

**EXECUTIVE BRANCH
ELECTED OFFICIALS**



Chapter 1

GOVERNOR

*State Capitol, Des Moines 50319; (515) 281-5211;
www.state.ia.us/government/governor*



TOM VILSACK

Governor

Mount Pleasant (D)

Term: Expires January 2007. **Profession:** Elected to first term as Governor in November 1998 and reelected in 2002. Partner in Bell and Vilsack Law Office, 1975-1998. Former mayor of Mount Pleasant, 1987-1992. State Senator, 49th District, 1992-1998. **Education:** A.B., Hamilton College, 1972; Albany Law School, Union University, 1975. **Memberships and Activities:** Member, St. Alphonsus Roman Catholic Church. **Residence:** Born in Pittsburgh, PA. Permanent residence in Mount Pleasant. **Family Members:** Wife Ann Christine Vilsack; two sons.

The supreme executive power of the state is vested in the Governor, whose term of office is four years.

A person is eligible for the governorship who is a citizen of the United States and a resident of Iowa for two years preceding the next election, and has attained the age of 30 years at the time of said election.

The Governor appoints all principal officers of the state not elected by the people and certain other officers connected with the state government, subject to confirmation by a two-thirds vote of the members of the Senate. When any office, from any cause, becomes vacant, and no mode is provided by the Constitution and laws for filling such vacancy, the Governor has the power to fill such vacancy.

The chief executive is also responsible for taking final action on all laws enacted by the General Assembly. The Governor may approve, by signing, or disapprove, by veto, a bill passed by both houses of the Legislature or the Governor may allow a bill to become law without signing it.

The Governor may also call a special session of the General Assembly when there is necessity of action and may order adjournment of the Legislature if the members cannot reach agreement when to adjourn. The Governor must report to the Legislature the financial condition of the state and a recommendation for any appropriate action concerning the financial status.

The Governor has the task of granting or denying executive clemency in the form of restoration of voting rights, commutation of sentences, pardons, remissions of fines and forfeitures, and gun licenses privileges.

The specific statutory duties of the Office of Governor include being commander-in-chief of the military forces of Iowa, chairperson of the Executive Council, and having the authority to grant or deny extradition whenever there is a request for a fugitive from justice.

The Governor has many obligations as the chief executive to the people of Iowa. These include meeting different groups or individuals to discuss problems which in some way affect government; conferring with Iowa's congressional delegation to discuss national issues which affect Iowa; promoting Iowa and its manufactured and agricultural products; answering correspondence from the electorate; and endeavoring to meet visitors who wish to visit the Capitol and the Governor's Office.

Governor Tom Vilsack's top priority is for Iowans to receive the best education for today and tomorrow. Governor Vilsack believes if every child has a strong foundation in the basics, such as reading, they will be able to compete for the jobs of the future. He also believes that working Iowans deserve opportunities to develop the skills necessary to succeed in the workforce. In addition to offering specific solutions to improve our schools, Governor Vilsack is working to provide adequate health care for our children and senior citizens and ensure our water is safe for our children to drink.

In summary, the Governor is the chief administrator of the state government and is held responsible by the citizenry for the effective and efficient administration of the various state departments and agencies in Iowa.

See chapter 4 for information regarding the Executive Office of the Governor and the Lieutenant Governor.

LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR

*State Capitol, Des Moines 50319; (515) 281-5211;
www.state.ia.us/government/governor*



SALLY J. PEDERSON

*Lieutenant Governor
Des Moines (D)*

Term: Expires January 2007. **Profession:** Sworn in as Lieutenant Governor on January 15, 1999, after November 1998 election. Reelected in 2002. Her professional career began at Meredith Corporation in Des Moines, where she rose through the ranks to become senior food editor for *Better Homes and Gardens* magazine. **Education:** B.S. in hotel, restaurant, and institution management from Iowa State University, 1973. **Memberships and Activities:** The Lieutenant Governor has devoted much of her time to community service. She served as president of Polk County Health Services, board president for the Autism Society of Iowa, and was the founding president of the Homestead Living and Learning Center for Adults with Autism. She has served on the board of directors of Blank Children's Hospital, the Des Moines Playhouse, Very Special Arts Iowa, YWCA Aliber Child Care Center, the YMCA Central Branch, the Des Moines Metro Opera, and the State Special Education Advisory Panel. She currently serves on the board of directors for the National Alliance for Autism Research, the Mid-Iowa Health Foundation, and Legacy 150. **Residence:** Born in Muscatine and resides in Des Moines. **Family Members:** Husband James A. Autry; three children and two grandchildren.

