**II. Vice President**

1. Importance of Office

* “Most insignificant office ever created” **John Adams**
* “The Vice Presidency is an utterly anomalous office (one which I think ought to be abolished). The man who occupies it may at any moment be everything; but meanwhile he is practically nothing” **Teddy Roosevelt**
* Constitution pays little attention to the vice president
* Only gives V.P. two roles

1)

2)

1. Presidential Succession

* **25th Amendment (1967) –**
* **John Tyler –**
* Eight presidents have so far died in office

1. Presidential Succession

1) Vice president

2) Speaker of the House

3) President Pro Tempore

* Members of the president’s cabinet, according to when it was created

4) State

5) Treasury

6) Defense

7) Attorney General

8) Interior

9) Agriculture

10) Commerce

11) Labor

12) Health and Human Services

13) Housing and Urban Development

14) Transportation

15) Energy

16) Education

17) Veterans Affairs

18) Homeland Security

1. 25th Amendment

* Until 1967, the office would remain empty
* 25th Amendment allows the president to select another vice president
* Must be confirmed by a majority vote of the Senate
* **1973 –**
* **Gerald Ford –**
* **1974 –**
* Ford is the only person in U.S. history to serve as both president and vice president without being elected to either office

1. Modern Vice President

* Today’s V.P.s have much greater power than past V.P.s
* Considered to be an important part of the government today
* Really work at the pleasure of the President
* Most presidents are reluctant to give the V.P. more power – Why??
* **Main Reason –**
* V.P. can be impeached just like the president