

Nixon Set to Veto War Powers Bill

Miami

The White House indicated yesterday that President Nixon would veto a compromise bill limiting

the power of the President to wage undeclared war without congressional approval.

Gerald L. Warren, the

President's spokesman, said the measure would receive "very careful study when it arrives at the White House." But he pointed out that Mr. Nixon had sent a telegram to Gerald Ford, the House

minority leader, last June asserting that such a measure would be "dangerous and unconstitutional restrictions" on presidential authority.

The measure was approved by a Senate-House Conference Committee Thursday and is expected to be ratified by both Houses early next week.

Under the compromise, the President would be required to end his commitment of U.S. armed forces to foreign combat within 60 days unless Congress authorized the action, approved a declaration of war or was unable to meet because of an armed attack on this Nation.

Senators and Representatives who drafted the measure said it was a historic step in the effort by Congress to reassert its constitutional authority in the use of armed forces abroad.

Congressional leaders opposed to the President's policies have been unable so far to override a series of vetoes, and the White House is expected to mount an extensive lobbying effort to win this one. The struggle is considered likely to be crucial in the efforts by Congress throughout this year to place limits on presidential powers in foreign policy.

Although the final measure is not nearly as restrictive as the two differing versions passed by the House and Senate, Mr. Nixon was said by Administration sources to share the view of two Republican House members of the conference committee who refused to sign the committee's report. Representative Peter H. B. Frelinghuysen of New Jersey and Representative William S. Mailliard of California said the measure would "shackle" the President in his conduct of foreign policy.

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