

750 Scientists Ask Senators to Reject Tight Security Bill

WASHINGTON, Nov. 18 (AP)—About 750 leading scientists, including six Nobel Prize winners, have urged the Senate to kill a defense facilities security proposal they say is "a bill of horrors."

Under the bill, which has been passed by the House, the President would have power to institute a personnel security screening program to determine an individual's eligibility for access to sensitive positions in defense facilities. It would also apply to campus research on secret military projects.

Scientists from 138 universities, medical schools, hospitals and research institutions in 35 states and Washington, D.C., signed a petition "against what they see as a threat to their work in the laboratories," a spokesman said.

A delegation arranged a meeting with Senator Edward M. Kennedy, Democrat of Massachusetts, to present the petition.

The signers included these Nobel laureates: Hans Bethe, Arthur Kornberg, Salvador Luria, Linus Pauling, Albert Szent-Gyorgy and George Wald. Also included were three Presidential scientific advisers, Jerome B. Wiesner and Jerrold Zacharias of the Massachusetts Institute of Technology and George Kistiakowski of Harvard, the spokesman said.

Backers of the legislation call it an effective means of balancing an individual's interests against the nation's security interests.

Senator Kennedy has called the bill unnecessary, unwise and almost certainly unconstitutional.

He said it gives the President and Secretary of Defense power to designate virtually any institution a defense facility and to investigate any person connected with that institution.