



OFFICE OF THE LIEUTENANT
GOVERNOR

Phil Scott, Lt.. Governor

Nancy Driscoll, Chief of Staff

Fiscal Year 2014 Budget Request



Office of the Lieutenant Governor

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Budget Development

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Financial Director II

Office of the Lieutenant Governor

Executive Summary

The Lieutenant Governor serves as President of the Senate, casts a tie-breaking vote when the Senate is equally divided, and stands in for the Governor when the Governor is out of state. With a limited set of statutory duties, the Lieutenant Governor's office is full of opportunity to work on special projects and initiatives that will improve the workings of state government and improve the lives of Vermonters.

During the legislative session, Lt. Governor Scott spends most of his time at the State House, presiding over Senate sessions and acting as mentor and facilitator to senators on legislative issues.

For the 2013-2014 legislative session, Lt. Governor Scott hopes to achieve consensus around a "theme" of "Growing Vermont's Economy." When he travels throughout the state, the Lt. Governor continually hears concerns from Vermonters about affordability and opportunity. This input inspired the idea of the theme, which the Lt. Governor hopes committees will consider in order to achieve meaningful reforms to help all Vermonters in a bipartisan fashion. Lt. Governor Scott will be working closely and collaboratively with Senate President Pro Tem Campbell, and with the Senate Committee Chairs, on this initiative.

Outside of the State House, Lt. Governor Scott will continue traveling throughout the state to public events, and he will also continue his "Vermont Everyday Jobs" tour. During his first term, he worked with 23 Vermont companies, ranging from a utility line crew, to an aviation manufacturer, to a violin-maker. At each job, he's learned something new to share with other state leaders to improve the business climate in the state and improve the relationship between businesses and state government. The tour has also offered a way to promote the innovation and entrepreneurship that fuels Vermont's economy, and to encourage more Vermont businesses and individuals to shop locally and support their neighbors.

Lt. Governor Scott also looks for opportunities to put his own professional expertise to work for the benefit of Vermonters. For instance, in the aftermath of Hurricane Irene, he organized a mobile home removal task force that removed and safely disposed of nearly 100 damaged mobile homes throughout the state. Initially conceived as a way to improve on the efficiency and lower the cost of mobile home removal after the flood, this innovative program inspired Vermont companies and philanthropic organizations to donate to the project, and the team was able to offer the service completely free of charge and without using any taxpayer funds.

Whether it's facilitating more open dialogue among the players in state government; acting as ombudsman for Vermont citizens who need help

from state agencies; or reaching out to Vermonters and Vermont business people to get them more involved in the legislative process – the Lt. Governor's office projects a culture of openness and accessibility that welcomes in the "common man" (and woman) and makes them feel comfortable. Lt. Governor Scott will also literally open his door this legislative session, as he has in

previous years, on Thursday mornings for a coffee hour open to legislators, advocates and citizens, to allow people to forge relationships and exchange ideas in an informal setting.

Program Budget Profiles

 Office of the Lieutenant Governor



Section 2

**FY 2014 Budget
Submission**

FY14 Appropriations Committee Questionnaire

Lieutenant Governor's Office

1.

a. What are your programs?

- Statutory responsibilities: (1) Filling in for the Gov when he's out of state
- (2) Presiding over the Senate
- (3) Casting a tie breaking vote in Senate when nec.
- Role as mentor, consensus-builder among Legislature, Administration
- Constituent Services
- Travel to events to speak, participate in panel discussions, etc.
- "Vermont Everyday Jobs" Initiative

b. How do these programs meet your core mission?

These programs satisfy both the statutory responsibilities of the Lt. Governor as well as Vermonters' expectations for a statewide elected official. The Vermont Everyday Jobs initiative was something of our own design, to meet our own goal of strengthening ties between the business community and state government.

2.

a. What does success in each program look like to Vermonters both those served by the program and the general population?

Key words would probably include accessibility, responsiveness, and visibility in the community. Vermonters are not necessarily aware of each and every "success" in the Lt. Governor's statutory duties, but an efficiently-run Senate and consensus on major policy issues might be some of the ways they would judge the success of our office.

b. What performance measures are used to determine progress and what baseline data is available (current and proposed budget, # served, etc)?

We keep track, internally, of every communication that comes into our office from constituents. Since taking office in 2011, the Lt Governor's office has responded to more than 600 Vermonters by facilitating communication with state agencies, completing legislative research, forwarding policy suggestions to legislators, and arranging for people to testify before Senate committees.

FY14 Appropriations Committee Questionnaire

Since the objective of the "Vermont Everyday Jobs" initiative is the strengthening of relationships, performance measures for this program are less exact. We have kept in contact with the nearly 2 dozen businesses and organizations that the Lt. Governor has worked with over the last two years, and those experiences have informed his approach to policy issues. He has also shared those experiences with legislators and members of the Governor's Administration who are working on relevant issues.

3. Is there a better way?

We're not aware of a better alternative, but we are certainly open to suggestions.

Program Performance*

*per 32 VSA §307(c)



Office of the Lieutenant Governor



Section 3

**FY 2014 Budget
Submission**

Office of the Lieutenant Governor

Mission Statement

The powers and duties of the Lieutenant Governor are constitutionally assigned. (See Chapter II, Section 19 of the Vermont constitution.) The Lieutenant Governor serves as President of the Senate, and casts a tie-breaking vote when the Senate is equally divided. The Constitution provides that in case of death, resignation, or other disability of the Governor, the powers, duties and emoluments of the office shall devolve upon the Lieutenant Governor for the remainder of the term.

Description of Appropriations, Divisions & Programs:

The Lieutenant Governor's office works with citizens, public officials, legislators, and state agencies on a daily basis. Under the direction of the Lieutenant Governor, meetings and task forces are coordinated and research projects are undertaken. The office acts as an ombudsman for Vermont citizens by providing information and support. The Lieutenant Governor serves as the acting Governor whenever the Governor leaves the territorial boundaries of the state and until the Governor physically returns to the state. The Lieutenant Governor's office is staffed with one full-time employee, as well as a college student intern during the legislative session.

Key Initiatives:

Lt. Governor Scott plans to work closely with the Senate President Pro Tem, the Senate Majority and Minority Leaders, and the Senate Committee Chairs in 2013 to achieve consensus around a "theme" for the legislative session – that theme being "Growing Vermont's Economy." One of our major initiatives this year will be providing leadership and guidance to help keep the Senate focused and coordinated, and support legislators of all parties in their efforts to tackle one of the major issues facing the state: affordability.

The Lieutenant Governor will also continue his "Vermont Everyday Jobs" tour in 2013, as well as participate in events and initiatives to encourage more Vermonters to shop locally and support their local economies. Finally, as in past years, the Lieutenant Governor will also act as a resource and a facilitator for legislators, state agencies, and officers of state government.

Resources:

Our budget met our needs in FY13, covering our personnel costs and allowing for the Lt. Governor to attend one National Lt. Governors Association conference per year, which we feel is adequate and appropriate. Although our weekly open door/coffee hours during the legislative session are not a large expense, we have opted not to use our official budget for this purpose; instead, the Lt. Governor pays for this on his own.

Programmatic Changes:

There are no programmatic changes expected to occur during FY14 due to State or Federal law changes.

Capital Needs for the Program:

The Office of the Lieutenant Governor has no additional capital needs for FY14.