AUCIL has major concerns despite Nixon resignation

LEGISLATIVE

Accordingly, the ACLU urges the House of Representatives to consider and vote approval of the recommended grounds of impeachment so that there will remain no question whatever that Mr. Nixon's departure from the Presidency is constitutionally justified.

II. EQUAL JUSTICE

Although the ACLU has no position on immunity in general, it views with great concern suggestions that the Congress should express the view that Mr. Nixon should be granted immunity from prosecution for criminal offences. The Constitution provides that an individual convicted in any important proceeding "shall nevertheless be liable and subject to Indictment, Trial, Judgement and Punishment according to the Law." This expressly contemplates that impeachment should not interfere with the fair administration of criminal law in respect to all persons equally, including those who have held high public office and been removed or resigned under impeachment proceedings. The ordinary citizen cannot be expected to respect the law if it is not administered with scrupulous equality for the powerful and the powerless alike.

III. FULL DISCLOSURE

The American public needs to know the truth about the government abuse of power in recent years, including the evidence underlying the Articles of Impeachment voted by the House Judiciary Committee. Accordingly, full disclosure of that evidence must be made. The impeachment process in the House of Representatives is the appropriate constitutional way to do it.