

Standard Form For Members of the Legislature

Name of Representative Thomas - Senator Vilsack,
Resides at Mount Pleasant, Iowa

1. Birthday and place 12 Dec 1950 Pittsburg, Pennsylvania

2. Marriage (s) date place
Ann Christine

3. Significant events for example:

A. Business Member of the Iowa Bar Association, Iowa Trial Lawyer Association and Academy of Trial Lawyers;

B. Civic responsibilities Rotary, Chamber of Commerce

C. Profession Lawyer

4. Church membership Catholic

5. Sessions served 75th, 76th, 77th General Assemblies 1993-1994, 1995-1996,

6. Public Offices 1997-1998

A. Local Mayor of Mount Pleasant 1987-1992

B. State Governor of Iowa November 1996 to January 2007

C. National Secretary of Agriculture under President Obama beginning January 2009

7. Death

8. Children Justi McLean; Douglas James

9. Names of parents Bud and Dolly Vilsack

10. Education Graduate of Shady Side Academy

11. Degrees B.A. from Hamilton College 1972; graduate of Albany Law School, Union University 1975

12. Other applicable information Rep Democrat

He was a partner in the law firm of Bell and Wilsh in Des Moines, Iowa.

Uilsack, Thomas

Sources Log For Legislation Entries

Applicability

Source Non Applicable Applicable Information obtained

1493 - Iowa Official Register 2005-2006, p. 3-4
- Article - Dec. 7, 2009, Des Moines Register, Des Moines
Iowa

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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.

The Governor may also call a special session of the General Assembly without signing it. Source: Iowa Territorial and State Legislators' Collection compiled by volunteers and staff at the State Historical Society.

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.

TOM VILSACK

The past 10 years defined no Iowan in politics more than Tom Vilsack, rising from little-known governor to a U.S. Cabinet secretary.

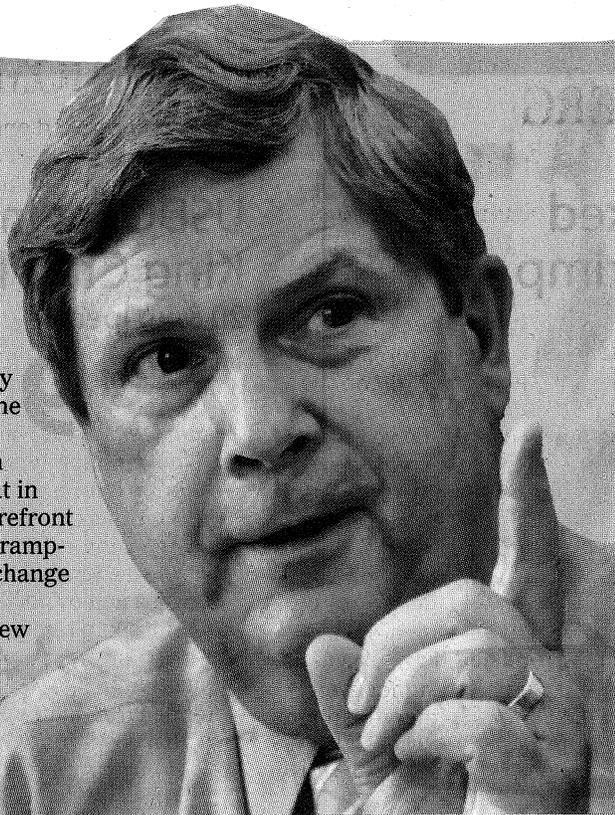
The centrist policy maven became the first Democratic governor in 30 years, enacting education, health care and economic development plans, often with a GOP Legislature.

Vilsack won re-election in 2002, was considered a vice presidential prospect by John Kerry in 2004 and then waged a short-lived bid for the 2008 presidential nomination.

Confirmed as U.S. secretary of agriculture in January, Vilsack, 59, is the first Iowa Democrat in the Cabinet in almost 70 years and is at the forefront of Obama administration priorities, including ramping up renewable energy, addressing climate change and developing agriculture in Afghanistan.

Heading into 2000 as a governor, "while I knew we could make a difference in policy, and that would have a positive impact on politics, I did not expect a run for president, nor a position in the Cabinet."

— Thomas Beaumont



Taken from the Dec 7, 2009 issue of the Des Moines Register, also Des Moines Press.