

RESEARCH RESPONSE

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DUTIES OF THE LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

Overview The Illinois Constitution says the Lieutenant Governor "shall perform the duties and exercise the powers in the Executive Branch that may be delegated to him by the Governor and that may be prescribed by law."¹ The Lieutenant Governor is first in the line of succession to the Governor, which is the primary constitutional reason for having a position of Lieutenant Governor. Until 1970 the Lieutenant Governor was President of the Senate, but the duties of the office are now entirely executive. This Research Response summarizes the laws prescribing duties of the Lieutenant Governor, categorized by subject matter or type of duty.

Economic Development and Tourism

Illinois Global Partnership Board

Illinois Global Partnership, Inc. (IGP), a nonprofit corporation, was created to promote Illinois as a region "prepared to do business with the world and as a world tourism destination."² The Lieutenant Governor or a designee serves on the IGP board of directors.³

Interagency Military Base Support and Economic Develop- ment Committee

The Committee coordinates the state's activities and acts as a communications center for issues involving the state's current and former military bases.⁴ The Lieutenant Governor chairs the Committee.⁵

Coordinating Committee of State Agencies Involved with Tourism

The Lieutenant Governor serves on the Coordinating Committee, whose purpose is to coordinate and promote the development of tourism statewide.⁶

Military and Veteran Assistance

Illinois Discharged Servicemember Task Force

The Task Force is directed to investigate the re-entry process for service members into civilian life after service in combat areas. The Lieutenant Governor appoints one member and receives an annual report from the Task Force.⁷

Task Force on Servicemember and Veterans Education

The Lieutenant Governor chairs this Task Force. It is directed to draft bills and regulations to help Illinois colleges and universities develop Internet-based courses tailored to servicemembers on active duty and veterans, and to create on-campus veterans' centers.⁸

Military Family
Interstate Compact
Implementation
Statute Drafting
Advisory Committee

The Committee is directed to propose wording for a law to implement the Interstate Compact on Educational Opportunity for Military Children, which is developed by the National Military Family Association. The Lieutenant Governor or a designee chairs the Committee. The Committee is directed to meet monthly until a draft of a model implementation law is submitted to the General Assembly—which is to be done by December 31, 2008.⁹

Housing

State Housing
Task Force

The Lieutenant Governor or a designee serves on the Task Force,¹⁰ whose purpose is to provide guidance to another subcommittee on developing an Annual Comprehensive Housing Plan.¹¹ The Housing Plan is to address the housing needs of underserved populations such as low-income senior citizens and the homeless.¹²

Environment

Green Governments
Coordinating Council

The Lieutenant Governor chairs this Council and the Lieutenant Governor's office provides administrative support to it.¹³ The Council's purposes are to reduce negative environmental impacts of state government operations, and serve as a resource for local governments and schools.¹⁴ At least one staff position in the Lieutenant Governor's office must be dedicated to the program.¹⁵ That staffer must maintain an Internet site with content on environmental programs and funding for such programs, intergovernmental agreements for developing environmental plans, and guidance materials for state agencies and local governments.¹⁶ The Council is to review state agencies' environmental sustainability plans.¹⁷

Illinois River
Coordinating
Council

The Lieutenant Governor chairs the Council,¹⁸ whose purpose is to protect Illinois river watershed lands.¹⁹ The Lieutenant Governor's office is responsible for the Council's funding and oversight.²⁰ The Council is to meet at least quarterly.²¹

Mississippi River
Coordinating
Council

The Council is to work with local, state, and federal governments to help protect the Mississippi River and its tributaries.²² The Lieutenant Governor chairs the Council,²³ and his office provides Council funding and oversight.²⁴ The Council is to meet at least quarterly.²⁵

Wabash and Ohio
Rivers Coordinating
Council

The purpose of the Council is to work with local, state, and federal governments to help protect the Wabash and Ohio Rivers and their tributaries.²⁶ The Lieutenant Governor chairs the Council,²⁷ and his office is responsible for funding and oversight of the Council.²⁸ The Council is to meet at least quarterly.²⁹

Education

Service Evaluation
Committee

The State Board of Education's Service Evaluation Committee develops a form for use by school districts to evaluate the Board's services. The Committee serves under direction of the Office of the Lieutenant Governor.³⁰ The Lieutenant Governor's Office is directed to ensure that the forms are sent to each school district annually;³¹ review the returned evaluations; and report the results to the Governor, General Assembly, and State Board of Education each year.³²

Charity

Charitable Trust
Stabilization
Committee

The Committee adopts rules for making grants from the Charitable Trust Stabilization Fund,³³ to be used in making short-term, low-interest loans to organizations that have temporary cash shortages; providing business loans; and making grants for startup purposes.³⁴ The Lieutenant Governor or a designee serves on the Committee,³⁵ which is to meet at least quarterly.³⁶

Travel Control

Travel Control Board

The Lieutenant Governor chairs this three-member Board, which has jurisdiction over travel by the Lieutenant Governor's employees.³⁷

**Bodies to Which the
Lieutenant
Governor Makes an
Appointment**

Computer Equipment
Disposal and
Recycling
Commission

The Commission is to investigate problems related to disposal and recycling of computer equipment; advise the General Assembly and state agencies on laws, regulations, and other information on computer equipment disposal; and recommend pilot programs for recycling and properly disposing of such equipment.³⁸ The Lieutenant Governor appoints a member to the Commission who serves as a vice-chairperson.³⁹

Commission on the
Elimination of
Poverty

The Lieutenant Governor is to appoint one member of the Commission.⁴⁰ The purpose of the Commission is to develop a plan to reduce extreme poverty in the state by at least 50% by 2015.⁴¹

Notes

1. Ill. Const., Art. 5, sec. 14.
2. 20 ILCS 3948/10.
3. 20 ILCS 3948/20.
4. 20 ILCS 605/605-215(a).
5. 20 ILCS 605/605-215(c).
6. 20 ILCS 665/4b.
7. 20 ILCS 2805/20.
8. 20 ILCS 2805/30.
9. 45 ILCS 175/5.
10. 310 ILCS 100/5.
11. 310 ILCS 110/15(c).
12. 310 ILCS 110/15(a).
13. 20 ILCS 3954/15
14. 20 ILCS 3954/10.
15. 20 ILCS 3954/15.
16. 20 ILCS 3954/45.
17. 20 ILCS 3954/45
18. 20 ILCS 3967/15(a).
19. 20 ILCS 3967/20.
20. 20 ILCS 3967/15(e).
21. 20 ILCS 3967/15(c).
22. 20 ILCS 4003/15.
23. 20 ILCS 4003/10(a).
24. 20 ILCS 4003/10(e).

25. 20 ILCS 4003/10(d).
26. 20 ILCS 4060/15.
27. 20 ILCS 4060/10(a).
28. 20 ILCS 4060/10(e).
29. 20 ILCS 4060/10(d).
30. 105 ILCS 5/2-3.112(a).
31. 105 ILCS 5/2-3.112(c).
32. 105 ILCS 5/2-3.112(e).
33. 30 ILCS 790/10(b).
34. 30 ILCS 790/5(a) and (b).
35. 30 ILCS 790/10(a).
36. 30 ILCS 790/10(b).
37. 30 ILCS 105/12-1(a)(5).
38. 415 ILCS 5/22.53(c).
39. 415 ILCS 5/22.53(a).
40. 20 ILCS 4080/15.
41. 20 ILCS 4080/10.