually it's still morning, I apologize. Craig Newby 10 representing Secretary Cegavske. We stand on our limited 11 response that we filed on December 21st in terms of -- in 12 terms of the proceedings (indiscernible) matter, subject to 13 any questions the Court may have. 14 Thank you. I do not have any THE COURT: 15 questions of you either. 16 MR. NEWBY: Thank you, Your Honor. 17 THE COURT: So we are back to you, Ms. McAleer. 18 MS. MCALEER: Thank you, Your Honor. 19 (indiscernible) couple of points raised by counsel in 20 rebuttal. 21 First, regarding the single subject rule, defense argued that our rule is that each party (indiscernible) one 22 23 That's not what we're arguing here. another. 24 What we're arguing here is that the various

proposals have been deficient. (Indiscernible) and for a different purpose than what they've put forth as the purpose.

So specifically in our paper we state (indiscernible) voter. Again, opening the primary is the sole change here that serves that purpose. It's only for -- we're only adding it to this in that the primary and the general election, although (indiscernible) for different purposes.

But it is, in fact, what they're putting forth as their purpose doesn't (indiscernible) with these proposed changes are (indiscernible).

And then defense also say that other

(indiscernible) should (indiscernible) single subject are

passable. But the same (indiscernible) here (indiscernible)

but the Supreme Court (indiscernible) topic generally such

that it may ever be (indiscernible) actually (indiscernible)

subject. That's not what's allowed.

So if you look at education, the education initiative (indiscernible) goal or (indiscernible) on education. Those are not (indiscernible) subject there.

Similarly, in that unpublished (indiscernible) to encourage flawless, make sure the corporation of the federal government or local officials, the change for (indiscernible). (Indiscernible) different types of restrictions, say, on lower level officials, higher level officials. They were one that

restriction that was based on that.

So with -- the point here is there are different (indiscernible) and there's actually -- they don't reflect (indiscernible) as their initiative.

And then turning to the Colorado case, counsel said that (indiscernible). That means a lot of things. And here it can be (indiscernible) in this case. So it is (indiscernible) Supreme Court in Colorado looked at the voter Bill of Rights here that's packaged together (indiscernible) constitution all of the provisions (indiscernible) court (indiscernible).

But in matters of the (indiscernible), there were different (indiscernible) purposes, again, under the general heading of the recall government officer.

The Nevada Supreme Court has (indiscernible) in 2021 for the exact same purpose that we are using it in court here. We didn't rely on a case that's no longer the law. We relied on the composition that it absolutely (indiscernible) law (indiscernible).

And last, with respect to the reference to the Alaska case, it's important to point out (indiscernible) are different in Alaska than in Nevada.

In Alaska, the Court uses the same standard they use for analyzing whether a legislative bill contains a

subject. That's not what Nevada does here. And although counsel says (indiscernible) similar, the legislators will not say that (indiscernible) initiative (indiscernible) here.

And the purpose (indiscernible) legislative bill (indiscernible) drafting (indiscernible) public based on an interest group (indiscernible). The whole point is to let (indiscernible) legislature wanted to put in protection when voter (indiscernible) educated and informed about what the ballot issue (indiscernible) within it.

And so those are (indiscernible). They don't (indiscernible) that Nevada has moved forward with Judge Robert (indiscernible) particularly given that campaign finance (indiscernible) were thrown in there and asked him a (indiscernible) restrictions based on the general primary election.

Again, this is the same (indiscernible) one purpose. It's where here, different voting methods have different purposes. So it's not comparable to say that just because that happened in one case, that it's -- that (indiscernible) the same thing here.

And turning to (indiscernible) argument the Court right now (indiscernible) the standard is not whether (indiscernible) have to be spent or (indiscernible) expenditure, and the Court attempted to ignore the obvious

(indiscernible) again, sending no money here would result in no election.

So while we're not putting -- so in their briefing they give to the court (indiscernible) this is not an evidentiary hearing.

So, again, it doesn't mean that the Court has to just put it aside (indiscernible) that argument and he changed his argument. This is completely over (indiscernible) Nevada (indiscernible). It's not tweaking the order named on the ballot. It is something that is not (indiscernible) new voting technology has to be used to actually (indiscernible) Nevada plurality in the section.

So if they think it's incorrect that

(indiscernible) question, ignore what is (indiscernible) you
don't need the limited evidence to know that it's going to
cost money (indiscernible) office (indiscernible) not yet
issued a (indiscernible) statement.

So it makes sense that there is, you know, an actual discussion that we don't have access to that either. But, again, it's obvious that (indiscernible) and if they were, the election would (indiscernible) the law here.

And last (indiscernible) description of facts or (indiscernible). I think it's important to point out the (indiscernible) and not (indiscernible) us omitting that the

party believes that we no longer (indiscernible) even on the last (indiscernible) petition that they put (indiscernible) ballot for the voter.

So clearly it's important (indiscernible) interests voters consistently rely on (indiscernible) to vote (indiscernible). That is recognized by the (indiscernible) in our briefing regarding (indiscernible) voting.

If (indiscernible) voter to know what (indiscernible) and it is a significant change to (indiscernible) process and just allow folks to self-designate their candidate or party (indiscernible) and to omit that is, in fact, deceiving.

And they also made much of their (indiscernible) and so it's (indiscernible) you think that it's (indiscernible) you know, we (indiscernible). It's not about (indiscernible), it's about the true facts and the true fact is that it takes away nomination process, it takes away the designation for a political party that is a designee on a ballot and it will cost money, and to not include that information and description is factually misleading to the voter.

To ask them to go back and hone through suspicion and read the definition section and, you know, look at the initiative with their lawyer is not how the rule works. The

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rule is to enforce voter that he (indiscernible) of the facts
 1
 2
     and that there's (indiscernible) current one.
 3
                  And with that, if you have any questions, I'm
 4
     happy to answer them.
 5
                  THE COURT: I do not have any questions.
 6
     you, Ms. McAleer, sorry.
 7
                  All right. Counsel, the matter is submitted.
 8
     Like I said, my intent is to have an order filed today. I'll
 9
     do the best that I can to get that done.
10
                  Mr. Bice?
11
                  MR. BICE:
                             Thank you, Your Honor.
12
                  THE COURT: Mr. Newby?
13
                  MR. NEWBY: Thank you, Your Honor.
14
                  THE COURT: Thank you. Ms. McAleer, thank you
15
             I'm going to go ahead and --
     again.
16
                  MS. MCALEER: Thank you, Your Honor.
17
                  (Proceedings concluded.)
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     STATE OF NEVADA, )
                          ss.
     CARSON CITY.
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 3
               I, SHELLIE LOOMIS, do hereby certify:
               That on January 5, 2022, a hearing was held in the
 5
     within-entitled matter in the First Judicial District Court,
 6
     State of Nevada;
               That said hearing was recorded on JAVS CD-ROM, and
 8
 9
     said JAVS CD-ROM was delivered to me for transcription;
10
               That the foregoing transcript, consisting of pages 1
11
     through 45, is a full, true and correct transcript of said
12
     recorded JAVS CD-ROM performed to the best of my ability under
13
     the circumstances.
14
15
               Dated at Carson City, Nevada, this 24th day of
16
     February, 2022.
17
18
                                    //Shellie Loomis//
19
                                    Shellie Loomis, RPR
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24
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