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Nixon Won't Lose His Pension

Washington

The Senate rejected a proposal yesterday to deny former President Nixon \$251,625 in annual government pensions and office expenses. The vote was 89 to 2.

Senator James Abourezk, (Dem-S.D.), said it was unfair for a man who refused to testify in the Watergate coverup trial in 1974 to continue to receive a government pension.

"I see no reason for the American people to continue to support that kind of obstinacy," Abourezk said.

Nixon was summoned to testify at the trial, but he was hospitalized at the time and a court-appointed panel of doctors told U.S. District Judge John J. Sirica that he was too ill to appear.

Moreover, Abourezk said Nixon has already grown wealthy after receiving \$1 million for his presidential memoirs and \$600,000 for a series of television interviews with David Frost.

Actually, industry sources say Nixon received \$2 million for the memoirs and nearly \$1 million for the Frost interviews.

Senator Barry Goldwater (Rep-Ariz.), urging rejection of the amendment, noted that Nixon was never convicted of a crime.

Besides Abourezk, only Senator Keneaster Hodges Jr. (Dem-Ark.), voted for the proposed cutoff.

Specifically, Abourezk's

amendment to a Treasury Department appropriations bill would have denied any pension or office allowance "for any former president of the United States who has received a presidential pardon for crimes committed."

Only Nixon would be affected, and Senator Lowell Weicker, (Rep-

Conn.), suggested the proposal should be termed the "You Know Who Amendment."

Nixon received a pardon from his successor, Gerald R. Ford, on Sept. 9, 1974, one month after Nixon resigned from office.

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