

Table 4.4
THE GOVERNORS: POWERS

State or other jurisdiction	Budget making power		Item veto power				Authorization for reorganization through executive order (a)	
	Full responsibility	Shares responsibility	Governor has item veto power on all bills	Governor has item veto power on appropriations only	Governor has no item veto power	Item veto—2/3 legislators present or 3/5 elected to override		Item veto—majority legislators elected to override
Alabama.....	★(b)	...	★	...	...	...	...
Alaska.....	★	...	...	...	...	★	★
Arizona.....	★(b)	...	...	...	...	(c)	...
Arkansas.....	...	★	...	...	...	★	★
California.....	★(b)	...	...	...	...	...	★(d)
Colorado.....	...	★	...	...	...	...	...
Connecticut.....	...	★	...	...	...	...	...
Delaware.....	★(b)	...	...	...	...	...	...
Florida.....	...	★	...	...	...	...	...
Georgia.....	★	...	...	...	...	(c)	...
Hawaii.....	...	★	...	...	...	...	...
Idaho.....	(e)	(e)	...	...	...	...	...
Illinois.....	...	★	...	...	...	...	...
Indiana.....	★	...	...	...	...	...	...
Iowa.....	...	★	...	...	...	...	...
Kansas.....	★	...	...	...	...	...	...
Kentucky.....	★(b)	...	...	★(f)	...	...	...
Louisiana.....	...	★	...	...	...	...	★
Maine.....	...	★	...	...	...	...	★(h)
Maryland.....	...	★	...	...	...	...	★(u)
Massachusetts.....	★	...	...	...	...	...	...
Michigan.....	★(l)	...	...	...	...	...	★(d)
Minnesota.....	...	★	...	...	...	...	...
Mississippi.....	...	★(k)	...	...	...	...	★(g)
Missouri.....	★(b)	...	...	...	...	...	★(j)
Montana.....	★	...	...	...	...	...	...
Nebraska.....	...	★	...	...	...	★(l)	★(m)
Nevada.....	★	...	...	...	...	★(n)	...
New Hampshire.....	★(b)	...	...	...	...	...	...
New Jersey.....	★(b)	...	...	...	...	...	...
New Mexico.....	★	...	...	...	...	...	...
New York.....	...	★	...	...	...	...	...
North Carolina.....	...	★	...	...	...	...	...
North Dakota.....	★	...	...	...	...	...	...
Ohio.....	★	...	...	...	...	...	...
Oklahoma.....	...	★	...	...	...	...	...
Oregon.....	...	★	...	...	...	...	...
Pennsylvania.....	★	...	...	...	...	...	...
Rhode Island.....	...	★	...	...	...	...	...
South Carolina.....	...	★	...	...	...	...	...
South Dakota.....	...	★	...	...	...	...	...
Tennessee.....	...	★	...	...	...	...	...
Texas.....	...	★	...	...	...	...	...
Vermont.....	...	★	...	...	...	...	...
Virginia.....	...	★	...	...	...	...	...
Washington.....	...	★	...	...	...	...	...
West Virginia.....	...	★	...	...	...	...	...
Wisconsin.....	...	★	...	...	...	...	...
Wyoming.....	...	★	...	...	...	...	...

See footnotes at end of table.

THE GOVERNORS: POWERS — Continued

State or other jurisdiction	Budget making power		Governor has item veto power on		Governor has no item veto power		Item veto—2/3 legislators present or 3/5 elected to override		Item veto—majority legislators elected to override		Authorization for reorganization through executive order (a)
	Full responsibility	Shares responsibility	item veto power on all bills	item veto power on appropriations only	Governor has no item veto power	2/3 legislators present or 3/5 elected to override	majority legislators elected to override	majority legislators elected to override			
South Dakota.....	★	...	...	★	...	...	★(q)	...	★
Tennessee.....	...	...	...	★	...	...	...	★	★
Texas.....	...	...	...	★	...	...	...	...	★
Utah.....	...	...	...	★	...	...	...	...	★
Vermont.....	★	...	...	...	★	...	...	...	★
Virginia.....	★	...	...	★	...	...	★(q)	...	★
Washington.....	★	...	★(r)	...	...	...	...	...	...
West Virginia.....	...	...	...	★	...	...	...	...	...
Wisconsin.....	★(b)	...	...	★(s)	...	...	...	...	...
Wyoming.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
American Samoa.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Guam.....	...	...	★	...	...	...	...	...	★
No. Mariana Islands.....	...	...	...	★	...	...	...	...	★
Puerto Rico.....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	★(t)
U.S. Virgin Islands.....	★	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	★

Source: The Council of State Governments' survey of governor's offices, April 2013.

Key:

★ — Yes; provision for... — No; not applicable.

- (a) For additional information on executive orders, see Table 4.5.
- (b) Full responsibility to propose; legislature adopts or revises and governor signs or vetoes.
- (c) 2/3 of members to which each house is entitled required to override veto.
- (d) Authorization for reorganization provided for in state constitution.
- (e) The Legislature has full responsibility with regard to setting the State's budget.
- (f) Governor may veto any distinct item or items appropriating money in any appropriations bill.
- (g) 2/3 of elected legislators of each house to override.
- (h) Only for agencies and offices within the Governor's Office.
- (i) Governor has sole authority to propose annual budget. No money may be paid out of state treasury except in pursuance of appropriations made by law.
- (j) Statute provides for reorganization by the Commissioner of Administration with the approval of the governor.
- (k) Governor has the responsibility of presenting a balanced budget. The budget is based on revenue estimated by the Governor's office and the Legislative Budget Committee.
- (l) If the Legislature is not in session when the Governor vetoes a bill, the Secretary of State must poll the Legislature as to the question of an override but only if the bill had passed by a vote of 2/3 of the members present.

(m) The office of the governor shall continuously study and evaluate the organizational structure, management practices, and functions of the executive branch and each agency. The governor shall, by executive order or other means within his authority, take action to improve the manageability of the executive branch. The governor may not, however, create an agency of state government by administrative action, except that the governor may establish advisory councils and must approve the internal organizational structures of departments.

(n) 3/5 majority required to override line item veto.

(o) Executive reorganization plans can be disapproved by majority vote in both houses of the legislature.

(p) Executive Order must be approved by the legislature, if changes affect existing law.

(q) Requires 2/3 of legislators elected to override.

(r) Governor has veto power of selections for nonappropriations and item veto in appropriations.

(s) In Wisconsin, governor has "partial" veto over appropriation bills. The partial veto is broader than item veto.

(t) Only if it is not prohibited by law.

(u) Reorganization within the Governor's Office can occur through executive order. Most executive department agencies exist through statute, and can be reorganized through statutory amendment.

(v) The governor has the authority, through state statute, to enact executive orders that create agencies, boards and commissions; and reassigns agencies, boards and commissions to different cabinet secretaries. However, in order for the continued operation of any agency created by executive order the state legislature must approve legislation that allows the agency to continue to operate; if not, the agency cannot continue operation beyond sine die adjournment of the legislature for the session.