

Nixon Tax Probe Goes On

Sacramento

A legislative committee plunged ahead with an investigation of President Nixon's state tax status yesterday, even though Mr. Nixon has already agreed to pay about \$5000 in back taxes, penalties and interest.

State Finance Director Verne Orr said in an interview afterward he thought the two-hour session by the Assembly Revenue and Taxation Committee was mostly a waste of time.

"The hearing, I think, served very little point. The professionals have ruled the tax is owed and the taxpayer has agreed to pay it," Orr said after attending the session.

The staff of the state Franchise Tax Board ruled earlier this month that Mr. Nixon owes the state taxes, interest and a \$39 penalty on money earned in California in 1969-70. Mr. Nixon's attorneys said the money would be paid promptly.

Assemblyman Joe Gon-

salves (Dem - La Mirada) the committee chairman, said he thought the session was useful. He said his committee wanted to see how the Franchise Tax Board staff reached its decision on Mr. Nixon's taxes and on the question of whether the President was a California resident for tax purposes.

"We're going to look at how other taxpayers were treated in similar situations," Gonsalves said in an interview.

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