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Jill Ruckelshaus Asked to Stay In Federal Post

White House counselor Anne Armstrong has asked Jill Ruckelshaus to remain on her staff although her husband, former Deputy Attorney General William D. Ruckelshaus, resigned Saturday after refusing to obey President Nixon's order to fire Watergate Special Prosecutor Archibald Cox, aides said yesterday.

Mrs. Armstrong telephoned Mrs. Ruckelshaus Sunday to request her to stay on her staff at a part-time adviser on women's affairs. Mrs. Ruckelshaus, a champion of women's rights, said she would have to discuss it with her husband.

Mrs. Ruckelshaus feels it would be "rather difficult" for her to maintain a White

House position in view of the resignation of her husband as No. 2 man in the Justice Department.