

OCT 30 1974

SFChronicle

OCT 30 1974

Why Nixon Is Not Insured

Washington

Former President Nixon could have been spared most of the heavy medical costs of his recent illness if he had signed up for a health insurance policy available to all present and retired federal workers for about \$16 a month.

But Mr. Nixon left the presidency with its free, round-the-clock medical benefits, without signing up.

Now, according to aides, he is paying all medical, hospital and surgical costs out of pocket.

There is no provision for special health care for former presidents. Former President Eisenhower was entitled to free health cover-

age because of his long military service, and Lyndon Johnson's treatment at an Air Force hospital in Texas was on an emergency basis. But Mr. Johnson apparently did sign up for the federal employee health benefits program before he left office, and most of his coverage was handled by that health plan.

Federal officials refuse to talk about the insurance status of Mr. Nixon, except to confirm that he "did not elect" coverage under any of the 41 plans underwritten by private firms and made available to more than eight million government workers, their families and retired workers.

Washington Post

↑

WSXP
30 OCT.
MIKE
CAUSEY