

= Lieutenant Governor of Indiana =

The Lieutenant Governor of Indiana is a constitutional office in the US State of Indiana . Republican Eric Holcomb , who assumed office in March 2016 , is the incumbent . The office holder 's constitutional roles are to serve as President of the Indiana Senate , become acting governor during the incapacity of the governor , and become governor should the incumbent governor resign , die in office , or be impeached and removed from office . Lieutenant governors have succeeded ten governors following their deaths or resignations . The lieutenant governor holds statutory positions , serving as the head of the state agricultural and rural affairs bureaus , and as the chairman of several state committees . The annual salary of the lieutenant governor of Indiana is \$ 88 @, @ 000 .

The lieutenant governor is elected on the same election ticket as the Governor in a statewide election held every four years , concurrent with United States presidential elections . Should a lieutenant governor die while in office , resign , or succeed to the governorship , the constitution specifies no mechanism by which to fill vacancies in the lieutenant governor 's office . Historically , the position has generally remained vacant during such events . The last attempt to fill such a vacancy in 1887 led to the outbreak of violence in the state legislature known as the Black Day of the General Assembly .

= Requirements =

The position of lieutenant governor was created with the adoption of the first Constitution of Indiana in August 1816 . The position was filled by an October election . The position was retained and the current requirements established in the state 's second and current constitution adopted in 1851 .

To become lieutenant governor of Indiana , a candidate must have been a United States citizen and lived within Indiana for the period of five consecutive years before the election . The candidate must also be at least thirty years old when sworn into office . The lieutenant governor may not hold any federal office during his term , and must resign from any such position before being eligible to be sworn in as lieutenant governor . Before taking the office , the candidate must swear an oath of office administered by the Chief Justice of the Indiana Supreme Court , promising to uphold the constitution and laws of Indiana .

= Succession =

The lieutenant governor of Indiana serves as acting governor when the governor becomes incapacitated . In the state 's early history , lieutenant governors would serve as acting governor while the governor was away from the capital . Christopher Harrison was the first lieutenant governor to serve as acting governor while Jonathan Jennings negotiated treaties far from the capital .

If the governor dies in office , becomes permanently incapacitated , resigns , or is impeached , the lieutenant governor becomes governor . In total , ten lieutenant governors become governor by succession . The first occurrence was when Jonathan Jennings resigned to become a congressman and was succeeded by Ratliff Boon .

In the event that both the governorship and lieutenant @-@ governorship are vacant , the constitution stipulates that the Senate President pro tempore becomes governor . Historically , governors appointed the pro tempore to serve as acting lieutenant governor as a formality . This practice ended in the early twentieth century . Although the constitution did not specify a method to fill a vacancy in the lieutenant governorship , an attempt to fill a vacancy occurred in 1887 . When the winner of the election attempted to be seated , the Senate erupted into violence known as the Black Day of the General Assembly ; the lieutenant governor @-@ elect was sworn in but never seated .

Should the lieutenant governorship become vacant for any reason , including death , resignation , or succession , the governor may nominate a replacement who must be approved by both houses of

the General Assembly .

= = Authority = =

= = = Constitutional = = =

The lieutenant governor has two constitutional functions . The primary function is to serve as the President of the Indiana Senate . In the Senate the lieutenant governor is permitted to debate on legislation , introduce legislation , and vote on matters to break ties . As presiding officer in the Senate , lieutenant governors also have partial control over what legislation will be considered , and influence on the legislative calendar . Unless a special session is called by the governor , the Senate meets for no more than 91 days in any two years period , leaving the lieutenant governor free from his or her senatorial duties in the remainder of the year .

The secondary function is to serve as a successor to the governorship should it become vacant , or act as governor if necessary . If a lieutenant governor should succeed to the governorship , the office of lieutenant governor and President of the Senate become vacant ; the duties are taken over by the Senate President pro tempore .

= = = Statutory = = =

The majority of the powers exercised by the lieutenant governor are statutory and have been assigned by the Indiana General Assembly . The first additional powers granted to the lieutenant governor were added in 1932 when the office holder was made the head of the state 's agricultural commission . The office 's powers have since expanded to include the chairmanship of the Office of Community and Rural Affairs , the Indiana Housing and Community Development Authority , Office of Energy and Defense Development , and the Office of Tourism Development . As head of the various office and committees , the lieutenant governor controls many patronage positions and is permitted to fill them by appointment . Important positions filled by the lieutenant governor include the members of the Corn Marketing Council , the Main Street Council , Steel Advisory Commission , and the Indiana Film Commission .

In addition to the chairmanship of the committees , the lieutenant governor is also a participating member of the Natural Resources Committee , State Office Building Commission , Air Pollution Control Board , Water Pollution Control Board , and Solid Waste Management Board .

The annual salary of the lieutenant governor of Indiana is set by the Indiana General Assembly and was \$ 76 @, @ 000 in 2007 .

= = List of Lieutenant Governors of Indiana = =

There have been forty @-@ nine Lieutenant Governors of Indiana since Indiana became a state in 1816 .

Democratic @-@ Republican Democratic Whig Republican Independent

= = Living former U.S. Lieutenant Governors of Indiana = =

As of August 2014 , there are five former U.S. lieutenant governors of Indiana who are currently living at this time , the oldest U.S. lieutenant governor of Indiana being John Mutz (served 1981 ? 1989 , born 1935) . The most recent death of a former U.S. lieutenant governor of Indiana was that of Robert L. Rock (served 1965 ? 1969 , born 1927) , on January 9 , 2013 . The most recently serving lieutenant governor to die was Frank O 'Bannon (1989 @-@ 1997) on September 13 , 2003 .