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**Plea for Bill
On News
Sources**

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Representative Jerome R. Waldie (Dem-Calif.) said yesterday the Supreme Court and the Nixon Administration are undermining the constitutional guarantees of a free press.

Waldie urged Congress to enact legislation that would protect newsmen against efforts by the government to force them to disclose their sources of information.

Such legislation is needed, he told a House judiciary subcommittee, in view of a recent Supreme Court decision that the right to withhold information is not guaranteed to newsmen by the First Amendment.

"The Nixon Court has made the point in this case that First Amendment rights must be subservient to the alleged needs of the criminal process," Waldie said.

Representative Charles W. Whelan (Rep-Ohio) said, "As long as the government possesses the right to subpoena reporters and compel disclosure of confidential information, it possesses the power to harass and intimidate the press."

Whelan is the chief sponsor of a bill, backed by a wide segment of the news media, that would prevent the federal courts, Congress or any federal agency from forcing newsmen to testify.

Associated Press