

**Office of the Vermont Secretary of State
Vermont State Archives**

1991: Proposal 21

Subject: Death or resignation of Governor, vacancy

PROPOSAL 21

Sec. 1. Section 24 of Chapter II of the Vermont Constitution is amended to read:

§24. [DEATH OR RESIGNATION OF GOVERNOR, VACANCY IN OFFICE OF GOVERNOR AND LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR]

[The Legislature shall provide by general law what officer shall act as Governor whenever there shall be a vacancy in both the offices of Governor and Lieutenant-Governor, occasioned by a failure to elect, or by the removal from office, or by death or resignation of both Governor and Lieutenant-Governor, or by the inability of both Governor and Lieutenant-Governor to exercise the powers and discharge the duties of the office of Governor; and such officer so designated, shall exercise the powers and discharge the duties appertaining to the office of Governor accordingly until the disability shall be removed, or a Governor shall be elected. And in case there shall be a vacancy in the office of Treasurer, by reason of any of the causes enumerated, the Governor shall appoint a Treasurer for the time being, who shall act as Treasurer until the disability shall be removed, or a new election shall be made.]

In the case of the death, conviction on impeachment or resignation of the Governor, the Lieutenant-Governor shall become Governor for the remainder of the term. In the case of the absence from the state or disability of the Governor, the powers and duties of the office shall devolve upon the Lieutenant-Governor until the Governor returns or the disability is removed. In any case in which there is a vacancy in the office of the Lieutenant-Governor, created by succession or otherwise, the President Pro Tempore of the Senate shall become the Lieutenant-Governor for the remainder of the term. The Legislature shall provide by general law what officer shall act as Governor whenever there is a vacancy in both the offices of Governor and Lieutenant-Governor or

when both the Governor and Lieutenant-Governor are absent from the state or unable to exercise the powers and discharge the duties of the office of Governor.