

# WXPPost Baker Identifies Pre-April 7 Donors

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NASHVILLE, July 26—Sen. Howard H. Baker Jr. (R-Tenn.) has released a list of previously undisclosed contributors to his re-election campaign, showing that he collected \$264,000 and spent about \$80,000 before a new federal law requiring full disclosure took effect April 7, 1972.

Largest contributor to the vice chairman of the Senate Watergate Committee was David K. Wilson, a Nashville investor who recently became finance chief of the Republican National Committee. Wilson donated \$10,000 to Baker. Other members of his family gave \$22,000.

(Wilson, president of Cherokee Equity Corp. and a pre-April 7 donor of \$50,000 to President Nixon, has indirect family ties to the oil industry through the Justin Potter Foundation of Nashville, a major stockholder in Mobil Oil. A member of the Potter family, Valerie Potter, also gave \$50,000 to Mr. Nixon's campaign before April 7. Mobil's man in Washington, Ed Henneley, gave \$500 to Baker.)

Baker is the only member of the seven-man Watergate committee who was up for re-election when the law became effective.

Baker released his pre-April 7 records to the Associated Press after the AP reported the senator had \$185,000 cash on hand raised from undisclosed sources when the new law took effect.

Previously confidential records of the early stages of



SEN. HOWARD BAKER  
... sees no conflict

his successful run for a second, six-year term show the actual amount raised was much higher, but that \$80,000 already had been spent by April 7.

Baker has said he sees no potential conflict in his role as an investigator of President Nixon's re-election committee because he fully complied with the law, was not required to disclose names of contributors before April 7, and did not encourage contributors to give secretly before the deadline.

Dortch Oldham, a Nashville businessman who was Baker's chief fund raiser, said he made no special effort to encourage contributors to beat the deadline, although he might have mentioned the new law in a few isolated cases.

"I'd tell them anything to raise money," Oldham said

in an interview in Baker's office here.

Oldham also said Baker had expressly instructed him to refuse contributions from three or four groups that have business pending before committees on which the senator serves. But he declined to name the groups or say whether he refused any donations.

Oldham said Baker's fund-raising efforts began in July of 1971. Records show that \$60,000 was collected in the week before the new law took effect, with \$46,121 coming in on April 6.

In addition, \$59,000 raised through a Washington, D.C., committee was delivered by hand to Nashville the day before the law took effect, Oldham said.

Baker's committees—Public Works, Atomic Energy and Commerce—cover a broad spectrum. The Commerce Committee, for example, handles legislation involving oil, coal, natural gas and chemicals, product safety, broadcasting, shipping, autos and rails.

Claude Wild, Washington representative of Gulf Oil, contributed \$5,000, and \$4,998 came from the Pew family of Philadelphia (Sun Oil Co.). Gordon Street, president of North American Royalties, a Chattanooga, Tenn., oil producer, gave \$2,500.

Other large Baker contributors:

The family of J. Bayard Boyle, Memphis investor with banking, insurance and other interests, \$10,000.

The O. H. Ingram family of Nashville and New Orleans, marine transportation

and pipeline construction, \$5,000.

The Independent Medical Political Action Committee of Nashville, a fund-raising arm of the American Medical Association, \$5,000.

Three executives of Provident Life & Accident Insurance of Chattanooga—Hugh MacLellan, Dudley Porter and Henry Unrush—\$4,500.

Howard Butcher III, a Philadelphia stockbroker and former director of the bankrupt Penn Central and some two dozen other major corporations, \$5,000. Butcher voluntarily accepted sanctions by the Securities and Exchange Commission last December after being accused of insider trading in Penn Central stock.

Butcher said he couldn't remember why he gave to Baker. Baker's top aide, J. Hugh Branson, said he was unaware of Butcher's troubles with the SEC.

Mervyn L. Stauffer, an executive of Texas millionaire H. Ross Perot's Electronic Data Systems, \$5,000.

The family of Sen. Bill Brock, (R-Tenn.), \$3,500. Brock gave \$2,000 personally on April 6.