



HB 1051

2003

1 A bill to be entitled

2 An act relating to succession to the office of Governor;  
3 amending s. 14.055, F.S.; providing for the filling of a  
4 vacancy in the office of Lieutenant Governor; providing an  
5 effective date.

6  
7 Be It Enacted by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

8  
9 Section 1. Section 14.055, Florida Statutes, is amended to  
10 read:

11 14.055 Succession to office of Governor.--Upon vacancy in  
12 the office of Governor, the Lieutenant Governor shall become  
13 Governor. Upon vacancy in the office of Lieutenant Governor, the  
14 Governor shall appoint a successor who shall serve for the  
15 remainder of the term, provided that if after such appointment a  
16 vacancy shall occur in the office of Governor with more than 28  
17 months remaining in the term, then at the next statewide general  
18 election the electors shall choose a Governor and Lieutenant  
19 Governor to fill the remainder of the term in the manner  
20 provided in s. 5, Art. IV of the State Constitution. Upon  
21 vacancy in the office of Governor and in the office of  
22 Lieutenant Governor, the Secretary of State shall become  
23 Governor; or if the office of Secretary of State be vacant, then  
24 the Attorney General shall become Governor; or if the office of  
25 Attorney General be vacant, then the Comptroller shall become  
26 Governor; or if the office of Comptroller be vacant, then the  
27 Treasurer shall become Governor; or if the office of Treasurer  
28 be vacant, then the Commissioner of Education shall become  
29 Governor; or if the office of Commissioner of Education be  
30 vacant, then the Commissioner of Agriculture shall become



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31 Governor. Except as otherwise provided in this section with  
32 respect to an appointed successor to the office of Lieutenant  
33 Governor, a successor under this section shall serve for the  
34 remainder of the term and shall receive all the rights,  
35 privileges, and emoluments of the Governor. In case a vacancy  
36 shall occur in the office of Governor and provision is not made  
37 herein for filling such vacancy, then the Speaker of the House  
38 and the President of the Senate shall convene the Legislature by  
39 joint proclamation within 15 days for the purpose of choosing a  
40 person to serve as Governor for the remainder of the term. A  
41 successor shall be elected by a majority vote in a joint session  
42 of both houses.

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