

DISPOSITION OF GOVERNOR'S PORTRAITS OTHER THAN MINNESOTA - Initial Considerations

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Based upon very cursory internet based search of 16 states, the following states do not have all governor's portraits hanging in the statehouse/capitol, but rather in a separate state historical museum:

Connecticut, Kansas (takes "famous people" approach only), Wisconsin (has only 14 hanging in Capitol)

The following states maintain a significant collection of governor's portraits throughout the statehouse/capitol:

Florida, California, Ohio, Maryland, New York (in "Hall of Governors"), Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Illinois, Alabama, New Hampshire, Oklahoma (as sculptural busts), Texas

Fundamental options to manage the State of Minnesota Governor Portraits*:

(Determine pro's and cons of each)

1. Do nothing - keep hanging in various locations around the capitol
2. Do away - keep them all archived at the MN State Historical Society, no portraits in capitol
3. Hybrid solution:
 - a. Keep Ramsey and last sitting governor portraits in hall outside Governor's office
 - b. Keep Ramsey and last sitting governor portraits in hall outside Governor's office and convene a panel of historians to identify an additional 10 most "worthy" portraits to hang
 - c. Keep only those most recent portraits equal to a "living history" (say 80 years) in west corridor outside Governor's office. (Constant number related to likely age of visitor)
 - d. Establish a "Hall of Governor's" much as New York does - all in one location or room.
 - e. Keep Ramsey and last sitting governor portraits in hall outside Governor's office and establish a "virtual portrait gallery" available for viewing (several states do have such galleries on their websites) somewhere in the Governor's wing. Big touch screen.
 - f. Convene a panel of historians to identify the seven most "worthy" portraits to hang and label the meeting rooms with the governor's name, and hang portrait there.
4. Other options?

*Future growth: the next 100 years could see an additional 14 to 26 portraits (including Dayton's "Polaroid")