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# Senate Rekindles Debate On Security Panel

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The recurrent dogfight among senators over eliminating the Internal Security Subcommittee is heating up again.

The subcommittee, it was learned yesterday, is seeking restoration of \$100,000 the Senate took out of its budget request five months ago.

In the last several years, the struggle has spilled over onto the Senate floor from the Rules Committee, where ranking Republican member Mark O. Hatfield of Oregon maintains a vigil in trying to wipe out the subcommittee and the aura of Communist witch-hunting that its name often connotes.

The issue surfaced last spring, amid a letter-writing campaign by the American Conservative Union in favor of continuing the subcommittee.

Hatfield tried to have the Rules Committee follow through on its earlier-stated intent to eliminate the subcommittee, but failed.

He did succeed, on a 5-to-4 vote, in knocking \$100,000 off the budget request made by the subcommittee's chairman, Sen. James O. Eastland (D-Miss.), and then took his fight to the Senate floor.

The Senate decided to let the subcommittee continue a while longer, but with the smaller budget for this year, totaling \$195,300.

Within the last two or three weeks, some members of the Rules Committee began receiving letters pleading for Internal Security's survival that sounded very similar to those they'd received in last spring's campaign.

On Monday, Rules Committee chairman Howard W. Cannon (D-Nev.) received a plea from Eastland for the \$100,000.

Since March, Eastland said, the subcommittee has held 25 days of hearings on such subjects as explosives control, security of the trans-Alaska pipeline, the People's Bicentennial Commission, the American

Indian Movement as an "instrument of subversion of violence" and the like.

"Absent appropriate supplemental funding," Eastland said, his subcommittee "will have to close its doors within a few months."

The subcommittee has 12 staff employees, the same number it had when its budget was cut in the spring, although Richard L. Schultz has replaced Julien G. (Jay) Sourwine as chief counsel.

Gary Jarmin, legislative director of the American Conservative Union, said yesterday he had not mounted as intensive a letter-writing campaign this time as he had last spring although "we've sort of sent the word around."

To mount a full-scale legislative alert would be foolish, Jarmin said, since "we got the inside word that the chances are pretty good that Cannon—he's the key vote—will go along with it . . . We don't want to put a gun to Cannon's head."

Jarmin said that "I will guarantee you" an "all-out effort" from the Conservative Union and affiliated organizations to lobby senators if Hatfield again comes close to winning his long battle.

At the Rules Committee, meanwhile, there is some question as to when time might be squeezed in for a hearing on Eastland's request.

Cannon said he has not committed his vote in either direction.

"I'll listen to the arguments when the matter comes up in the committee," he said.

Schultz yesterday denied that he or his staff have drummed up support in advance among conservative groups for the funds restoration.

He said however, that many citizens had written to Eastland demanding that he authorize more money for the subcommittee, and that he usually replied by saying the senator did not have funding authority himself "but at such time as it becomes necessary, Sen. Eastland will ask for supplemental funds."