**Selected Officials: Methods of Selection/Lengths of Term**

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **State** | **Secretary of State** | **Attorney General** | **Treasurer** | **State or Legislative Auditor** | **Comptroller** |
| Alabama | E/4 | E/4 | E/4 | LC/7 | O/--- |
| Alaska | --- | G/--- | G/--- | L/--- | O/--- |
| Arizona | E/4 | E/4 | E/4 | LC/5 | O/--- |
| Arkansas | E/4 | E/4 | E/4 | LC/--- | G/--- |
| California | E/4 | E/4 | E/4 | G/4 | E/4 |
| Colorado | E/4 | E/4 | E/4 | LC/5 | O/--- |
| Connecticut | E/4 | E/4 | E/4 | L/4 | E/4 |
| Delaware | G/--- | E/4 | E/4 | E/4 | G/--- |
| Florida | G/--- | E/4 | E/4 | L/--- | E/4 |
| Georgia | E/4 | E/4 | G/--- | L/--- | G/--- |
| Hawaii | --- | G/4 | G/--- | L/8 | G/4 |
| Idaho | E/4 | E/4 | E/4 | LC/--- | E/4 |
| Illinois | E/4 | E/4 | E/4 | L/10 | E/4 |
| Indiana | E/4 | E/4 | E/4 | G/4 | E/4 |
| Iowa | E/4 | E/4 | E/4 | E/4 | O/--- |
| Kansas | E/4 | E/4 | E/4 | LC/--- | O/--- |
| Kentucky | E/4 | E/4 | E/4 | E/4 | O/--- |
| Louisiana | E/4 | E/4 | E/4 | L/--- | G/--- |
| Maine | L/2 | L/2 | L/2 | L/4 | O/--- |
| Maryland | G/--- | E/4 | L/4 | O/--- | E/4 |
| Massachusetts | E/4 | E/4 | E/4 | E/4 | G/--- |
| Michigan | E/4 | E/4 | G/--- | L/8 | O/--- |
| Minnesota | E/4 | E/4 | G/--- | 2 separate positions:E/4 and L/6 | G/--- |
| Mississippi | E/4 | E/4 | E/4 | E/4 | G/--- |
| Missouri | E/4 | E/4 | E/4 | E/4 | O/--- |
| Montana | E/4 | E/4 | G/--- | LC/2 | O/--- |
| Nebraska | E/4 | E/4 | E/4 | E/4 | O/--- |
| Nevada | E/4 | E/4 | E/4 | LC/--- | E/4 |

|  |  |  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **State** | **Secretary of State** | **Attorney General** | **Treasurer** | **State or Legislative Auditor** | **Comptroller** |
| New Hampshire | L/2 | G/4 | L/2 | LC/2 | G/4 |
| New Jersey | --- | G/4 | G/--- | L/5 | G/--- |
| New Mexico | E/4 | E/4 | E/4 | E/4 | G/4 |
| New York | G/--- | E/4 | G/--- | E/4 | E/4 |
| North Carolina | E/4 | E/4 | E/4 | E/4 | G/7 |
| North Dakota | E/4 | E/4 | E/4 | E/4 | G/--- |
| Ohio | E/4 | E/4 | E/4 | E/4 | G/--- |
| Oklahoma | G/4 | E/4 | E/4 | E/4 | O/--- |
| Oregon | E/4 | E/4 | E/4 | O/--- | O/--- |
| Pennsylvania | G/--- | E/4 | E/4 | E/4 | O/--- |
| Rhode Island | E/4 | E/4 | E/4 | LC/--- | O/--- |
| South Carolina | E/4 | E/4 | E/4 | 2 separate positions:SB/--- and LC/4 | E/4 |
| South Dakota | E/4 | E/4 | E/4 | L/8 | E/4 |
| Tennessee | L/4 | J/8 | L/2 | L/2 | O/--- |
| Texas | G/--- | E/4 | E/4 | LC/--- | E/4 |
| Utah | --- | E/4 | E/4 | E/4 | O/--- |
| Vermont | E/2 | E/2 | E/2 | E/4 | G/--- |
| Virginia | G/--- | E/4 | G/--- | L/4 | G/--- |
| Washington | E/4 | E/4 | E/4 | E/4 | G/--- |
| West Virginia | E/4 | E/4 | E/4 | 2 separate positions:E/4 and L/--- | O/6 |
| Wisconsin | E/4 | E/4 | E/4 | LC/--- | O/--- |
| Wyoming | E/4 | A/--- | E/4 | O/6 | E/4 |

Key:

--- = No provision for the position or no set term length

E = Elected by voters

G = Appointed or approved by governor

J = Appointed by judges of state Supreme Court

L = Elected or appointed by legislature

LC = Selected by legislative committee, commission or council

SB = Appointed by state budget and control board.

O = Another method for selection

**Examples of authorizing constitutional provisions**

**Alaska**

*Constitution Article 9, Section 14*

Legislative Post-Audit

The legislature shall appoint an auditor to serve at its pleasure. He shall be a certified public accountant. The auditor shall conduct post-audits as prescribed by law and shall report to the legislature and to the governor

**Arizona**

*Constitution Article 5, Section 1*

Section 1. A. The executive department shall consist of the governor, secretary of state, state treasurer, attorney general, and superintendent of public instruction, each of whom shall hold office for four years beginning on the first Monday of January, 1971 next after the regular general election in 1970.

