



Brad Owen
Lieutenant Governor

LTG



June 17, 2013

Mr. David Schumacher
Director
Office of Financial Management
PO Box 43113
Olympia, WA 98504-3113

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OFM DIRECTOR'S OFFICE

Dear Mr. Schumacher:

Pursuant to your memo of June 12, 2013 regarding contingency planning for state agency operations on July 1, please find below the contingency plan for the Office of Lieutenant Governor.

The Office of Lieutenant Governor receives no funding by appropriations enacted under Engrossed Substitute Senate Bill 5024, the transportation budget.

Since 1997, the Office of Lieutenant Governor has partnered with the Northwest High-Intensity Drug Trafficking Area (NWHIDTA) to provide substance abuse education materials, which are financed and produced with non-appropriated funds in the form of a grant from the NWHIDTA. With these funds my office maintains a website (<http://www.mfiles.org/>), prepares and distributes educational pamphlets and publications about substance abuse prevention, and staff research and prepare my presentations on the issue to community groups.

Constitutionally mandated services that are expected to continue beyond the start of the new biennium are my roles as President of the Senate and Acting Governor when Governor Inslee leaves the state or is unable to fulfill the duties of his office.

I will be expected to preside over the Senate as it continues its work to pass a budget, unless serving as Acting Governor. In my role as President, I serve as a resource for the Senate's members and am frequently called upon to help resolve disputes between members. I keep my door open to all members of the House and Senate who seek my counsel on a variety of issues. I am also chair and a voting member of the Senate Rules Committee and constitutionally mandated to break tie votes in the Senate. In addition, I maintain order and decorum in the chamber and make and issue parliamentary rulings when requested by members.

While serving as acting governor, the constitution grants me all of the powers and responsibilities of the governorship, in practical application it entails me signing administrative and legal directives and requires that I be available for critical decisions, including approving and signing extradition papers. I typically do not make or propose policy changes or new initiatives while serving as acting governor, though I do hold that authority.

President of the Senate
Chairman, Rules Committee

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Mr. David Schumacher

June 17, 2013

Page 2

The role of acting governor is an especially important one in times of a state or federally declared state of emergency. There have been several instances when I have stood in for the governor to preside over emergency operations following devastating floods, forest fires, extreme snow storms, wind damage, lingering power outages and other natural disasters. This frequently goes beyond the declaration of emergency itself; it means briefings by appropriate state and federal officials, visits to the incident command center, making statements to the media or conducting press conferences, visiting with emergency workers and touring the impacted areas.

The minimum level of staffing I require to be able to carry out my constitutionally mandated duties is 2 FTE. I require staff to assist me in my duties in the Senate and as acting governor by providing administrative, legislative and logistical support. Furthermore, even if no budget is passed by July 1, constituents will still contact my office for assistance and I will need staff to answer phones and respond to calls. Additionally, if I were to serve as acting governor during this time I would need staff to coordinate with Governor Inslee's staff with regard to documents or declarations needing signature or in the event of a natural disaster or other emergency.

No services provided by my office are necessary for the immediate response to issues of public safety, or to avoid catastrophic loss of state property, except in the absence of the governor.

Please feel free to contact me if you have questions.

Sincerely,



Brad Owen
Lieutenant Governor