Codebook for StateElections\_Gub\_2012\_07\_06\_Public\_Version.xlsx

State

Name of state.

Stateno

Number of state in alphabetical list.

Year

Year of election.

Prez\_election\_year

Dummy: 1 = presidential election year. 0 = else.

Weird5

Dummy variable: one of the five states that had their bienniums start in even numbered years for some part of the period. This includes KY after it switched to even yeared elections for the state legislature.

Weird5\_b

Dummy variable: one of the five states that had their bienniums start in even numbered years for some part of the period. This doesn’t include KY after it switched to even yeared elections for the state legislature.

Biennium

First year of the biennium a year belongs to. Bienniums are thought to start in the year after an election in (often) even numbered years. For example, 1971-1972 is the biennium in OR after the 1970 election. Then “1971” would appear in both 1971 and 1972 for OR. This includes KY after it switched to even year elections for the state legislature.

Biennium\_b

First year of the biennium a year belongs to. Bienniums are thought to start in the year after an election in (often) even numbered years. For example, 1971-1972 is the biennium in OR after the 1970 election. Then “1971” would appear in both 1971 and 1972 for OR. This considers KY a “normal state” after it switched to even year elections for the state legislature.

biennium\_first\_year

Dummy variable: first year of a biennium. Note: these bienniums are set up in a way that defines the year after the election as the first year of the biennium. This is based off of biennium, not biennium\_b.

biennium\_second\_year

Dummy variable: second year of a biennium. Note: these bienniums are set up in a way that defines the year after the election as the first year of the biennium. This is based off of biennium, not biennium\_b.

Govname1 Governor’s name from first source

States and years I have to check: I’m 100% sure that all other years from 1997 to 2002 didn’t have a switch in the governor. For example, if the governor died in the year in question and was replaced by someone else, who then lost the election. All states for 2005 are in slight doubt (if there was a mid-year switch)

Merged in from GovsNames\_2007\_05\_24.xls on July 20, 2009

Govname1\_sour

Source of information in govname1, and other notes about when governors assumed office.

Merged in from GovsNames\_2007\_05\_24.xls on July 20, 2009

Govname1\_date

Date of source for govname.

Govname2 Governor’s name from first source

States and years I have to check: I’m 100% sure that all other years from 1997 to 2002 didn’t have a switch in the governor. For example, if the governor died in the year in question and was replaced by someone else, who then lost the election. All states for 2005 are in slight doubt (if there was a mid-year switch)

Merged in from GovsNames\_2007\_05\_24.xls on July 20, 2009

Govname2\_sour

Source of information in govname2, and other notes about when governors assumed office.

Merged in from GovsNames\_2007\_05\_24.xls on July 20, 2009

Govname2\_date

Date of source for govname2.

Govname2\_notes

Notes about govname from source2.

gub\_election

Dummy: 1 = gubernatorial election in that year. Blank = none.

This puts the election year into the calendar year it was held in.

Years available: 1936-2015

Source: merged Gubernatorial\_Elections1936to2010\_2011\_03\_23.xls with this file and saw which years had gubernatorial elections.

gub\_election\_regime

Calendar year in which the next gubernatorial election will be held. In an election year, this variable will be equal to “year.”

Years available: 1936-2012/2015

Source: gub\_election

gov\_midyear\_change\_date

Date of mid-year change in governors, if the governor left office at a “non-standard” time, except for LA. “Non-standard” means because of death, resignation, or impeachment.

Years covered: 1936-2010

gov\_midyear\_change\_month

Number of month in the year from gov\_midyear\_change\_date.

gov\_midyear\_change\_day

Day of the month from gov\_midyear\_change\_date.

gov\_midyear\_change\_ordinal\_day

Day of the year from gov\_midyear\_change\_date.

gov\_midyear\_change\_a

1 = gov\_midyear\_change\_date has a date in it, blank = doesn’t.

Budget\_Pass2011\_04\_13

Dummy: 1 = budget passed in this year.

Best guess as of April 13, 2011.

Budget\_Mon\_Pass2011\_04\_13

Number of month the budget passed.

Incomplete.

Best guess as of April 13, 2011.

NOTE: THIS VARIABLE IS NOT READY FOR PUBLIC RELEASE YET AND DOESN’T APPEAR IN THE DATASET.

Budget\_Day\_Pass2011\_04\_13

Day of month the budget passed.

Incomplete.

Best guess as of April 13, 2011.

NOTE: THIS VARIABLE IS NOT READY FOR PUBLIC RELEASE YET AND DOESN’T APPEAR IN THE DATASET.

when\_leg\_met2011\_04\_13

Dates legislature met.

