

*Presidential
Succession*

January 6, 1964

Mr. Frank K. Glew
1322 Elliott, S. E.
Grand Rapids 7, Michigan

Dear Frank,

As always it is wonderful to hear from you and as you know many Americans including members of the Congress are concerned about the present law regarding succession of the Presidency.

The problem of whether an elective or an appointed official should succeed to the Presidency in case of the death of both the President and Vice President is an important one. For many years, as you know, the Secretary of State was next in line. Some years ago it was changed because it was felt that an official who had been elected in some capacity should succeed and the Speaker and the President Pro Tem were placed before the Secretary of State.

A number of recent proposals have called for an election of a new Vice President by the Congress meeting jointly or each house separately.

In addition to this particular problem another serious one involving the Presidency is what to do in case the President is incapacitated but remains alive. I think the Congress ought to take constructive action in this area as soon as possible.

Warmest personal regards.

Sincerely,

Gerald R. Ford, M.C.

GRF:mr



FRANK K. GLEW
1322 Elliott, SE
Grand Rapids 7, Mich.

Dec. 19, 1963

Every

Can anything be done by LAW or
VOTE concerning succession to the
Presidency in case of further
accidents? Frankly, the Speaker
of the House indeed would not fulfill
this crucial job at all---and many of
us wonder what could be done to ~~make~~ put
successorship in the hnands of a
younger, stronger man for this top
post.

I write frankly to you because YOU are
a friend and our personal tie to moves
in vital Washington. These are grave
days calling for every "natural" facet
of leadership.

Sincerely, as ever,

Frank

