

McGovern Sues Over Campaign Gifts

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HOUSTON, June 25—An attorney for Sen. George McGovern (D-S.D.) sued seven major corporations for \$1.09 million in state court here today, charging them with making illegal contributions to Richard M. Nixon's 1972 presidential campaign.

The suit was filed under a Texas statute forbidding corporate contributions to candidates and permitting opposing candidates damages of double the amount contributed. The alleged contributions totaled \$545,000.

Defendants in the suit and

amounts they allegedly contributed are American Airlines, Inc., \$75,000; Ashland Oil, Inc., \$100,000; Braniff International, \$40,000; Goodyear Tire & Rubber Co., \$100,000; Gulf Oil Co., \$100,000; Minnesota Mining and Manufacturing Co., \$30,000, and Phillips Petroleum Co., \$100,000. None is incorporated under Texas law, but each has an office in Houston or Harris County, the suit said.

The suit said that each of the corporations had been charged by information in federal court with making the illegal contributions to the

Nixon campaign. The contributions were made, the suit alleged, between September, 1971, and March 28, 1972. The suit did not say where the contributions were made.

McGovern's Texas lawyer, Arthur M. Gochman, said all of the corporations had pleaded guilty to making illegal contributions.

Those defendants reached in Houston said they weren't aware of the suit and declined comment.

The Texas law under which McGovern brought the suit was passed in 1925 and amended in 1951 and 1963.