



1                   **SUPPORTING USE OF THE TITLE “LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR”**

2                   **IN GUBERNATORIAL SUCCESSION LAW**

3           Whereas, it is the right and responsibility of each state and territory to affirm its own gubernatorial succession plan  
4           according to its constitution and founding documents, and

5           Whereas, it is United States policy to maintain governance continuity capability through continuity of operations  
6           planning (COOP) and continuity of government (COG) planning to ensure the preservation of constitutional  
7           government and the continuing performance of essential functions under all conditions, and

8           Whereas, Federal Preparedness Circular (FPC) 65 says one essential objective of a viable COOP program is to  
9           execute successful succession(s) to office should an event render leadership unable, unavailable, or incapable of  
10          performing duties, and

11          Whereas, National Security Presidential Directive (NSPD) 51 and Homeland Security Presidential Directive (HSPD)  
12          20 specify continuity requirements “shall include...succession orders and pre-planned devolution of authorities  
13          that ensure the emergency delegation of authority must be planned and documented in advance in accordance  
14          with applicable law,” and

15          Whereas, the Emergency Management Accreditation Program (EMAP) reports continuity of government and  
16          continuity of operations planning has been a deficiency for some states conducting assessments or seeking  
17          accreditation using the states’ Emergency Management Standard, and

18          Whereas, state gubernatorial succession plans are known to have inadequacies and inconsistencies, and

19          Whereas, demographic shifts have been named in recent years by The Council of State Governments (CSG) and the  
20          National Conference of State Legislators (NCSL) as among the most dynamic, societal shape shifting forces of this  
21          time, and

22          Whereas, a 2007 USA Today analysis of United States census data showed the percentage of Americans who say  
23          they moved from another state the previous year rose every year this decade, and

24          Whereas, the same analysis showed the increase in movers from the years 2003 to 2006 amounted to an extra 1.5  
25          million people moving to another state every year, and

26          Whereas, nearly all states (forty-five) use the title “lieutenant governor” for the elected official first in line of  
27          gubernatorial succession, and

28          Whereas, the result is most voters in this mobile American society are familiar with the lieutenant governor and  
29          Vice-Presidential models of succession, and

30 Whereas, use of the title “lieutenant governor” may be a zero or low fiscal impact item in every remaining state by  
31 changing the existing title of the official first in line of succession to “lieutenant governor” or adding to the existing  
32 title of the official first in line of succession the title “lieutenant governor,” and

33 Whereas, NLGA advocated the use of the title “lieutenant governor” in every state in 1968 and in 1973, and 2009, and

34 Whereas, the NLGA mission includes “...to promote the efficiency and effectiveness of the Office of Lieutenant  
35 Governor; and generally to improve the efficiency of state and territorial administration...” and

36 Whereas, NLGA and its staff are called on to meet this mission in a myriad of ways, including responding to  
37 legislative, academic, media, candidate, and other inquiries, and

38 Whereas, as noted in the national succession planning items above, the overall efficiency of state administration  
39 will be more efficient with the use of the title “lieutenant governor” in every state,

40 Therefore be it resolved, that the National Lieutenant Governors Association (NLGA) supports the use of the title  
41 “Lieutenant Governor” in every state for the officeholder first in line of gubernatorial succession, either as the title  
42 of the office or in addition to the existing title of the official first in line of succession, and

43 Be it further resolved, NLGA and its staff are empowered to issue this statement of support in response to  
44 legislative, academic, media, candidate, and other inquiries, and

45 Be it further resolved, NLGA and its staff may place this record of support in testimony for pending legislation  
46 which may create, maintain, or enhance the title of “lieutenant governor,” and

47 Be it further resolved, NLGA and its staff may use this resolution for media and public relations that may create,  
48 maintain, or enhance the title of “lieutenant governor” in one or more states, and

49 Be it finally resolved, this resolution will be posted to [www.nlga.us](http://www.nlga.us) and submitted to various outlets to make state  
50 officials aware of its passage.

51 Submitted this 14<sup>th</sup> day of May, 2013

Sponsors: Lt. Governor Todd Lamb, Oklahoma (R); Elizabeth Roberts, Rhode Island (D)

Passed July 19, 2013