Lieutenant Governor Pederson serves with the Governor in a unique partnership. During the campaign, Tom Vilsack promised that she would be a full partner in his administration, and she has been fully engaged from the start. An example of their collaboration was the fact that Lieutenant Governor Pederson was the only lieutenant governor to attend the National Governors Association New Governor's Conference immediately after the election in November 1998. After working on the transition from a Republican to Democratic administration, Lieutenant Governor

Pederson was named to oversee the Governor's 21st Century Workforce Council, a statewide effort to improve workforce development in Iowa.

During her time in office and throughout her career, Lieutenant Governor Pederson has been a steadfast advocate for people with disabilities, and now leads the Vilsack-Pederson administration's initiatives for health care and human services. She is working to expand access to health care for children, ensure fair prices of prescription drugs for senior citizens, boost Iowa's Medicare payments from the federal government, and create a wide variety of accessible living options for people with disabilities. In March 2003, the Lieutenant Governor hosted Iowa's first statewide Summit on Disability Housing.

Lieutenant Governor Pederson received the 2003 John F. Sanford Award from the Iowa Medical Society in recognition of her dedicated and tireless efforts to improve the quality of health care in Iowa.

Lieutenant Governor Pederson served throughout her first term on the Executive Committee of the National Lieutenant Governors Association and is the former chair of the National Democratic Lieutenant Governors Association. She is the chair of Iowa Jobs for America's Graduates, a program that helps at-risk high school students develop better study habits and job skills through supportive education, mentoring, and community service. Lieutenant Governor Pederson is also the honorary chair of the Iowa Mentoring Partnership, dedicated to recruiting mentors and connecting Iowa children and teens with supportive adult role models.

Longstanding constitutional provisions also direct that the Lieutenant Governor stand ready to succeed the Governor in the event the Governor cannot complete his term.

Lieutenant Governor Pederson's office adjoins the Governor's on the first floor of the Iowa Statehouse.

See chapter 4 for information regarding the Executive Office of the Governor and the Lieutenant Governor.

SECRETARY OF AGRICULTURE

*Wallace State Office Building, Des Moines, Iowa 50319 (515) 281-5321;
www.state.ia.us/agriculture*



PATTY JUDGE

*Secretary of Agriculture
Albia (D)*

Term: Expires January 2007. **Profession:** Elected Iowa's first female Secretary of Agriculture in November 1998 and reelected in 2002. Livestock producer. Iowa State Senator, 1992-1998. Served as Assistant Majority Leader, Assistant Minority Leader, and Ranking Member of the Committee on Agriculture. Former registered nurse, real estate broker, and rural appraiser. **Education:** Graduated from Albia Community High School, 1962; Iowa Methodist School of Nursing, 1965. Attended the University of Iowa. **Memberships and Activities:** Former mediator and regional coordinator for Iowa Farmer Mediation Service. Various state boards and commissions, including the State Fair Board. Chair, Renewable Fuels and Advisory Committee and the Iowa Grain Indemnity Board. PEO. St. Mary's Catholic Church. Past member: Board of Directors, Albia Area Chamber of Commerce. On the national level, Secretary Judge is an executive officer of the National Association of State Departments of Agriculture and the chair of the standing committee on agricultural and food security. She is past president of the Midwest Association of State Departments of Agriculture and serves as a representative of state departments of agriculture on the National Homeland Security Government Coordinating Council. **Residence:** Born in Fort Madison. **Family Members:** Husband John Judge; three sons.

The Iowa Secretary of Agriculture is elected by the people of Iowa every four years. The Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship is committed to providing Iowans with safe, abundant food grown in an environmentally responsible way. The department is dedicated to

assisting Iowa producers in growing the highest quality agricultural products, while continuing to develop innovative value-added products and new markets for those products.

Field services, financial assistance, and incentive programs administered by the department help assure Iowa's soil and water are improved and conserved.

The department assists producers in marketing by monitoring and reporting cash grain prices and livestock auction market prices, and publishing a variety of producer directories. Promotion of farmers markets and horticulture assists in agricultural diversification. A statewide organic certification program assists Iowa organic producers in marketing their organically grown crops and livestock.

