



Recalls Presentation to the California Legislature

Ben Williams

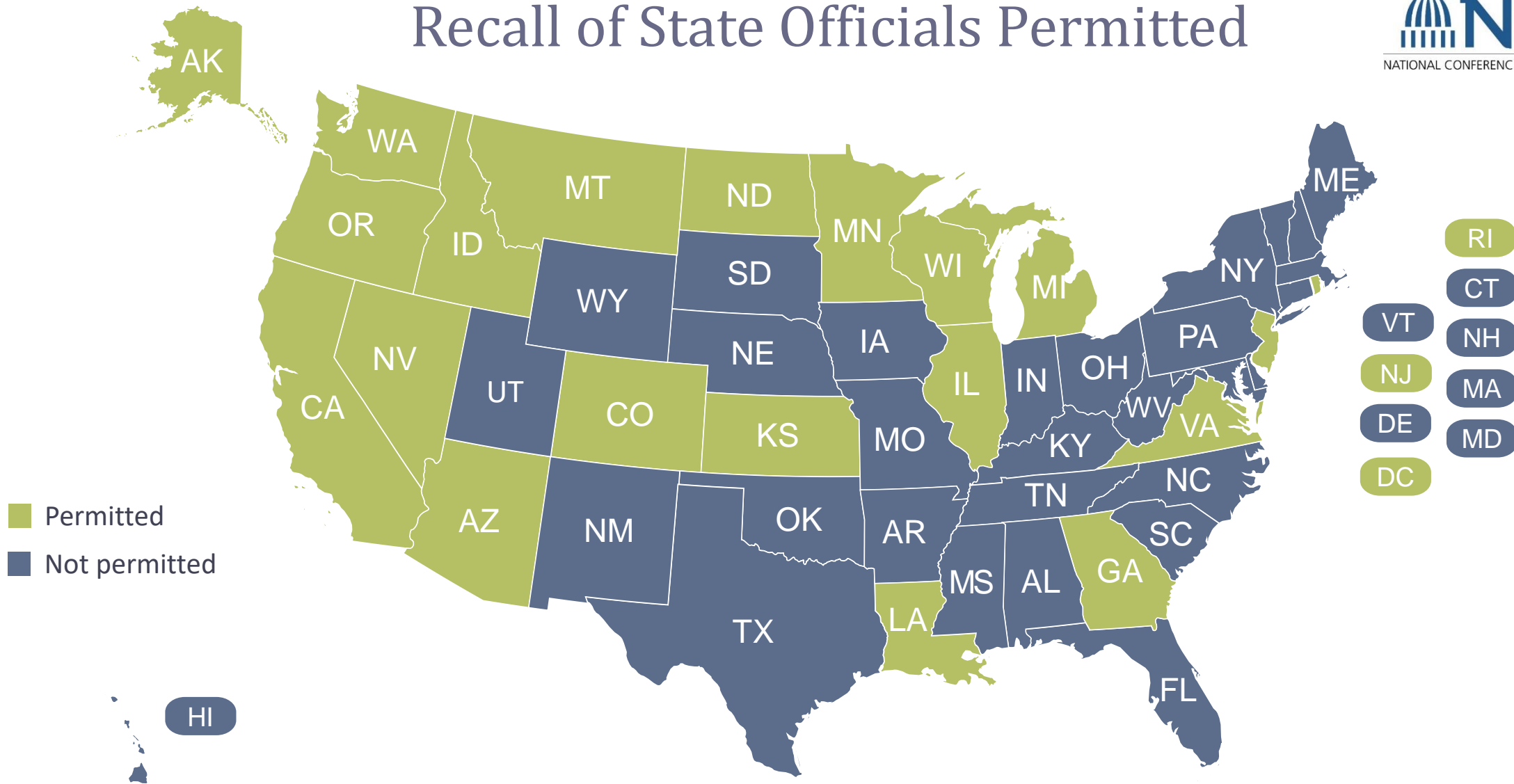
Program Principal, Elections & Redistricting

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Strengthening the legislative institution

Recall of State Officials Permitted





Considerations for Recall Elections

Reason

Can it be for any reason or only “for cause”?

