



Idaho Office of Lt. Governor Data Sheet

As of July 21, 2016

History of Office

The Office of the Lt. Governor of Idaho was created in 1890.¹

Origins of the Office

The Office of the Lt. Governor of Idaho was established in the Constitution of 1890 with statehood.²

Qualifications for Office

The Council of State Governments (CSG) publishes the Book of the States (BOS) 2015. In chapter 4, Table 4.13 lists the Qualifications and Terms of Office for lieutenant governors: [The Book of the States 2015 \(CSG\) at www.csg.org](#).

Method of Election

The National Lieutenant Governors Association (NLGA) maintains a list of the methods of electing gubernatorial successors at: <http://www.nlga.us/lt-governors/office-of-lieutenant-governor/methods-of-election/>.

Duties and Powers

A lieutenant governor may derive responsibilities one of four ways: from the Constitution, from the Legislature through statute, from the governor (thru gubernatorial appointment or executive order), thru personal initiative in office, and/or a combination of these. The principal and shared constitutional responsibility of every gubernatorial successor is to be the first official in the line of succession to the governor's office.

Succession to Office of Governor

In 1890, Governor George L. Shoup resigned to take an elected seat in the U.S. Senate and Lt. Governor N. B. Willey served as Governor for the remainder of the term. In 1945, Governor Charles C. Gossett resigned to let Lt. Governor Arnold Williams succeed to Governor, who then appointed Gossett to the U.S. Senate.³ In 1977, Governor Cecil D. Andrus resigned to become U.S. Secretary of the Interior, and Lt. Governor John V. Evans succeeded to Governor and then was elected in his own right. In 2006, Governor Dirk Kempthorne resigned to become U.S. Secretary of the Interior, and Lt. Governor Jim Risch became Governor for the remainder of the term.⁴

¹ Constitution of the State of Idaho, approved 1890.

² Ibid

³ National Governors Association, Former Governors' Bios

⁴ Ibid