

# NEVADA SECRETARY OF STATE

## *Tribal Outreach*



### Secretary of State Francisco V. Aguilar is making partnership with Nevada's tribes and bands a priority for his Office.

Part of working towards this goal was being very involved this past legislative session, expanding access to the ballot box for Native communities in Nevada. **Two major bills passed & are now in effect:**

#### Senate Bill 216

- Requires city & county clerks to schedule meetings with tribes located in whole or in part of their county, no later than August 1st of odd-numbered years to discuss details for the next years elections.
  - Topics include:
    - Establishment of polling places on reservations & colonies, dates & times of operation for these polling places, deadlines related to Senate Bill 327 (below), recruitment of poll workers at tribal polling locations & any other topic related to elections as necessary
  - There should be another meeting before September 1st to confirm these details as practicable
  - Ongoing meetings through the election year as necessary
  - If a clerk is unable to contact a tribe, they must notify the Secretary of State's Office
- Allows members of Nevada tribes to utilize the Effective Absentee System for Elections (EASE)
  - EASE is currently available to uniformed-service voters, their families, overseas voters & voters with a disability
  - Allows tribal members to register to vote online, including registering with their tribal identification cards, & cast their ballot online
    - This is not "online voting" - the ballot is transmitted via a secure connection and physically printed out at the county clerk's office, where it is verified & tabulated via the same process as other ballots

#### Senate Bill 327

- Previously, a tribe could opt in to having a polling place on their land for each election. This bill changes it to an "opt out" process. Cities & counties are required to establish a polling place at every reservation or colony within their boundaries, unless they receive formal notification otherwise from the tribe
- Tribes may opt to have a polling place only on certain days or certain hours, opt to have a mail ballot drop box instead of a polling place, or other options (including opting out of a polling place entirely). Counties are required to comply with these requests.

#### 2024 will have three elections

Presidential Preference Primary: Feb. 6, 2024	Tribes must opt out by: Sept. 15, 2023
Primary Election: June 11, 2024	Tribes must opt out by: Jan. 15, 2024
General Election: Nov. 5, 2024	Tribes must opt out by: June 15, 2024

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