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**New hearings on scandals**

WASHINGTON — Legislation prompted by Watergate and designed to head off future political scandals will be the subject of three days of Senate hearings this week.

The bill contains the major recommendations of the now-defunct Senate Select Committee on Presidential Campaign Activities, known informally as the Watergate Committee.

First witnesses Tuesday will be Sen. Howard Baker, R-Tenn., vice chairman of the committee, and Sam Dash, its chief counsel, as well as members of Congress. Later witnesses will include former special prosecutor Leon Jaworski and his successor, Henry Ruth Jr.

Major provisions of the bill would establish an independent public prosecutor, clamp down on political fund-raising, restrict intelligence-gathering by White House personnel and give Congress new tools against unwarranted claims of executive privilege, unauthorized impoundment of appropriated funds and other claimed executive usurpation of legislative prerogatives.

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