

Senate Bill No. 1756

An act relating to succession to the office of Governor; amending s. 14.055, F.S.; deleting the Secretary of State, Comptroller, Treasurer, and Commissioner of Education from the order of succession to the office of Governor; providing that the Chief Financial Officer shall become Governor upon vacancies in the offices of Governor, Lieutenant Governor, and Attorney General; providing an effective date.

Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

Section 1. Section 14.055, Florida Statutes, is amended to read:

14.055 Succession to office of Governor.—Upon vacancy in the office of Governor, the Lieutenant Governor shall become Governor. Upon vacancy in the office of Lieutenant Governor, the Governor shall appoint a successor who shall serve for the remainder of the term, provided that if after the such appointment a vacancy occurs ~~shall occur~~ in the office of Governor with more than 28 months remaining in the term, ~~then~~ at the next statewide general election the electors shall choose a Governor and Lieutenant Governor to fill the remainder of the term in the manner provided in s. 5, Art. IV of the State Constitution. Upon vacancy in the office of Governor and in the office of Lieutenant Governor, ~~the Secretary of State shall become Governor; or if the office of Secretary of State be vacant, then the Attorney General shall become Governor; or if the office of Attorney General is be vacant, then the Comptroller shall become Governor; or if the office of Comptroller be vacant, then the Chief Financial Officer Treasurer shall become Governor; or if the office of Chief Financial Officer is Treasurer be vacant, then the Commissioner of Education shall become Governor; or if the office of Commissioner of Education be vacant, then the Commissioner of Agriculture shall become Governor.~~ Except as otherwise provided in this section with respect to an appointed successor to the office of Lieutenant Governor, a successor under this section shall serve for the remainder of the term and shall receive all the rights, privileges, and emoluments of the Governor. In case a vacancy occurs ~~shall occur~~ in the office of Governor and provision is not made in this section herein for filling the such vacancy, ~~then~~ the Speaker of the House of Representatives and the President of the Senate shall convene the Legislature by joint proclamation within 15 days for the purpose of choosing a person to serve as Governor for the remainder of the term. A successor shall be elected by a majority vote in a joint session of both houses.

Section 2. This act shall take effect upon becoming a law.

Approved by the Governor May 30, 2006.

Filed in Office Secretary of State May 30, 2006.