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Former Cox Aide

Likes New Prosecutor

Washington

Deputy special Watergate prosecutor Henry Ruth gave his new boss, Leon Jaworski, an unqualified endorsement yesterday and called for a better guarantee against his dismissal.

Ruth, whose previous superior, Archibald Cox, was fired by acting attorney general Robert H. Bork, said Jaworski is "eminently qualified" for his job, is "getting along well" with Cox' staff, and has made "fair and quick decisions" in the continuing Watergate investigation.

Ruth told the Senate Judiciary Committee that if Congress passes legislation requiring that Jaworski be confirmed by the Senate, the Texas attorney should be approved "unanimously."

He also told the committee that a bill to establish a court-appointed prosecutor would be "constitutional" but he didn't "particularly

like the precedent of going to the court."

Ruth said he and the other prosecutors had their faith "shaken" when Cox was fired and now want new legislation to deal primarily with protecting Jaworski from dismissal.

"I would hope the executive branches could work out a way to preserve his independence without involving the judicial branch," he said.

But Ruth said of the court-appointed approach, "I don't think it's clearly unconstitutional. I think the courts would hold it constitutional once the power is given them."

He agreed with some committee Republicans that the bill would be immediately tested in the courts, leading to possible delay in some cases, and possibly resulting in indictments being thrown out if the court-appointed prosecutor law were found to be unconstitutional.

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