

# ABA on Nixon Immunity

## Honolulu

The prestigious American Bar Association yesterday voted against granting legal immunity to former President Nixon.

On a voice vote and without debate, delegates to the annual convention of the 185,000-member lawyers' association approved an anti-immunity resolution which ABA president Chesterfield Smith said resulted from the revelations about the former President and Watergate.

The ABA's House of Delegates, the organization's policy-making body, also approved a second Watergate-related resolution calling upon "all attorneys engaged in political activity or policy-making positions in government to recognize and adhere to their professional ethical responsibilities or withdraw from the legal profession."

Smith had predicted passage of the anti-immunity resolution, which moved outside normal parliamentary

channels after the ABA's Assembly failed to get enough members at a session Tuesday to give the proposal a normal hearing.

But Smith said the Assembly vote was not a necessity and the resolution could still be voted upon by the 340-member House of Delegates.

The resolution reads:

"Whereas, the foundation of the American system of law is equal justice under law... the American Bar Association continues its

dedication to the principle of fair, just and impartial application and enforcement of the law regardless of the position or status of any individual alleged to have violated the law."

Smith said it is proper for the resolution not to mention anyone by name.

"Although it is aimed at the revelations about Nixon, it enunciates a general principle of law," he said.

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