NOW organizes Packwood rally

WASHINGTON (AP) - More than two dozen sign-carrying, chanting demonstrators asked the Senate Monday to refuse to seat Sen. Bob Packwood and vowed to keep up the pressure if he is sworn in as a member of the 103rd Congress.

The Oregon Republican has admitted making unwanted sexual advances to his Senate employees but has resisted calls for his resignation.

The National Organization for Women organized the demonstration outside the Senate Office Building and presented the Senate with petitions from Oregon residents that request Packwood not be seated.

The petitions contend that

and submitted derogatory information about his accusers that delayed publication of a news story about his conduct until after the November election. Packwood was narrowly elected to his fifth term.

NOW President Patricia Ireland told the rally that "it would be unrealistic" to expect the Senate to refuse to seat Packwood.

Senate Majority Leader George J. Mitchell, D-Maine, asked Senate counsel to review the Oregon petitions but no decision was expected Monday, a Mitchell aide said.

There was no comment from



Sen. Bob Packwood



State Senate may fight over residency

SALEM (AP) - Come Jan. 11, the Oregon Senate could be the scene of nasty fights over whether to seat a Democratic senator convicted of theft and a Republican senator whose residency has been questioned.

Peg Jolin, a Cottage Grove Democrat, recently was put on probation for felony convictions stemming from a fraudulent fund-raising letter. Republican Wes Cooley of Powell Butte has faced questions about whether he actually lived in his Eastern Oregon district while he was running his campaign for the Senate.

Any seating challenges would create a rocky start for what is expected to be a difficult session as lawmakers deal with budget cuts and other thorny issues

Some of the toughest talk about challenges came from Democratic Sen. Dick Springer of Portland, who said the residency issue raises serious questions about whether Cooley should be installed as a sen-

"It's a legitimate area of inquiry." Springer said. "Our caucus needs a chance to discuss it specifically.

The Portland lawmaker denied that he's raising the residency issue against Cooley to dissuade the Senate Republicans from going after Jolin when the session convenes.

"I don't see this as a bargaining chip in a face-off over Peg Jolin," he said.

Even though Jolin now is a convicted felon, Republicans actually have some good reasons to want to keep her in the

Chief among them is the fact that the judge in Jolin's trial specifically prohibited her from raising any more campaign money. That would cripple her ability to run for re-election in 1994 and give the Republicans a shot at winning her seat two

But Sen. Lenn Hannon, the assistant minority leader and senior Republican in the Senate, said the GOP caucus likely would challenge Jolin's seating if Springer and other Democrats try the same thing against Coo-

ley.
"That is certainly possible," the Ashland lawmaker said. "The potential is there for a real battle royal. If we start out with that kind of attitude, then things will degenerate the rest of the session."

Some Democrats in the Senate also worry that Springer's pursuit of the Cooley residency issue could set in motion an acrimonious debate that would be hard to stop.

But Springer makes it clear he's ready to raise the residency issue, even though SecDemocrat, investigated the question before the election and decided to keep Cooley on the ballot.