The department monitors food produced and processed in the state. It tests animal feeds, fertilizers, seeds, pesticides, meat, poultry, dairy products, and drinking water to ensure public health and safety. It inspects dairy farms, plants, meat and poultry processing facilities, weight and measuring devices, and grain warehouses to ensure compliance with state regulations. The department strives for consumer safety and confidence in the foods Iowans consume.

The department monitors and provides safeguards to protect the health of Iowa's livestock. Surveillance and eradication of animal diseases is a top priority in keeping our livestock healthy.

The Secretary of Agriculture travels throughout the world expanding markets for Iowa agricultural products. This effort has resulted in Iowa being the number two agricultural export state in the nation.

Through the work of the Iowa Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship, Iowa continues to lead the nation in crop and livestock production, as well as value-added products. This work has resulted in Iowa becoming the food capital of the world.

See chapter 4 for information regarding the Department of Agriculture and Land Stewardship.

ATTORNEY GENERAL

*Hoover State Office Building, Des Moines 50319; (515) 281-5164;
www.state.ia.us/government/ag*



TOM MILLER
*Attorney General
Des Moines (D)*

Term: Expires January 2007. **Profession:** Served as Iowa Attorney General, 1979-1991 and 1995-present. **Education:** Graduated valedictorian from Wahlert High School, 1962; B.A., Loras College, 1966; J.D., Harvard Law School, 1969. **Memberships and Activities:** Served in VISTA, 1969-1970. Legislative assistant to U.S. Representative John C. Culver (D-Iowa), 1970-1971. Worked in the Baltimore Legal Aid Bureau as legal education director and taught part-time at the University of Maryland School of Law, 1971-1973. Practiced law and served as city attorney in McGregor, 1973-1978. Partner in the firm of Faegre & Benson, Des Moines, 1991-1994. Member: Iowa Bar Association, American Bar Association, and the Sierra Club. Honorary degree from Loras College, 1979. Distinguished Alumnus Award from Loras College, 1983. Past President of National Association of Attorneys General. Recipient of Wyman Award for distinguished service to the National Association of Attorneys General, 1990. **Residence:** Born in Dubuque and resides in Des Moines. **Family Members:** Wife Holli Miller; one son.

The Attorney General is a constitutional officer elected by popular vote every four years. The Attorney General is the chief legal officer of the state and head of the Iowa Department of Justice.

The powers and duties of the office include representing the departments and agencies of state government, taking action for citizens in consumer protection and other areas, enforcing the state's environmental protection laws, playing a central role in the criminal justice system, and providing assistance and advocacy for the victims of crime. The Attorney General also issues legal opinions on questions of law submitted by elected or appointed state officials and county attorneys and defends all tort claim actions against the state.

The Attorney General represents state agencies by representing them in court and giving legal advice on questions of law. The Attorney General also represents the state in other actions and

proceedings when, in the Attorney General's judgment, the best interests of the state require it, or when requested to appear by the Governor or Executive Council.

The Attorney General's Consumer Protection Division enforces state consumer protection statutes and works to inform citizens so they can avoid being cheated by "con artists." The Farm Division provides consumer protection and legal advocacy for farmers. The Attorney General also maintains an Office of Consumer Advocate, which represents the interests of consumers in regulated utility cases before the Iowa Utilities Board.

The Attorney General enforces state environmental laws by prosecuting criminal cases against the most serious polluters, and by taking civil legal action both independently and on behalf of the state Department of Natural Resources.

The Attorney General plays a key role in criminal law by handling all criminal appeals from the 99 counties to the Supreme Court or Court of Appeals, prosecuting some of the most difficult cases at the request of county attorneys, providing training to prosecuting attorneys, and proposing changes in state criminal statutes.

The Attorney General's Crime Victim Assistance Division is the primary agency responsible for aiding and advocating for victims of crime. The Crime Victim Compensation Program awards over \$5 million a year to victims of violent crime, such as rape and assault, and to survivors of homicide victims. (The funds come entirely from fines and penalties paid by criminals.) The division also distributes about \$8 million each year to local victim service programs throughout the state.

Attorney General Miller has focused on preventing juvenile crime, especially by identifying and strengthening programs that provide appropriate consequences for youths on the entire continuum from first offenders to the most serious offenders. He also has made a priority of reducing youth access to tobacco and, along with 46 other states, settled a lawsuit against the tobacco industry which will return about \$1.7 billion to Iowa taxpayers over 25 years.

See chapter 4 for information regarding the Department of Justice.

