



Maryland Office of Lt. Governor Data Sheet

As of July 25, 2016

History of Office

The Office of the Lt. Governor of Maryland was established with the Constitution of 1864 and then abolished during reconstruction with the Constitution of 1867. The office was re-established in 1970 by constitutional amendment.¹

Origins of the Office

The Office of the Lt. Governor of Maryland was established with the Constitution of 1864 and later abolished. The office was re-established in 1970.

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 1977, Governor Marvin Mandel, owing to legal and health issues, turned over his powers as Governor to Lt. Governor Blair Lee III, who became Acting Governor until 1979.² Lt. Governor Lee was only the second Lt. Governor in Maryland's history.

¹ Maryland Constitution of 1867

² National Governors Association, Former Governors' Bios