Only input if mid-year change in governor.

Incomplete.

Best guess as of April 13, 2011.

gov\_midyear\_change\_b

1 = governor changes mid-year. Mid-year for this variable means that the governor came in before the November election, or when a November election could have been in the case of a non-election year. Note non-standard election dates for Louisiana, and how these influence decisions specified in gov\_midyear\_change\_b\_note.

0 = else.

Years available: 1961 to 2010

gov\_midyear\_change\_b\_note

Note about gov\_midyear\_change\_b

new\_gov\_b

A new governor has come into office starting in the year marked with a one.

This is marked “1” in the year after a November election (i.e., if a new governor was elected in 1984, 1985 is coded “1”).

If there was a mid-year switch, the year of the switch is coded with a “1,” except if the switch comes after election time (early November), in which case this variable is coded “1” in the next calendar year.

If a new governor comes into office that year, they are still coded as new even if they were a past governor.

Years available: 1961 to 2011

past\_gov

Governor has served in the past, with someone serving in between

1= served once in the past with someone else in between. Only coded for the first year of a gubernatorial administration (i.e., new\_gov\_b=1).

2 = served twice in the past with two periods in between. Only coded for the first year of a gubernatorial administration (i.e., new\_gov\_b=1).

3 = judgment call, see note in past\_gov\_note.

Blank = either missing, or didn’t serve in the past.

Years available: 1961-2010

Past\_gov\_note

Note about past\_gov.

gov\_midyear\_change\_c

1 = governor changes mid-year, from the perspective of the budget. If the new governor comes in before the budget is passed, then this gets a “1,” “0” if after the budget is passed. If the governor comes in very early in the year, before the session starts, or if only a few days were held, this gets a score of “0.”

0 = else.

2 = missing data

Note: this variable is identical to gov\_midyear\_change\_b, but altered from 1 to 0 when appropriate because of when the budget passes. Explanations for these changes can be found in the variable gov\_midyear\_change\_c\_note.

Years available: 1961 to 2010

gov\_midyear\_change\_c\_note

Note about gov\_midyear\_change\_b

new\_gov\_c

Note: this variable is identical to new\_gov\_b, but altered from 1 to 0 when appropriate because of mid-year changes in the governor in light of when the budget passes. If a budget didn’t pass in the first year that a governor came in, the case in the next year is coded “1” instead.

2 = missing data

Years available: 1961 to 2010

new\_gov\_d

Dummy: 1 = new governor this year. Cases where an incoming governor served in the past aren’t included in scores of “1.” 0 = else.

Note: this variable is identical to new\_gov\_c, but altered from 1 to 0 when appropriate because the new governor has served in the past.

2 = missing data

Years available: 1961 to 2010

Fracleg\_old\_variable

Fraction of days when the legislature was in session that the governor serving in the earlier part of the year was in office.

Incomplete variable

Merged in from Govs\_PersonalAttributes\_1968to2006\_2007\_06\_27 on July 20, 2009

Fracleg\_old\_variable\_note Note about why fracleg got the value that it did.

Incomplete variable

Merged in from Govs\_PersonalAttributes\_1968to2006\_2007\_06\_27 on July 20, 2009

years\_served

Number of years that the governor has served.

Years available: 1959 to 2010.

The variable indicates their experience at the beginning of the year.

If a governor came back to office, their counter began where it left off before.

If someone came in mid-year (not in Jan or Dec) the governor that was in office when the budget passed was used for the figure.

If someone came in at some fraction of the year (i.e. July 1st) they were given the credit of a fraction of their experience (i.e. .5) in the next year they served.

Budgets\_overseen

Number of budgets that the governor has overseen. If a governor leaves and comes back, the budgets they oversaw in the past are also counted. In the first year they oversee a budget, they get a code of “0.”

years\_served\_budgets\_overseen\_notes

Notes about the number of years served and budgets\_overseen.

term\_length

Number of years in governor’s term (means that in that year the governor is having that type of term, in length).

Years available: 1956-2004

years\_left\_in\_term

Number of years left in the governor’s term.

Years available: 1956-2004

limit\_exists

A gubernatorial term limit exists by law at this time, no matter how many terms the present governor has served. 1 = yes. 0 = no.

Years available: 1960-2009

limit\_type

Type of term limit. 0 = there is no term limit. 1 = there is a one term limit. 2 = there is a two term limit. 3 = there is a three term limit. This is from the data file “GovTermLimits.”