AUDITOR OF STATE

*State Capitol, Des Moines 50319; (515) 281-5834;
<http://auditor.state.iowa.gov/index.html>*



DAVID A. VAUDT, CPA

*Auditor of State
West Des Moines (R)*

Term: Expires January 2007. **Profession:** Auditor of State since 2003. Employed with KPMG (formerly Peat, Marwick, Mitchell & Co.) beginning in 1979, became a partner in 1988, and retired from the firm in 2001. **Education:** B.S. in accounting, Upper Iowa University, 1976; CPA, 1977. **Memberships and Activities:** Served on the Iowa Accountancy Examining Board from 1994 through 2002, including serving as chair of the board from 1995-2002. Served on the Board of Directors of the National Association of State Boards of Accountancy (NASBA) from 1995 through 2004 and chaired the Examinations Committee, the Public Perceptions Committee, and the Regulatory Structures Committee. Served as chair of NASBA in 2003-2004. Member of the National State Auditors Association, the National Association of State Auditors, Comptrollers, and Treasurers, the American Institute of Certified Public Accountants, the Iowa Society of Certified Public Accountants, the Association of Government Accountants, and the Des Moines Rotary Club. Board Member of the Better Business Bureau Foundation and Iowa Homeless Youth Centers. Has served on various other community and civic boards. **Residence:** Born in Livermore and resides in West Des Moines. **Family Members:** Wife Jeanie.

The Auditor of State is the “taxpayer’s watchdog.” As provided by the Iowa Constitution, the Auditor is elected to a four-year term.

The Auditor is required to annually audit every department of state government and report their financial condition. The Auditor is also to report whether funds were expended for the intended purposes, whether department activities were efficiently conducted, any illegal or unbusinesslike practices, and make recommendations for greater simplicity, accuracy, and efficiency in the op-

erations of state government. Results are reported in the State's Comprehensive Annual Financial Report and in reports of recommendations to individual departments. A Single Audit Report is also issued to cover all federal funds expended by the state and report on compliance with federal requirements governing those expenditures.

School districts, cities, counties, community colleges, public hospitals, and other local governments may request an audit of their activities by the Auditor. When audits of local governments are performed by CPA firms, those audit reports must be filed with the Auditor and are subject to review by the Auditor. Based on the results of reviews performed by the Auditor, reaudits may be conducted by the Auditor. In addition, citizens of local governments may petition for an audit or reaudit. All reports issued by the Auditor or filed with the Auditor are available for public inspection in the Auditor's Office.

The office is functionally organized into three divisions, with duties and responsibilities as follows:

Administration Division – Provides office accounting, budgeting, payroll, personnel, training, and other support functions; maintains effective intergovernmental, legislative, and media communications; and assists with overall administration of the office.

Financial Audit Division – Performs audits of state agencies and local governments. It also performs report and working paper reviews of CPA audits; performs reaudits, as necessary; and provides technical assistance to CPA firms, government officials, and the public.

Performance Investigation Division – Conducts audits of state agencies and the programs they administer to provide an independent assessment of the performance of government organizations, programs, activities, and functions. It also evaluates whether agencies and programs have been properly managed and investigates suspected fraud and misappropriations of government funds.

By virtue of the office, the Auditor is a member of the State Executive Council, the State Appeal Board, the Iowa Telecommunications and Technology Commission, the Vision Iowa Board, the Tobacco Settlement Authority, and the City and County Finance Committees.

See chapter 4 for information regarding the Office of the Auditor of State.

SECRETARY OF STATE

*State Capitol, Des Moines 50319; (515) 281-8993;
www.sos.state.ia.us*



CHESTER J. CULVER (CHET)

*Secretary of State
Des Moines (D)*

Term: Expires January 2007. **Profession:** Elected to first term as Secretary of State in November 1998 and reelected in 2002. Consumer and environmental advocate, Iowa Attorney General's Office, 1991-1995. High school government and history teacher and coach, Hoover High School, Des Moines, 1995-1998. **Education:** B.A. in political science, Virginia Polytechnic Institute & State University, 1988. M.A. in teaching and education, Drake University, 1994. **Memberships and Activities:** Chair, Executive Council Insurance Advisory Committee; State Commissioner of Elections; State Registrar of Voters; Chair, State Voter Registration Commission; Chair, State Advisory Committee for Postsecondary School Registration. Member: Iowa Executive Council; State Records Commission; National Association of Secretaries of State, serving on its Committee on Elections and Voter Participation, the Committee on Presidential Caucuses and Primaries, and the New Millennium Youth Initiative; Elections Task Force for the Council of State Governments; Iowa State Education Association; Des Moines Education Association. Awarded a Fulbright Memorial Fund Teachers Scholarship for three weeks of study in Japan, 1997. **Residence:** Resides in Des Moines. **Family Members:** Wife Mariclare Thinnies Culver; one daughter and one son.

