

Presidential Succession and the Vice Presidency



**STUDENTS WILL BE ABLE TO DESCRIBE THE
QUALIFICATIONS AND ROLES OF THE VICE
PRESIDENT AND THE PROCESS OF
PRESIDENTIAL SUCCESSION**

Succession (from *to succeed*)



Succeed (verb)

1. to accomplish what is attempted or intended
2. to attain success in some popularly recognized form, as in wealth or standing
3. to follow or replace another by election, appointment, etc.
- 4. to come next after something else in an order or series.**

Presidential Succession Act (1947)



- Reasons for succession (death, illness, resignation, impeachment, temporary/perm inability to perform duties)
- Order of Succession:
 - Vice President
 - Speaker of the House
 - President Pro Tempore (Senate)
 - Secretary of State
 - and then each of the 13 heads of the Cabinet departments.

Presidential Disability



- Read page 360-361
- Explain Sections 3 and 4 of the 25th Amendment and why they are important.
- How does the President reclaim power?
- What two times has the 25th Amendment been used?

The Vice President and the 25th Amendment

1. In the case of removal or death of the President, the Vice President becomes President
2. If there is a vacancy in the office of Vice President, the President nominates a VP with a majority vote in both Houses.
3. If the President informs the Speaker of the House and the President *pro tempore* that he is unable to perform the duties as president, then power goes to the Vice President.
4. If the VP and a majority of cabinet members determine that the President is unable to do his job and inform the Speaker and President *pro tempore*, then the VP shall take over

The man who could have been President



The man who could be President



Vice President - Duties



- “I am Vice President. In this I am nothing, but I may be everything.” Explain
- **Formal Duties**
 1. To preside over the Senate
 2. Help the decide the question of Presidential disability
- **Informal duties**
 - “Balance the ticket”

Oh, and the Vice President cannot be fired...by
the President (even if he wanted to 😊)