Years available: 1959-2009

Sources for 1997 to 2002; Book of the States, used further research (noted in source file file) in the case of ID and MA because they had changes to their laws.

term\_limit\_length\_uncertainty

0 = term limit is known because it was looked up from documents, etc. 1 = assumption was made that term limit in an earlier year was the same as the earliest year term limit law was known.

Note: I did check to see if there were inconsistencies between the coding of “term\_length” and which governors were in office (for example, if there was a two term governor in a state I coded as having a one-term term limit).

Years available:

years\_left\_before\_limit

Number of years left before the governor’s term limit.

Years available: 1960-2010

This takes into account how state’s individually deal with partial terms, governor’s that come back after taking time off, and transition rules. The numerous sources for this information is in the codebook “GovTermLimits-Notes” under variable trli0005.

I could not always find out if a state had transition rules that applied to the sitting governor. In these cases, I merely assumed that a governor who was sitting in a state with a one term term limit when a constitutional amendment passed creating a two term term limit would be eligible for a second term. If a governor was sitting in a state with no term limits, when a constitutional amendment passed that created a two term term limit I assumed that the counter would start when the constitutional amendment passed.

Some of the state specific notes for this variable may not appear below, but in the document “GovTermLimits-PrimaryDocuments.”

If the term limit in NC in 1997 was an absolute limit, then James B. Hunt could have never served a second time. Therefore, the limit is on consecutive terms, and his clock starts from the beginning.

years\_left\_before\_limit\_note

Notes about term limits. Grandfather clauses and other information.

years\_left\_before\_limit\_uncertainty

1 = some uncertainty about the number of years left before a term limit because I’m unsure of how partial terms count towards the limit.

Lame\_Duck\_Last\_Term

Governor is in the last term before his term limit, i.e. he or she is a lame duck. 1 = governor is a lame duck. 0 = governor is not a lame duck.

Years available: 1960 to 2010

Lame\_Duck\_Last\_Year

Dummy: 1 = governor is in their last year before a term limit. 0 = else.

Years available: 1960 to 2010

Lame\_Duck\_Last\_2nd\_To\_Last\_Year

Dummy: 1 = governor is in their second to last year before a term limit. 0 = else.

Years available: 1960 to 2010

Lame\_Duck\_Notes

Notes about why the Lame\_Duck variables were coded the way they were.

Femgov

Dummy: 1 = female, 0 = male. This was coded based on the first name of the governor. If there was doubt, an internet search was done to ascertain their gender.

Years available:

Data goes from 1956 (1959 for AK and HI) to 2006 (sometimes 2007).

One source: <http://www.guide2womenleaders.com/Governors1920.htm>

Merged in from Govs\_PersonalAttributes\_1968to2006\_2007\_06\_27 on July 20, 2009

Femgov\_notes

Note about the coding of “femgov.”

Merged in from Govs\_PersonalAttributes\_1968to2006\_2007\_06\_27 on July 20, 2009

Stateleg

Dummy: Member served in the state legislature. 1 = yes, 0 = no. A search was done through supplement #1 to the Book of states 12 years before their arrival to the governor’s office. They may have been in the state legislature before that time, but they would receive a score of “0” if so. For consistency, when governors were found in state legislatures before the twelve year cutoff, and not after, they did not receive a code of “1.”

Years available:

These data go from 1971 (often earlier) to 2006.

Merged in from Govs\_PersonalAttributes\_1968to2006\_2007\_06\_27 on July 20, 2009

stateleg\_sour

Source for stateleg

Merged in from Govs\_PersonalAttributes\_1968to2006\_2007\_06\_27 on July 20, 2009

Congmem Dummy: Members served in the U.S. House of Representatives or the U.S. Senate. 1 = yes, 0 = no. No time cutoff for this variable.

Years available:

Source was often <http://bioguide.congress.gov/biosearch/biosearch.asp>. My other file referred to in “congsour” probably always used that same source.

These data go from 1971 (often earlier) to 2006.

Merged in from Govs\_PersonalAttributes\_1968to2006\_2007\_06\_27 on July 20, 2009

Congmem\_sour

Source for “congmem.”

Merged in from Govs\_PersonalAttributes\_1968to2006\_2007\_06\_27 on July 20, 2009

Stateleg\_congmem\_notes

Notes about stateleg or cong

Years available:

Merged in from Govs\_PersonalAttributes\_1968to2006\_2007\_06\_27 on July 20, 2009

Legexper Dummy: 1 = members served in either the state legislature or U.S. Congress. 0 = else.

Years available:

These data go from 1971 (often earlier) to 2006.

Computed from stateleg and cong.