Signatures

How many needed to qualify for ballot?

Gathering

For how long may signatures be gathered?

Replacement

If recalled, how is replacement selected?

If Recalls are Permitted, Is a Reason Needed?



Any Reason

Arizona

California

Colorado

Idaho

Illinois

Louisiana

Michigan

Nevada

New Jersey

North Dakota

Oregon

Wisconsin



Only for Cause

Alaska

Georgia

Kansas

Minnesota

Montana

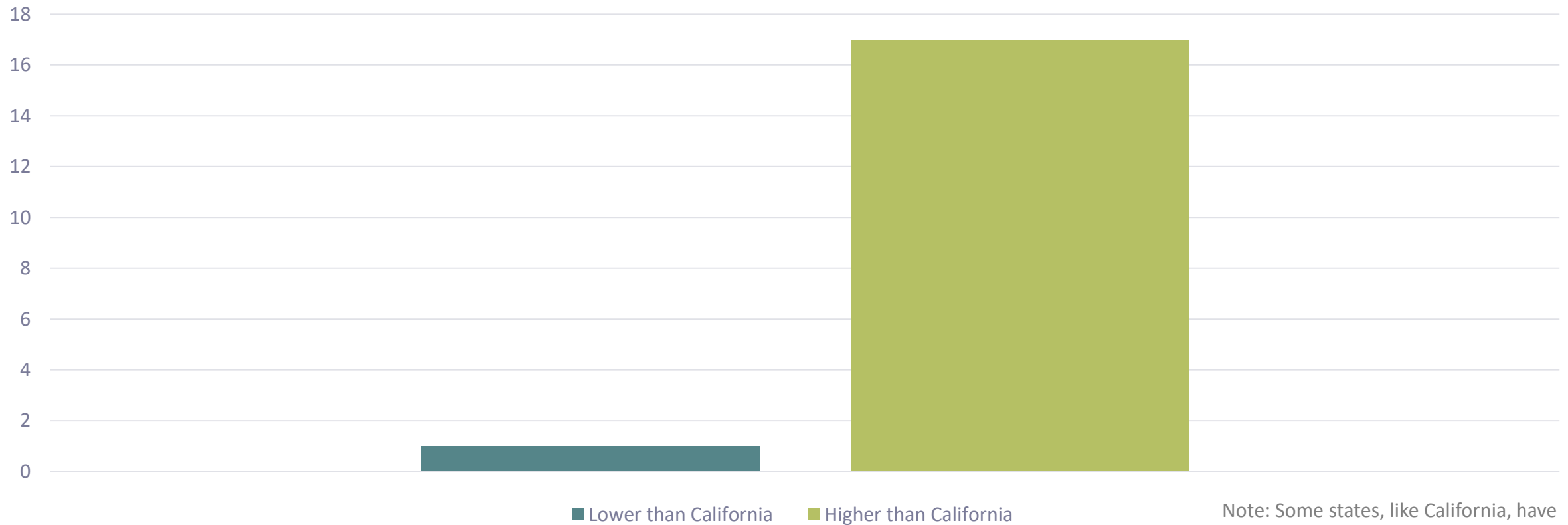
Rhode Island

Virginia

Washington

How Many Signatures are Needed to Trigger Recall?

Percentage of Voters' Signatures Needed to Qualify for Ballot



Note: Some states, like California, have additional geographic requirements

Signatures Needed to Trigger Recall by State

For Statewide Offices, As a Percentage of Most Recent Election for Said Office or of Registered Voters

