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**Gurney Seeking  
Halt to Trial**

NEW ORLEANS, Jan. 8 (AP)—Former Florida Sen. Edward J. Gurney, accused of bribery and lying under oath, has asked a federal appeals court to dismiss the indictment.

The plea to the Fifth U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals late Tuesday also asked that Gurney's trial, scheduled to begin in Tampa, Fla., Jan. 20, be blocked pending the outcome of the petition.

Gurney, a Republican who was President Nixon's staunch defender at the Watergate hearings, contended the federal grand jury that indicted him was not a fair cross-section of the community.

His plea said that incorrect procedures by the court clerk produced a grand jury made up of 14 wage earners and nine unemployed, deliberately leaving out self-employed and professional people.