

**Table 2.15**  
**SECRETARIES OF STATE: ELECTION AND REGISTRATION DUTIES**

State or other jurisdiction	Election							Registration					
	Chief election officer	Determines ballot eligibility of political parties	Receives initiative and/or referendum petition	Files certificate of nomination or election	Supplies election ballots or materials to local officials	Files candidates' expense papers	Files other campaign reports	Conducts voter education programs	Registers charitable organizations	Registers corporations (a)	Processes and/or commissions notaries public	Registers securities	Registers trade names/marks
Alabama .....	★	★	...	★	★	★	★	★	...	★	...	...	★
Alaska (b) .....	★	★	★	★	★	...	...	...	...	★	...	...	...
Arizona .....	★	★	★	★	...	★	★	...	★	...	...	...	...
Arkansas .....	★	★	★	★	★	★	★	★	★	★	...	...	★
California .....	★	★	★	★	★	★	★	★	...	★	★	...	★
Colorado .....	★	★	★	★	...	★	★	...	★	★	★	...	★
Connecticut .....	★	★	...	...	★	★	★	★	...	★	★	...	★
Delaware .....	...	...	...	(c)	...	...	(d)	...	★(e)	★	...	...	★
Florida .....	★	★	...	★	★	★	★	★	...	★	★	...	★
Georgia .....	★	★	...	★	★	★	★	★	★	★	...	★	★
Hawaii (b) .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Idaho .....	★	★	★	★	★	★	★	★	...	★	★	...	★
Illinois .....	...	...	★	★	...	...	...	...	...	★	★	...	★
Indiana* .....	★	...	...	★	...	★	★	★	...	★	★	...	★
Iowa .....	★	★	...	★	★	...	...	...	...	★	★	...	★
Kansas .....	★	★	...	★	★	★	★	★	...	★	★	...	★
Kentucky .....	★	★	...	★	...	...	...	★	...	★	★	...	★
Louisiana .....	★	★	...	★	★	★(f)	★(f)	★	...	★	★	...	★
Maine* .....	★	★	★	★	★	...	...	★	...	★	★	...	★
Maryland .....	(p)	...	★	★	...	...	★(g)	...	★	...	★	...	★(h)
Massachusetts* .....	★	★	★	★	★	(d)	(d)	★	...	★	★	...	★
Michigan .....	★	...	★	★	★	★	★	★	...	★	★	...	...
Minnesota .....	★	★	...	★	★	...	...	★	...	★	...	...	★
Mississippi .....	(i)	★	★	★	★	★	★	★	★	★	★	...	★
Missouri .....	★	★	★	★	...	...	...	★	(e)	★	★	...	★
Montana .....	★	★	★	★	★	...	...	★	...	★	★	...	★
Nebraska .....	★	★	★	★	★	...	...	★	...	★	★	...	★
Nevada .....	★	★	★	★	★	★	★	★	★	★	★	...	★
New Hampshire .....	★	★	★	★	★	★	★	★	★	★	★	...	★
New Jersey (j) .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
New Mexico .....	★	★	★	★	★	★	★	★	...	...	★	...	★
New York .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	★	★	...	★
North Carolina .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	★	★	★	...	★
North Dakota .....	★	★	★	★	★	★	★	★	★	★	★	...	★
Ohio .....	★	★	★	★	★	★	★	★	...	★	...	...	★
Oklahoma .....	...	...	★	★(k)	...	...	...	...	★	★	★	...	★
Oregon .....	★	★	★	★	★	★	★	★	(e)	★	★	...	...
Pennsylvania .....	★	★	...	★(l)	★	★	★	★	★	★	★	...	★
Rhode Island .....	...	...	N.A.	★	★	(d)	(d)	★	★	★	★	...	★
South Carolina .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	★	★	★	...	★
South Dakota .....	★	★	★	★	★	★	★	★	...	★	★	...	★
Tennessee .....	(m)	★	...	★	...	...	...	...	★	★	★	...	★
Texas .....	★	★	...	★	★	...	...	★	...	...	...	...	...
Utah (b) .....	★	★	★	★	★	★	★	★	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.	N.A.
Vermont .....	★	★	N.A.	★(n)	★	★	★	★	...	★	...	...	...
Virginia .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	(p)
Washington .....	★	★	★	★	...	...	...	...	★	★	...	...	★
West Virginia .....	★	★	N.A.	★	★	★	★	★	★	★	★	...	★
Wisconsin .....	...	...	N.A.	N.A.	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Wyoming* .....	★	★	★	★	...	...	...	...	★	★	★	...	★
American Samoa (b) .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Guam (b) .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...
Puerto Rico .....	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	★	★	★	...	★
U.S. Virgin Islands (b) ..	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	...	★	★(o)	★	...	★

See footnotes at end of table.

## SECRETARIES OF STATE

### SECRETARIES OF STATE: ELECTION AND REGISTRATION DUTIES — Continued

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

Key:

★ — Responsible for activity.

. . . — Not responsible for activity.

N.A. — Not applicable.

(a) Unless otherwise indicated, office registers domestic, foreign and non-profit corporations.

(b) No secretary of state. Duties indicated are performed by lieutenant governor. In Hawaii, election related responsibilities have been transferred to an independent Chief Election Officer.

(c) Files certificates of election for publication purposes only; does not file certificates of nomination.

(d) Federal candidates only.

(e) Incorporated organizations only.

(f) Candidates for Congress only.

(g) Accepts disclosures of persons doing business with the state who also make political contributions.

(h) Registers trade/service marks, but trade names are registered at a different agency. In Maryland, the trade name would be registered with the Secretary of State if it were also the trade/service mark of the entity.

(i) State Election Commission composed of governor, secretary of state and attorney general.

(j) Functions have moved.

(k) Files certificates of national elections only; does not file certificates of nomination.

(l) Certificates of nomination are filed only for special elections or when vacancies in nominations occur.

(m) Secretary appoints state coordinator of elections.

(n) Files certificates of election for House of Representatives only.

(o) Both domestic and foreign profit; but only domestic non-profit.

(p) The Secretary of State is not the chief election officer, but a member of the Board of State Canvassers.