



North Dakota Office of Lt. Governor Data Sheet

As of August 26, 2016

History of Office

The Office of the Lt. Governor of North Dakota was established with the Constitution of 1889.¹

Origins of the Office

The Office of the Lt. Governor of North Dakota was created with statehood and the Constitution of 1889.

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 1898, Governor Frank A. Briggs died in office and was succeeded by Lt. Governor Joseph M. Devine who finished his term.² In 2010, Governor John Hoeven resigned to take an elected seat in the U.S. Senate and Lt. Governor Jack Dalrymple succeeded to office and was subsequently elected in his own right.³

¹ North Dakota Constitution of 1889

² National Governors Association, Former Governors' Bios

³ North Dakota Office of Governor Web Site, <http://governor.nd.gov/>