

## Governor Pushed for Vice President

By FRANCIS X. CLINES

The state Republican chairman, Richard Rosenbaum, was busy on the telephone with his counterparts in other states yesterday, talking up the name of Governor Rockefeller for Vice President.

Mr. Rosenbaum, who said the Governor was not a part of the drum-beating campaign, submitted only one candidate — Nelson A. Rockefeller — in response to the request from the White House for three names.

He said that a number of state chairmen, in fulfilling the same request, had called to express support for the Governor. Mr. Rosenbaum added that he had initiated calls to other chairmen seeking support for the Governor.

Mr. Rockefeller indicated some desire for the Vice-Presidential job in an interview, asserting that "anyone who is dedicated and devoted to public service has to open-minded to any opportunity for service."

### No Official Word

The Governor emphasized, however, that he had not been asked to serve, and he said that neither President Nixon nor any White House aides had been in touch with him on the subject.

The Governor's office denied reports that Mr. Rockefeller was behind the campaign of Representative Peter Peyser to advance the Governor's prospects to become Vice President. The Republican Congressman's district includes the Governor's Westchester residence.

There was some speculation that the Governor went to Washington, yesterday mainly in connection with the Vice-Presidency issue. Mr. Rocke-

feller's office noted that he had a standing engagement to address a world peace gathering that had been announced last week, well in advance of the sudden news of Spiro T. Agnew's resignation Wednesday as Vice President.

Asked whether he had told Representative Peyser that he was interested in the post, the Governor replied:

### Request to Governor

"My position is I have not been requested by any person. Obviously, at this moment in the history of our country, with the problems facing this nation, anyone who is dedicated and devoted to public service has to be open-minded to any opportunity for service."

The Governor, who, as one of the Republican state executives, also was requested to submit three candidates, said he would

"acknowledge" the request, but he did not indicate whether he actually would submit names.

Mr. Rosenbaum emphasized he was entirely on his own in importuning other state chairmen to support the Governor. He said he had found "substantial support."

Even in the South, he said, those who indicated the Governor was not their first choice said they would not oppose him if the President nominated him.

Aides indicated the Governor had begun a chain of countless phone calls with advisers and well-wishers after he spied the first bulletin on Mr. Agnew's resignation Wednesday on the ground-floor news ticker in his West 55th Street office. He offered a mute, astonished look of upraised eyebrows, according to one witness, then went into his office and put out some calls.