

GOP Chairmen Oppose Resigning

Washington

Not one of the 50 state chairmen of the Republican party believes President Nixon should resign, and two-thirds of them expressed some degree of support for him.

A nationwide Associated Press survey of all the GOP state chairmen found 14 who expressed strong support for Mr. Nixon, 28 who said he should not resign and that impeachment proceedings should continue, and eight who were either highly disturbed about the President or declined any direct comment. Not one said Mr. Nixon should step down.

Thirty-three of the 50 chairmen expressed support for the President. In addition to the 14 who reacted with immediate strong support, 19 of the 28 who said impeachment proceedings

should continue also expressed support for Mr. Nixon. The other nine either didn't mention support, were noncommittal or were critical of Mr. Nixon.

None said his opinion of Mr. Nixon had changed because of the transcripts, although at least ten said they were bothered either by profanity in the transcripts or by what they called a lack of moral concern.

California GOP chairman Gorlon Luce refused to talk about resignation or impeachment. But he has said that after the June 4 state primary he expects some Republicans "will put as much distance as they can between themselves and the President . . . Republicans are the minority party and they will have to appeal to hundreds of thousands of Democrats."

Associated Press