The Secretary of State is a constitutional officer elected every four years. Chester J. (Chet) Culver is the 29th Iowan to serve as Secretary of State. Since 1846, when Elisha Cutler, Jr., served as Iowa's first Secretary of State, the office has expanded in scope and assumed significantly greater responsibilities.

In order to fulfill its statutory responsibilities, the office is divided into four primary divisions, all of which are assisted by a centralized customer service center. The divisions are: Voter Services, Business Services, Administrative Services, and Communications and Publications.

The Voter Services Division encompasses many of the official responsibilities of the Secretary of State, and in this area, Secretary Culver serves as both the State Commissioner of Elections and the State Registrar of Voters. In his role as State Commissioner of Elections, Secretary Culver supervises Iowa's 99 county auditors in the administration of Iowa's election laws and prescribes uniform election practices and procedures. In his role as State Registrar of Voters, Secretary Culver has made voter registration and voter participation a central focus of his administration, with the goal of making Iowa a national leader in these key indicators of civic participation. Upon taking office, Secretary Culver founded the Iowa Student Political Awareness Club, a non-partisan statewide student organization designed to increase political and civic participation by Iowa's youth. The office also sponsors "Capitol Project," a three-day conference held annually at the State Capitol to provide Iowa high school students with opportunities to experience the workings of state government. Secretary Culver has taken a leadership role in working with the National Association of Secretaries of State and various state officials and organizations in a concerted effort to improve participation by all Iowans in the electoral process.

The Secretary of State's Office is one of the central points of contact for companies doing business in Iowa. The Business Services Division handles nearly a quarter of a million business transactions each year. It is responsible for the registration and authorization of most domestic and foreign entities that transact business in Iowa. Secretary Culver has made it a priority to use technology to improve and expand services to for-profit and nonprofit corporations doing business in Iowa, and to all customers who want to know more about those entities. Under Secretary Culver's direction, an online business center was developed to make business-related filing, reporting, and searching less cumbersome, less costly, and more efficient. The online business center allows customers to search or submit reports electronically 24 hours a day, seven days a week. With a powerful website at its core, the online business center has expanded the breadth and accessibility of public records.

Currently, there are over 100,000 active profit and nonprofit corporations filed with the Business Services Division and each must submit a business report on a biennial basis. Another key responsibility of the Business Services Division is the processing and administration of Uniform Commercial Code (UCC) filings and searches. The division annually files over 125,000 financing statements, amendments, terminations, and other UCC-related documents. It maintains over 350,000 active UCC records. The office has responsibilities relating to several other business activities that occur throughout the year — the filing, review, and renewal of over 500 trademark registrations; the commissioning, education, and oversight of over 50,000 notaries public; and registration and filing responsibilities for athlete agents, transient merchants, travel agencies and agents, credit services organizations, and postsecondary schools.

The Administrative Services Division performs a host of unique functions, ranging from receipt and filing of voluntary annexation documents and "28E" agreements between governmental bodies to enrolling all legislative enactments. The Secretary cosigns with the Governor all commissions, proclamations, extraditions, and land patents. The Office of Secretary of State preserves many original documents, including the Constitution of the State of Iowa and the Acts of the General Assembly.

See chapter 4 for information regarding the Office of the Secretary of State.

TREASURER OF STATE

*State Capitol, Des Moines 50319; (515) 281-5368;
www.treasurer.state.ia.us*



MICHAEL L. FITZGERALD

*Treasurer
Des Moines (D)*

Term: Expires January 2007. **Profession:** Serving sixth term as Treasurer of Iowa. Previously employed as a marketing analyst for Massey Ferguson Company, Des Moines, for eight years. **Education:** B.S. in business administration, University of Iowa, 1974. **Memberships and Activities:** Member and past president of the National Association of State Auditors, Comptrollers, & Treasurers (NASACT), National Association of State Treasurers (NAST), Midwest Treasurers Association, and the National Association of Unclaimed Property Administrators. Served as investment advisor for the Pensions in the Nineties delegation to the Soviet Union, 1991. Chosen by *City & State* magazine as one of the most valuable public officials working in state government, 1989. Chosen as one of 10 delegates in the American Council of Young Political Leaders for a study tour of the People's Republic of China, 1988. **Residence:** Born in Marshalltown, raised in Colo, and resides in Des Moines. **Family Members:** One daughter and one son.

