

12/9
CONNALLY FIRM AIDS

LIBERALS IN TEXAS

NYTimes MAY 12 1976

Special to The New York Times

HOUSTON, May 10—Former Gov. John B. Connally, calling the 94th Congress a "disaster" dominated by liberal Democrats, has been raising money to elect Republican Congressmen, while a fund set up by his Houston law firm has been quietly making contributions to some liberal candidates.

Mr. Connally is a senior partner in the firm of Vinson, Elkins, Searls, Connally and Smith, which established the "National Good Government Fund" last November with donations of a few hundred dollars from each of its 80 partners.

As of March 31, according to the Federal Election Commission, the fund had contributed \$8,700 to political candidates—virtually all of it to Democrats.

Recipients of \$1,000 each included Senator Lloyd Bentsen, Representative Barbara C. Jordan, Representative Robert Krueger and Representative Bob Eckhardt, all Texas Democrats. Daniel C. Arnold, who is in charge of the fund, said a group of eight or 10 lawyers—not including Mr. Connally—decided on recipients of contributions. He said the fund was bipartisan and would eventually donate money to some Republicans.