

Office of the Vermont Secretary of State
Vermont State Archives

1983: Proposal 6

Subject: Election of Governor, Lieutenant Governor and Treasurer

Proposal 6

That Sections 47, and 49 of the Vermont Constitution be amended to read:

[\$ 47. Election of governor, lieutenant governor and treasurer]

SECTION 47. The freemen of each town shall, on the day of election for choosing Representatives to attend the General Assembly, cast their votes for Governor and Lieutenant Governor. At the opening of the General Assembly, there shall be a committee appointed out of the Senate and House of Representatives, who, after being duly sworn to the faithful discharge of their trust, shall proceed to received, sort, and count the votes for Governor and Lieutenant Governor, and declare the persons who have the major part of the votes, to be Governor and Lieutenant Governor for th two years ensuing. The Treasurer shall be chosen in the manner above directed.

The votes for Governor and Lieutenant Governor, and Treasure, of the State, shall be sorted and counted, and the result declared, by a committee appointed by the Senate and House of Representatives.

If, at any time, there shall be no election, by the freemen, of Governor and Lieutenant Governor, or Treasurer, of the State, the Senate and House of Representative shall by a joint ballot, elect to fill the office, not filled by the freemen as aforesaid, one of the three candidates for such office (if there be so many) for whom the greatest number of votes shall have been returned.

[\$ 49. Term of governor, lieutenant governor and treasurer]

SECTION 49. The tem of office of the Governor and Lieutenant Governor, Auditor of Accounts, Secretary of State and Treasurer of the State, respectively, shall commence when they shall be chosen and qualified, and shall continue for the term of two years, or until their successors shall be chosen and qualified, or to the adjournment of the session of the Legislature at which, by the constitution and laws, their successors are required to be chosen, and not after such adjournment.

That Section 43a be added to Chapter II of the Vermont Constitution to read:

SECTION 43a. Names of candidates for the offices of Governor and Lieutenant Governor shall be placed jointly on the official ballot for use at state elections according to the political parties they represent. The Governor and Lieutenant Governor shall be elected jointly by the casting by each voter of a single vote applicable to both candidates. The Legislature shall carry this provision into effect by appropriate legislation.