Gives fractions sometimes when there was a mid-year switch in governor.

Merged in from Govs\_PersonalAttributes\_1968to2006\_2007\_06\_27 on July 20, 2009

party\_midyear\_change

Year had governors of two different parties in it.

A year doesn’t include normal transitions (that obviously are rarely on January 1st), or abnormal transition that occur early in the year. If it happened late enough in the year (after a November election would have been), that’s not considered a mid-year change.

Dummy variable: 1 = yes, blank = no.

This variable appears to be incomplete.

Years available: 1961-2010

party\_midyear\_change\_direction

-1 = change was from Democrat to Republican. 1 = change was from Republican to Democrat. blank = no change.

Years available:

Govparty\_a

Party of the governor; 0 = Republican, 1 = Democrat, .5 = non-major party governor.

When the party of the governor changes mid-year (eight cases), the fraction of the year with a Democratic governor is put in as a value.

This is govparty from StateElections\_PartisanBalance1937to2011\_2011\_03\_22.xls. However, years are put in “government style.” For example, if a Democrat replaces a Republican in the 1988 election, “R” goes into 1988, and “D” goes into 1989.

Year’s available: 1937 to 2011

Source 1937 to 1958; Congressional Quarterly. 1998. Gubernatorial Elections, 1787-1997. Washington, DC: Congressional Quarterly, Inc.

Source 1959 to 2009: Klarner, state partisan balance, for\_use file.

Source 2010: Directory I, 2009

Source 2011: http://www.ballotpedia.org/wiki/index.php/2010\_gubernatorial\_electoral\_results

party\_midbiennium\_change

Biennium had governors of two different parties in it.

Dummy variable: 1 = yes, blank = no.

Years available:

party\_midbiennium\_change\_direction

-1 = change was from Democrat to Republican. 1 = change was from Republican to Democrat. blank = no change. This is put into the year of the biennium that saw the change if this is a mid-year change also. This is put into both years of the biennium if the change took place from the first year of the biennium to the second.

Years available:

Govparty\_b

This is the same as govparty\_a, except that when there is a mid-year switch in the party of the governor, the party of the governor during the November election is used.

Years available:

Govparty\_b\_2

Same as govparty\_b, except recoded. Democrat = 1, Republican = -1, non-major party governor = 0.

Years available:

State\_midterm\_penalty

0 = gubernatorial election in that year, or no gubernatorial election, and a non-major party governor in office during the election. 1 = no gubernatorial election, and a Democratic governor in office. -1 = no gubernatorial election, and a Republican governor in office.

Same as govparty\_b\_2, except recoded “0” when gub\_election=1.

Years available:

Gov\_party\_c

Party of the governor; 0 = Republican, 1 = Democrat, .5 = non-major party governor.

When the party of the governor changes mid-year, the party of the governor when the budget passed was used. When there was no budget passed, the party of the governor during the November election (or when the election would have been held) was used.

Source: gov\_party\_b, altered a little.

Note: MN 1963: I don’t know exactly when the budget passed, so I guessed.

gov\_non\_maj\_pty

1 = governor isn’t a Democrat or a Republican. 0 = governor is a Democrat or is a Republican.

Source: gov\_party\_c

gub\_party\_change

Dummy: 1 = party of the governor has changed since the beginning of last year. 0 = hasn’t.

Source: Govparty\_b

gov\_pty\_change\_since\_last\_budget\_a

1 = governor changed from R to D since last time a budget was passed. -1 = governor changed from D to R since last time a budget was passed. 0 = no change. -.5 and .5 = some change to or from a non-major party governor. Blank = no budget was passed in that year.

Computed by: sorted by Budget\_Pass2011\_04\_13, then stateno, then year. Then I differenced gov\_party\_c.

gov\_pty\_change\_since\_last\_budget\_b

Dummy: 1 = party of the governor changed since the last time a budget was passed. 0 = budget passed that year, and there was no change.

years\_since\_other\_party

Years since other party variable. A count variable saying 1) how many years the Democrats have been in power (expressed by a positive number) or 2) how many years the Republicans have been in power (multiplied by -1). For years between 1936 and the first time after that year there was a switch in the party of the governor, the count is from the year 1936.

Years available: 1937-2010

When there has been an independent, zeros are entered.

Based off of Gov\_party\_c

open\_bcs\_term\_limit

Dummy: 1 = seat is open because of a term limit, and a Democrat was in office immediately beforehand. -1 = seat is open because of a term limit, and a Republican was in office immediately beforehand. 0 = else.

Years available: 1937-2010