

**LIEUTENANT GOVERNORS**

**Table 2.13**  
**LIEUTENANT GOVERNORS: POWERS AND DUTIES**

<i>State or other jurisdiction</i>	<i>Presides over Senate</i>	<i>Appoints committees</i>	<i>Breaks roll-call ties</i>	<i>Assigns bills</i>	<i>Authority for governor to assign duties</i>	<i>Member of governor's cabinet or advisory body</i>	<i>Serves as acting governor when governor out of state</i>
Alabama .....	★	★(a)	★	★	★	★	★(b)
Alaska* .....	...	...	...	...	★	★	★(c)
Arizona .....	...	...	...	(d)	...	...	...
Arkansas .....	★	...	★	★	...	...	★
California .....	★	...	★	...	★	...	★
Colorado* .....	...	...	...	...	★	★	★
Connecticut .....	★	...	★	...	...	...	★
Delaware (e) .....	★	...	★	★	★	★	★
Florida .....	...	...	...	...	★	...	...
Georgia .....	★	★(a)	...	★	★	...	...
Hawaii .....	...	...	...	...	★	...	★
Idaho .....	★	...	★	...	★	...	★
Illinois .....	...	...	...	...	★	★	(j)
Indiana (f) .....	★	...	★	...	★	★	...
Iowa .....	...	(a)	...	...	★	(l)	(j)
Kansas .....	...	...	...	...	★	★	★
Kentucky .....	...	...	...	...	★	...	...
Louisiana .....	...	...	...	...	★	...	★
Maine .....	...	...	...	(g)	...	...	...
Maryland* .....	...	...	...	...	★	★	★
Massachusetts .....	...	...	★	★	★	★	★
Michigan .....	★	...	★	...	★	★	★
Minnesota .....	...	...	...	...	★	★	★
Mississippi .....	★	★(a)	★	★	...	...	★
Missouri .....	★	...	★	...	★	...	★
Montana .....	...	...	...	...	★	★	★(b)
Nebraska .....	★(h)	...	★(i)	...	★	...	★
Nevada .....	★	...	★	...	...	★	★(j)
New Hampshire .....	...	...	...	(g)	...	...	...
New Jersey .....	...	...	...	(g)	...	...	...
New Mexico .....	★	...	★	...	★	★	★
New York .....	★	...	★	...	★	★	★
North Carolina .....	★	...	★	...	★	★(k)	★
North Dakota .....	★	...	★	★	...	★	★
Ohio .....	...	...	...	...	(l)	★	(m)
Oklahoma .....	★	...	★	...	★	★	★
Oregon .....	...	...	...	(d)	...	...	...
Pennsylvania* .....	★	...	★(i)	★	★	★	...
Rhode Island .....	★	...	★	...	...	...	...
South Carolina .....	★	★	★	★	...	...	★(j)
South Dakota .....	★	(n)	★	★	★	★	(o)
Tennessee .....	...	...	...	(g)	...	...	...
Texas .....	★	★(a)	(a)	★	...	...	★
Utah .....	...	...	...	...	★	★	...
Vermont .....	★	★(a)	★	★	...	...	★
Virginia .....	★	...	H	...	★	★	...
Washington .....	★	...	...	...	★	...	★
West Virginia .....	...	...	...	(g)	...	...	...
Wisconsin .....	...	...	...	...	★	★	(p)
Wyoming .....	...	...	...	(d)	...	...	...
American Samoa* .....	...	...	...	...	★	★	★
Guam* .....	(h)	...	...	...	★	★	★
No. Mariana Islands .....	...	...	...	...	★	(q)	★
Puerto Rico .....	...	...	...	(d)	...	...	...
U.S. Virgin Islands .....	...	...	...	...	★(l)	★	★

See footnotes at end of table.

## LIEUTENANT GOVERNORS: POWERS AND DUTIES — Continued

Source: The Council of State Governments' survey, January 2000, except as noted by \* where information is from *The Book of the States 1998-99*.

Key:

★— Provision for responsibility.

. . . — No provision for responsibility.

(a) Appoints all standing committees. Alabama—appoints some special committees; Georgia—appoints all senate members of conference committees and all senators who serve on interim study committees; Iowa—appoints some special committees; Mississippi—appoints members of conference, joint and special committees; Texas— Has the authority to appoint all committees and assign all bills, but that authority is pursuant to provisions in the Senate's rules; Vermont—appoints all committees as a member of the Committee on Committees.

(b) After 20 days absence. In Montana, after 45 days.

(c) Alaska constitution identifies two types of absence from state; (1) temporary absence during which the lieutenant serves as acting governor; and (2) continuous absence for a period of six months, after which the governor's office is declared vacant and lieutenant governor succeeds to the office.

(d) No lieutenant governor; secretary of state is next in line of succession to governorship.

(e) Constitutional duty includes President of the Board of Pardons.

(f) By statute, lieutenant governor serves as Director of Department of Commerce and Commissioner of Agriculture.

(g) No lieutenant governor; senate president or speaker is next in line of succession to governorship. In Tennessee, speaker of the senate bears the additional statutory title of "lieutenant governor."

(h) Unicameral legislative body. In Guam, that body elects own presiding officer.

(i) Except on final enactments.

(j) Only in emergency situations.

(k) Member of Council of State per state constitution. Also sits on Governor's Cabinet, by invitation.

(l) Presides over cabinet meetings in absence of governor.

(m) Only if governor asks the lieutenant to serve in that capacity, in the former's absence.

(n) Conference committees.

(o) Only in event of governor's continuous absence from state.

(p) Only in situations of an absence which prevents governor from discharging duties which need to be undertaken prior to his return.

(q) The lieutenant governor is an automatic member of the Governor's cabinet.