Less than 15%

California

Montana

15 – 24%

Georgia

Idaho

Illinois

Louisiana

Oregon

Rhode Island

25% or greater

Alaska

Nevada

Arizona

New Jersey

Colorado

North Dakota

Kansas

Washington

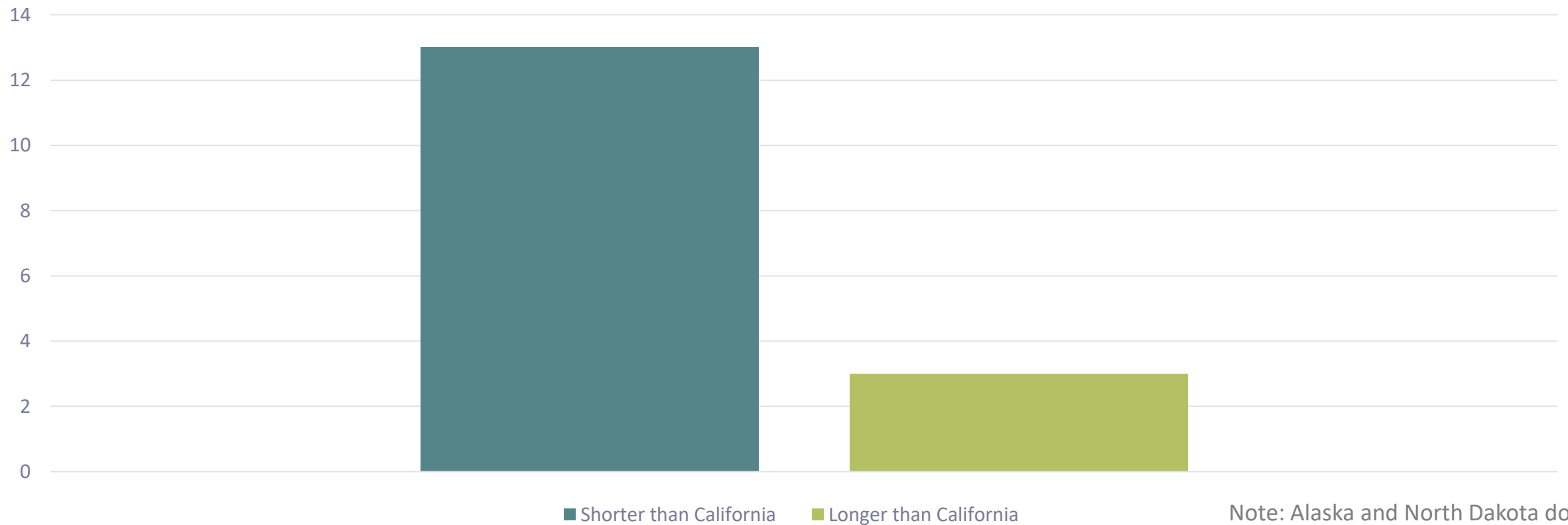
Michigan

Wisconsin

Minnesota

Length of Signature Gathering Period

Length of Signature Gathering Window as Compared to California (160 Days)



Note: Alaska and North Dakota do not specify length of period in laws.

Length of Signature Gathering Period by State

For Statewide Offices. Excludes Alaska and North Dakota.

Up to 90 days/3 months

Colorado	Montana
Georgia	Nevada
Idaho	Oregon
Kansas	Rhode Island
Michigan	Wisconsin
Minnesota	

91-150 days/3-5 months

Arizona
Illinois

Greater than 150 days/5 months

California
Louisiana
New Jersey
Washington

How Recalled Candidate is Replaced

Only Colorado and California Prohibit Officeholder from Running on Replacement Ballot

Recall and Replacement Elections Held Simultaneously

Arizona
California*
Colorado*
Michigan
Nevada
North Dakota
Wisconsin

Recall Election Followed by Separate Special Election for Successor

Georgia
Louisiana
Minnesota
Montana
New Jersey
Rhode Island
Illinois

Successor is Appointed

Alaska
Idaho
Kansas
Oregon
Washington

*Separate recall and replacement

- Arizona, Nevada, North Dakota and Wisconsin automatically add the recalled official as a candidate on the replacement ballot
- Idaho, Kansas and Washington require the replacement to be from the same political party as the recalled candidate
- California, Georgia, Louisiana, Montana and Washington have different signature thresholds for different offices



Other Details



Reach out anytime!

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