



# **Nebraska Office of Lt. Governor Data Sheet**

*As of July 18, 2016*

## **History of Office**

The Office of the Lt. Governor of Nebraska was established with the constitution of 1866.

## **Origins of the Office**

The Office of the Lt. Governor of Nebraska was established with the Constitution of 1866.<sup>1</sup>

## **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 1901, Governor Charles Henry Dietrich resigned to take a seat in the U.S. Senate and Lt. Governor Ezra P. Savage succeeded to Governor and finished the unexpired term.<sup>2</sup> In 1960, Governor Ralph G. Brooks died in office and Lt. Governor Dwight W. Burney finished the unexpired term. In 2005, Governor Mike Johanns resigned to become U.S. Secretary of Agriculture and Lt. Governor Dave Heineman succeeded to office to finish the unexpired term and was then elected in his own right.

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<sup>1</sup> NebraskaHistory.org – Nebraska Constitutional Conventions

<sup>2</sup> National Governors Association, Former Governors' Bios