

Senate Gets 2 Bills on Prosecutor

Washington

A deadlocked Senate Judiciary Committee yesterday cleared two special Watergate prosecutor bills for a decision on the Senate floor, one providing for court appointment and the other for selection by the attorney general.

The 16-member committee, evenly divided on the issue, agreed unanimously to send both versions to the floor without recommendation at the suggestion of Senator John L. McClellan (Dem-Ark.), who said the alternative was that "no bill would have been reported out."

The liberal-backed version, sponsored by Senators Birch Bayh (Dem - Ind.), Philip A. Hart (Dem-Mich.) and 53 other senators, would provide appointment of a prosecutor by a three-judge panel of the U.S. district court in the District of Co-

lumbia, which would have sole authority to dismiss him.

The other bill, drafted by three Republican senators with White House help to make it "constitutionally pure," would leave authority for hiring the prosecutor in the hands of the attorney general, who could dismiss him "only for neglect of duty, malfeasance in office or violation of this act."

The House will vote on its Judiciary Committee's court appointment bill next week after it returns from Thanksgiving recess. The Senate is expected to vote on its dual measures the week of December 3.

The only major difference between the House and Senate versions of the court appointment legislation is the prosecutor's term. The House bill specifies a three-year appointment, while the Senate version would leave the question open to the courts.

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