

Caution Asked On Nixon Fund Request

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Senate Democratic Leader Mike Mansfield (Mont.) said yesterday that the \$850,000 sought for former President Nixon's pension and transition expenses should be "looked at most carefully."

President Ford has asked Congress to appropriate the money to pay for Mr. Nixon's pension and his office, postage and travel expenses over the next 11 months.

Mansfield said, "Where the law is concerned I would say we have no choice. Where additions are concerned, they will be looked at most carefully and the law will be looked at most carefully."

The law permits Mr. Nixon an annual pension of \$60,000 and a staff allotment of \$96,000 a year. The additional funds were requested for such transitional expenses as setting up an office in San Clemente and answering more than 300,000 letters received since leaving office.

The \$850,000 "is too much by many miles," said Sen. Joseph Montoya (D-N.M.), chairman of the Appropriations subcommittee that will handle the request.