

Nixon Scored by State Conservatives

By FRANK LYNN

In an effort to move President Nixon to the right, the state Conservative party disclosed yesterday that it was suspending its support of the Republican President, who was endorsed by the Conservatives in the 1968 presidential election.

J. Daniel Mahoney, the Conservative state chairman, said that the party's executive committee had voted "to make clear its over-all disappointment with the Nixon performance at this time."

Mr. Mahoney, a lawyer who helped found the party nearly a decade ago, said he could not predict at this point whether the party would endorse President Nixon in his expected bid for re-election next year. "That's an open question," he said.

Mr. Mahoney added that the party had made the move in an effort "to maximize our influence on the course of events" and to encourage Representative John M. Ashbrook, an Ohio Republican, to challenge the President in several primaries.

Mr. Ashbrook has been asked to make a "protest" run against Mr. Nixon by a nationally prominent group of 12 conservatives, both Republicans and non-Republicans, including Mr. Mahoney and William F. Buckley Jr., the publisher of the conservative National Review magazine.

However, Mr. Buckley's brother, James L. Buckley, the junior Senator from New York, declined to join the move against Mr. Nixon.

"He is not suspending his support," said a spokesman for the Senator, who is a Republican, although he was elected to the Senate on the Conservative line last year.

A White House spokesman declined any comment.

Mr. Mahoney said he had not discussed with the White House the Conservative party attack on Mr. Nixon, but he added that he and other Conservatives had discussed their disenchantment over Nixon policies with Attorney General John N. Mitchell and Patrick J. Buchanan, a Presidential assistant who is considered a conservative Republican.

"We have many concerns with respect to the record to date of the Nixon administration," Mr. Mahoney said.

He cited the nation's "deteriorating defense position," the ouster of Nationalist China from the United Nations, the "detente with Red China," budgetary deficits, the President's "announced conversion to Keynesian economics," his advocacy of a national welfare program and his wage and price control program.

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Mr. Mahoney said that he was "not unmindful of the other side of the record especially in the area of Supreme Court appointments." However, he added that "VON BALANC the Nixon record had been disappointing.

The tentative break with the administration comes at a time when at least two Conservative party leaders hold major Federal patronage jobs. Kieran O'Doherty, co-founder of the party and Mr. Mahoney's brother-in-law, is a \$30,000-a-year consultant to the Secre-

tary of Commerce; Anthony Spinelli, the party's candidate for Controller last year, is an administrative officer in the regional Small Business Administration office. His salary could not be determined immediately.

Mr. Mahoney and other members of the Conservative executive committee said that it was possible the party would take no stand in the Presidential election. They said they would oppose endorsement of Gov. George Wallace of Alabama if he were a candidate and considered it unlikely that any Democratic nominee would be acceptable to the party.

"If we don't have any place else to go, we can at least ignore Nixon," said Thomas F. Cronin Jr., the Bronx Conservative chairman who proposed the Anti-Nixon resolution at the Wednesday evening executive committee meeting at state Conservative headquarters, 468 Park Avenue South.

Mr. Cronin holds a Democratic patronage job as an aide to Representative Mario Biaggi, the Bronx Democrat who was endorsed by the Conservative party last year.