

101 of 187 Sign Letter

By Mary Russell
Washington Post Staff Writer

One hundred and one of the 187 Republicans in the House have signed a letter to President Nixon criticizing House Democrats who have called for his resignation.

"Because two of them are prominent in House leadership," the letter states, "we feel it imperative to correct any misapprehension that these congressmen have voiced feelings widely held by the rest of us."

Rep. Paul Findley (R-Ill.), who initiated the letter and

collected the signatures, said the two Democrats referred to are House Majority Leader Thomas P. (Tip) O'Neill (D-Mass.) and Ways and Means Committee Chairman, Wilbur D. Mills (D-Ark.).

Mills has said the President should resign if the House votes for impeachment, and O'Neill has said Mr. Nixon's resignation would be "in the best interests of the country."

In addition to O'Neill and Mills, seven House Democrats have called for the President to resign.

But among the Republicans who signed the letter are two

who have said the President should consider resigning if he is impeached by the House or can't regain public confidence.

On Dec. 20, House Minority Leader John J. Rhodes (R-Ariz.) said, "The idea of resigning should be pretty high up in his mind" if the House votes impeachment. And on Nov. 16, Rep. Joel Broyhill (R-Va.) said, "The President must recapture the confidence of the American people. He cannot govern without it. If he's not able to do this, then resignation or impeachment would be necessary."