

# SENATE VOTES BILL MAKING U.S. CRIME OF ASSASSINATION

Death Penalty Is Provided  
for Slaying of President or  
Those in Line for Post

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By The Associated Press

WASHINGTON, July 23—The Senate passed by voice vote today a bill to make the assassination of the President a Federal crime, punishable by death.

The measure goes back to the House, which passed it June 21, for consideration of two minor Senate amendments.

The legislation was urged by the commission, under the chairmanship of Chief Justice Earl Warren, that investigated the assassination of President Kennedy.

The bill would make it a Federal crime to kill, kidnap or assault the President, the President-elect, the Vice President or, if there is no Vice President, the officer next in line of succession to the Presidency.

In addition, it would be a Federal crime under the bill to attempt, or to conspire, to kill or kidnap any of these Government officials.

## Jury May Recommend

The bill provides for the death penalty for killing the President or the other designated officials, unless a jury recommends

otherwise. In that case the maximum penalty would be life imprisonment.

Kidnapping and attempts or conspiracies to kill would carry a penalty of life imprisonment. The penalty for voluntary manslaughter would be up to 10 years and for involuntary manslaughter up to three years.

Assault upon the President or any of the other designated officials would be punishable by a fine of not more than \$10,000, or imprisonment up to 10 years, or both.

The bill authorizes the Attorney General to pay rewards not exceeding \$100,000 for information about such crimes.

## F.B.I. Jurisdiction Asked

One of the Senate amendments specifies that the Federal Bureau of Investigation shall have jurisdiction over the investigation of these cases and may request the assistance of any Federal, state or local agency, including the armed services.

The other amendment provides that if Federal jurisdiction is asserted, this will suspend the jurisdiction of any state or local authority until Federal action is terminated.

As passed by the House, the bill would have precluded any state or local authority over the case to the extent directed by the Attorney General.

The Senate Judiciary Committee said in its report that this change was intended to insure clear Federal jurisdiction for investigation and prosecution but did not imply that the states could not cooperate with Federal authorities. EMD