



South Dakota Office of Lt. Governor Data Sheet

As of July 18, 2016

History of Office

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

Origins of the Office

The Office of the Lt. Governor of South Dakota was created with statehood in 1889 with the first State Constitution.

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 1978, Governor Richard F. Kneip resigned to become U.S. Ambassador to Singapore, and was succeeded by Lt. Governor Harvey L. Wollman.² In 1993, upon the death of Governor George S. Mickelson, Lt. Governor Walter Dale Miller succeeded to office.

¹ Constitution of South Dakota

² National Governors Association, Former Governors' Bios