



## National Lieutenant Governors Association

February 14, 2017

### **NATION'S LIEUTENANT GOVERNORS AVERAGE EIGHT STATUTORY DUTIES In addition to duties from Constitution, Governor, & Personal Initiative**

- **Making the State as Competitive as Possible**
- **Ensuring the Greatest Continuity of Government**
- **Effectively Using Funds Appropriated to the Office**

The first compilation of statutory duties of statewide elected lieutenant governors shows lieutenant governors average eight statutory duties ranging from running departments to leading commissions. These are in addition to duties received from the Constitution or governor or through personal initiative.

"A lieutenant governor is the second highest ranking official of a state. Many states effectively leverage that stature by using the office to make the state as competitive as possible in this global economy," said National Lieutenant Governors Association (NLGA) Director Julia Hurst. "The assignment of substantive duties to the lieutenant governor also ensures the continuity of state government and the effective use of funds appropriated to the office of lieutenant governor."

The Alabama, Texas, and Washington lieutenant governors have the largest number of statutory duties. The Alabama lieutenant governor serves on 20+ boards making 400+ appointments across state government, while the Texas lieutenant governor serves on or appoints to 70+ boards. The Washington lieutenant governor has fifty-four statutory duties including chairing the economic development and international relations committee, serving on 10 boards and making 40+ appointments. "Each also preside over the state senate," said Hurst. "Twenty-five of the forty-three statewide elected lieutenant governors preside over the state senate. Nearly all receive this power through the state constitution."

Legislators hold significant responsibility to ensure use of the office of lieutenant governor to the greatest competitive advantage of the state and its constituents through statute. "Legislators may consider placing the duties of the lieutenant governor into one section of code, like Kentucky (KRS 11.400) and Washington (RCW 43-15)," said Hurst, "emphasizing its importance." Legislators may also codify a statement of intent for the office of lieutenant governor, like Utah Code 67-1a.

A list of the number of statutory duties by state is on the next page. The NLGA completed the survey with full results available at [www.nlga.us](http://www.nlga.us).



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Appendix:

<b># of Statutory Duties</b>	<b>States with that Number of Statutory Duties</b>
0	Maryland, Mississippi, New Jersey
1	Massachusetts, Montana, Nebraska, New York, Wisconsin
2	Delaware, Georgia, Iowa, Kansas, North Dakota
3	Michigan, South Dakota
4	Arkansas, Florida, Pennsylvania, Vermont
5	California, Connecticut, Hawaii, Nevada, Utah
6	Colorado, Idaho, Oklahoma
8	Minnesota, Virginia
9	Ohio
10	New Mexico
11	Alaska
12	Kentucky
14	North Carolina, South Carolina
18	Rhode Island
19	Illinois
24	Missouri
26	Indiana
29	Louisiana
>30	Alabama, Texas, Washington

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