B. The person having the highest number of the votes cast for the office voted for shall be elected, but if two or more persons have an equal and the highest number of votes for the office, the two houses of the legislature at its next regular session shall elect forthwith, by joint ballot, one of such persons for said office.

C. The officers of the executive department during their terms of office shall reside at the seat of government where they shall keep their offices and the public records, books, and papers. They shall perform such duties as are prescribed by the constitution and as may be provided by law.

**Florida**

*Constitution Article 4, Section 4*

SECTION 4. Cabinet.—

(a) There shall be a cabinet composed of an attorney general, a chief financial officer, and a commissioner of agriculture. In addition to the powers and duties specified herein, they shall exercise such powers and perform such duties as may be prescribed by law. In the event of a tie vote of the governor and cabinet, the side on which the governor voted shall be deemed to prevail.

(b) The attorney general shall be the chief state legal officer. There is created in the office of the attorney general the position of statewide prosecutor. The statewide prosecutor shall have concurrent jurisdiction with the state attorneys to prosecute violations of criminal laws occurring or having occurred, in two or more judicial circuits as part of a related transaction, or when any such offense is affecting or has affected two or more judicial circuits as provided by general law. The statewide prosecutor shall be appointed by the attorney general from not less than three persons nominated by the judicial nominating commission for the supreme court, or as otherwise provided by general law.

(c) The chief financial officer shall serve as the chief fiscal officer of the state, and shall settle and approve accounts against the state, and shall keep all state funds and securities.

(d) The commissioner of agriculture shall have supervision of matters pertaining to agriculture except as otherwise provided by law.

(e) The governor as chair, the chief financial officer, and the attorney general shall constitute the state board of administration, which shall succeed to all the power, control, and authority of the state board of administration established pursuant to Article IX, Section 16 of the Constitution of 1885, and which shall continue as a body at least for the life of Article XII, Section 9(c).

(f) The governor as chair, the chief financial officer, the attorney general, and the commissioner of agriculture shall constitute the trustees of the internal improvement trust fund and the land acquisition trust fund as provided by law.

(g) The governor as chair, the chief financial officer, the attorney general, and the commissioner of agriculture shall constitute the agency head of the Department of Law Enforcement.

*Constitution Article 4, Section 5*

SECTION 5. Election of governor, lieutenant governor and cabinet members; qualifications; terms.—

(a) At a state-wide general election in each calendar year the number of which is even but not a multiple of four, the electors shall choose a governor and a lieutenant governor and members of the cabinet each for a term of four years beginning on the first Tuesday after the first Monday in January of the succeeding year. In primary elections, candidates for the office of governor may choose to run without a lieutenant governor candidate. In the general election, all candidates for the offices of governor and lieutenant governor shall form joint candidacies in a manner prescribed by law so that each voter shall cast a single vote for a candidate for governor and a candidate for lieutenant governor running together.

(b) When elected, the governor, lieutenant governor and each cabinet member must be an elector not less than thirty years of age who has resided in the state for the preceding seven years. The attorney general must have been a member of the bar of Florida for the preceding five years. No person who has, or but for resignation would have, served as governor or acting governor for more than six years in two consecutive terms shall be elected governor for the succeeding term.

**Illinois**

*Constitution Article VIII, Section 3*

SECTION 3. STATE AUDIT AND AUDITOR GENERAL

(a) The General Assembly shall provide by law for the audit of the obligation, receipt and use of public funds of the State. The General Assembly, by a vote of three-fifths of the members elected to each house, shall appoint an Auditor General and may remove him for cause by a similar vote. The Auditor General shall serve for a term of ten years. His compensation shall be established by law and shall not be diminished, but may be increased, to take effect during his term.

(b) The Auditor General shall conduct the audit of public funds of the State. He shall make additional reports

and investigations as directed by the General Assembly. He shall report his findings and recommendations to the General Assembly and to the Governor.

**Minnesota**

*Constitution Article 5, Section 1*

Section 1. Executive officers.

The executive department consists of a governor, lieutenant governor, secretary of state, auditor, and attorney general, who shall be chosen by the electors of the state. The governor and lieutenant governor shall be chosen jointly by a single vote applying to both offices in a manner prescribed by law.

*Constitution Article 5, Section 2*

Sec. 2. Term of governor and lieutenant governor; qualifications.

The term of office for the governor and lieutenant governor is four years and until a successor is chosen and qualified. Each shall have attained the age of 25 years and, shall have been a bona fide resident of the state for one year next preceding his election, and shall be a citizen of the United States.

*Constitution Article 5, Section 4*

Sec. 4. Terms and salaries of executive officers.

The term of office of the secretary of state, attorney general and state auditor is four years and until a successor is chosen and qualified. The duties and salaries of the executive officers shall be prescribed by law.

**Virginia**

*Constitution Article 5, Section 10*

Section 10. Appointment and removal of administrative officers.

Except as may be otherwise provided in this Constitution, the Governor shall appoint each officer serving as the head of an administrative department or division of the executive branch of the government, subject to such confirmation as the General Assembly may prescribe. Each officer appointed by the Governor pursuant to this section shall have such professional qualifications as may be prescribed by law and shall serve at the pleasure of the Governor.