

Information Veto Override Pressed

United Press International

Several media groups are lobbying to get Congress to override President Ford's veto of a bill strengthening the Freedom of Information Act.

Mr. Ford vetoed the bill, which would have provided greater public access to most government records, last week. He called it "unconstitutional and unworkable" and a danger to U.S. military and diplomatic secrets.

Congress had overwhelmingly approved the legislation — 349 to 2 in the House and by voice vote in the Senate.

Sam Archibald, a former director of the Fair Campaign Practices Committee and a journalism professor at the University of Colorado, said journalists were concerned that, after the Nov. 5 elections, many lame duck congressmen

might side with Mr. Ford on the issue.

"There are going to be a lot of lame-duck congressmen coming back here who are looking for jobs in the Ford administration," he said.

"Unless they commit themselves to standing up for it before they are defeated, there is a strong possibility they will be looking to their personal future instead of their constituents."

Bill Mullin, general counsel of the National Newspaper Association, said its members are being urged to get commitments from all incumbent congressmen.

The American Society of Newspaper Editors also announced support of the campaign.