

Judiciary Committee's vote

Ford: Nixon has 50-50 chance

Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Vice President Ford says he thinks there is an even chance the House Judiciary Committee will vote to impeach President Nixon. But Ford says he does not think an impeachment resolution would pass the House.

"I suspect the odds are 50-50 on the committee,"

Ford said. "I don't think the odds are 50-50 in the House.

"I think, at the moment, the President could probably win in the House, a 4 to 3 ratio, something like that."

If the impeachment move is defeated, Ford said, it would then take successes in foreign and domestic policy for the President to recover the public support he has lost during the past year.

"I think if the President and Henry Kissinger are successful in the Middle East ... and I think the prospects are fairly encouraging, I think that would be most helpful ...

"If the economy stays strong, if unemployment doesn't go up, if people are feeling happier about their economic prospects, I think that would help, but not as dramatically as something involving peace," Ford said.