

Nixon Choice For a Top Legal Post

Washington

President Nixon plans to name Robert G. Dixon Jr., a law professor at George Washington University, as the new assistant attorney general for the Justice Department's office of legal counsel, administration sources said yesterday.

Dixon will replace another law professor, Roger C. Cramton from the University of Michigan. Cramton was dropped for unexplained reasons last month in a White House shakeup of the Justice Department's ranking hierarchy.

The administration sources said that Dixon's background has already been investigated by the FBI and that a presidential announcement of his nomination is imminent.

Considered one of the nation's leading experts on problems of legislative apportionment, Dixon currently represents the state of Connecticut in a Supreme Court case testing the flexibility of the high court's earlier "one man-one vote" re-appointment decisions.

His nomination is regarded in Justice Department circles as part of an administration effort to give the department a new "non-political" image by appointing scholars who are not identified as partisans but are nonetheless expected to be loyal to Mr. Nixon.

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