

GOP House Gains

Offset in Senate

SFChronicle

NOV 9 1972

Washington Post Service

Washington

The Senate "ideological majority" long sought by President Nixon slipped a bit further from his grasp in Tuesday's election, as Democrats kept control of the Senate and even managed to boost their margin by two seats.

The Democrats took a 57 to 43 edge in the Senate after having a 55 to 45 margin in the 92nd Congress. In the House their margin was 244 to 190 with one seat taken by an independent. The Democrats had enjoyed a 255 to 177 edge at the end of the 92nd Congress. There were three vacancies.

Republicans took some solace in the House totals, which reduced the Democratic majority. House Republican leader Gerald Ford said this would give Mr. Nixon a "working majority" of Republicans and Southern Democrats.

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However, the impact of the Republican House gains seemed to be diluted by the fact that five seats they picked up had belonged to conservative Southern Democrats who veneratedly voted with the Republicans anyway.

Democratic liberals welcomed the switch, which reduces the influence of the Southern Democrats in the policy - setting party caucus.

In an amazing show of party strength at the Senate

More election news on Pages 14-21.

level, despite Mr. Nixon's presidential landslide, Democrats beat some of the most powerful senior Republicans running for re-election.

Margaret Chase Smith (Rep-Maine), 74, senior Republican on the Armed Services Committee, a senator since 1949 and the only elected woman in the Senate, lost to Representative William D. Hathaway, 48, by more than 20,000 votes.

Her age and failure to wage an all-out campaign were believed to be major factors in her defeat.

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Gordon Allott (Rep.-Colo.), 65, chairman of the Senate GOP Policy Committee, seeking his fourth term, was defeated by anti-war Democrat and former Republican Floyd K. Haskell.

J. Caleb Boggs (Rep. Del.), a moderate - liberal Republican seeking his third term, lost out to Joseph Biden, who had only previously