The Treasurer of State, a constitutional officer, serves a four-year term. The Treasurer plays a primary role in the cash management of state funds. The Treasurer processes receipts, accounts for funds, invests funds, and maintains custody of funds. The treasury functions as a depository for state agencies and the Treasurer handles all consequent bank relations. The Treasurer also accounts for state funds on a cash basis and balances regularly with the Iowa Department of Administrative Services. The Treasurer invests state operating funds, bond proceeds, and the Iowa Centennial Memorial Foundation funds. The Treasurer also administers the investment of two state pension funds — the Judicial Retirement Fund and the Peace Officers' Retirement Fund.

The Treasurer maintains custody of the funds listed above, as well as the Iowa Public Employees' Retirement Fund. The Treasurer of State also works in the following areas:

Monthly, the Treasurer meets with the Superintendent of Banking and the Auditor of State to set interest rates to be paid on public funds held in depositories. They also set guidelines and rates for the debt obligation of public bodies in Iowa.

Additionally, the Treasurer ensures that public funds investments and deposits are secure. The Treasurer provides technical assistance to public bodies regarding investments. In addition, the Treasurer manages the Pledging of Public Funds Program, which secures deposits in excess of federal insurance.

The Treasurer prepares an annual report of bonded indebtedness of state and local governments in Iowa.

The Treasurer coordinates the issuance of obligations (notes, bonds, and other evidence of indebtedness) by state agencies, authorities, or other instrumentalities of the state.

Companies and banks in Iowa and across the nation report millions of dollars in unclaimed property to the Treasurer each year. Treasurer Fitzgerald created the Great Iowa Treasure Hunt to locate owners of unclaimed funds. The Treasurer returns millions of dollars to Iowans each year.

The Treasurer of State serves on a number of state boards and authorities, including the State Executive Council, the State Appeal Board, the Peace Officers' Retirement Board, the Vision Iowa Board, the Iowa Public Employees' Retirement System Board, the Cultural Trust Board, the Tobacco Authority, the Records Management Commission, the Iowa Centennial Memorial Foundation, the Iowa Comprehensive Petroleum Underground Storage Tank Board, and the Iowa Business Development Corporation, and acts as an ex officio member of all state finance authorities. The Treasurer also serves as the treasurer of the Iowa Grain Depositors and Indemnification Board.

The Treasurer administers College Savings Iowa, a plan created in 1998 to provide Iowa families with a way to save for future college expenses. The plan provides state and federal tax breaks, minimal paperwork, and no administrative fees, and the accounts can be used at any institution of higher learning in the country.

See chapter 4 for information regarding the Office of the Treasurer of State.

EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

Ch 7D

*Office of Treasurer of State, State Capitol,
Des Moines 50319; (515) 281-5368*

<i>Name</i>	<i>Type of Appointment</i>
Thomas J. Vilsack, Governor.....	Statutory
Chester J. Culver, Secretary of State	Statutory
Michael L. Fitzgerald, Treasurer of State	Statutory
Patty Judge, Secretary of Agriculture	Statutory
David A. Vaudt, Auditor of State	Statutory
GeorgAnna Madsen, Executive Secretary	

The Executive Council was created by the adoption of the Code of 1860. The Secretary of State acted as secretary of the council until the enactment of the Code of 1897, which provided for a secretary. Among the duties placed upon the Executive Council by the Code of Iowa are the following responsibilities, which in some instances are limited to specific situations or cases: to approve real estate transactions, to approve leases of public land, to authorize condemnation proceedings, to authorize and pay special assessments, to appoint legal counsel and special counsel, to authorize and pay court costs and litigation expenses, to settle or compromise legal claims, to approve bank depositories, to provide anticipatory and emergency funding, to administer trust funds, to act as the governing body for state employee insurance and benefit plans, and to canvass votes cast and required to be filed with the State Commissioner of Elections.

Report of Executive Council Secretary

Section 7D.6, Code of Iowa, provides that a report of the secretary of the Executive Council may be published in the Iowa Official Register.

The council had 41 regular meetings and convened two times as the Official Board of Canvass in 2003, and had 51 regular meetings and convened three times as the Official Board of Canvass in 2004.

There were no corporations authorized to issue stock in exchange for property or out of surplus in 2003 or 2004.