

Succession in line of presidency

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[Tallman Boyd](#) · 15 hours ago 🔒

I am curious to understand about why they put the speaker of the house after the vice president in terms of succession. Is it because that it used to be that for sometime during the 40s through 60s that Democrats controlled the executive and legislative branches and that so if both the president and vice president had died or resigned that it would put the speaker, who would probably be of the same party, to be president. I wonder if party politics played into it? Thank you.

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[Bruce Waxman](#) · 13 hours ago 🔒

I don't think so. I believe the framers chose the Speaker of the House because he or she is more representative of "We the people" than the President of the Senate (two senators per state, unrelated to population), and is therefore more democratically elected.

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[michael J. Randazzo](#) Signature Track · 9 hours ago 🔒

Bruce, I forget exactly what the professor said, but he definitely said it's probably not what the framer's had in mind. His statement was along the lines of 'If you voted for Obama, you shouldn't get Boehner'. It seems as far back as I can remember, the speaker and the president have had pretty different views. The professor felt it should be a cabinet officer (that was another word he pointed out) should be after the VP.

I don't know when the Speaker of the House was instituted.

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[Juan Yoshika](#) · 7 hours ago 🔒

Can the speaker of the house be foreign born?

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