

Nixon Veto

VETO

Sustained By House

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Washington

President Nixon won a victory in the House yesterday as it sustained his veto of a bill that would have required Senate confirmation of the two top officials of the Office of Management and Budget.

The vote, which came a day after the Senate had voted to override the veto, was 236 to override and 178 to sustain—40 votes short of the two-thirds needed to override.

Republican members, most of whom had backed the President's veto, broke into applause as the total vote appeared on the electronic tally boards on both sides of the House chamber.

House Speaker Carl Albert of Oklahoma had maintained before the vote that it would be difficult to override the veto and the outcome was substantially the same as the 229 to 171 vote by which the House had initially passed the bill May 1.

The California delegation in the House voted strictly along party lines with Re-

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publicans supporting the President and Democrats voting to override. Republican Del Clawson and Democrats Jerome Waldie and Edward Roybal did not vote on the override question.

Asked afterwards if the Watergate scandal had had any effect on the vote, Representative Thomas P. O'Neill Jr. of Massachusetts, the Democratic majority leader, replied: "No impact today whatsoever . . . To me it's shocking that it did not."

Voting to override the veto were 218 Democrats and only 18 Republicans while 167 Republicans and only 11 Democrats voted against overriding.

The House generally has tended to support Mr. Nixon more than the Senate although O'Neill contended that despite the vote yesterday the Watergate case could have an effect on future legislation as it works its way through the House.

Referring to the White House, he said: "there isn't the clout downtown that there used to be."

The bill, which Mr. Nixon vetoed last Friday as "a back-door method" of circumventing presidential power, would have abolished the offices of director and deputy director of the Office of Management and Budget in 30 days and would have immediately re-established the offices.

To keep Roy L. Ash, the former president of Litton Industries who now is the budget office director, and his deputy, Frederic V. Malek, in office, the President would have had to reappoint them subject to confirmation by the Senate. Both men now serve by presidential appointment.