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Senate Unit Approves Nixon Election Study

Associated Press

President Nixon's proposal for a non-partisan commission study of federal election laws and practices has won the approval of the Senate Rules Committee.

The committee counsel said Wednesday that legislation to create the commission will be submitted to the Senate along with another measure to revise and strengthen enforcement of the 1971 Federal Election Campaign Act.

The study commission, urged by Mr. Nixon in light of the Watergate disclosures, would have a broad mandate and be directed to report its recommendations not later than Dec. 1.

It would be directed to look into existing and alternative methods of financing political campaigns, safeguards against unethical, disruptive, violent or other wrongful campaign tactics, tax laws relating to campaign financing, and the length of campaigns.

Other subjects it would study include whether a president should have a single, six-year term and whether the terms of House members should be lengthened from two to four years.

The Rules Committee, in approving the measure cut the membership of the proposed commission from 17 to 16, with an equal number from each political party.

The Senate and the House would each select four members from their own ranks and the other eight would

be appointed by the President. The chairman and vice chairman would have to be from different parties.