DON'T SIGN RACE BIAS PETITION

ILWU District Councils, in both Northern and Southern California, again caution members not to be taken in by the racists and the real estate lobbyists who are pushing a petition to repeal the Rumford Fair Housing Bill.

The 1963 California Legislature passed a bill which was haled by unionists, liberals, freedom-loving men and women throughout the state, which would prohibit discrimination because of race, color, religion, nation, or national origin, in newly- or already-constructed, low-rent, publicly-assisted housing and all private housing with more than four units.

DOLLAR-MINDED

The California Real Estate Association and other dollar-minded, conservative or racist groups in the state started a petition campaign to repeal the law—a campaign that, on the surface appears calm and judicious, but underneath appears to fear and hatred.

The petition's purpose would be to place the housing discrimination issue on the ballot for the November 1961 election. The petition would almost all other unions in the state, as well as all religious denominations, most educators, and many more are not only opposing the petition, the real estate lobby-inspired drive, but warn: Check all petitions requiring your signature, whether on the job, on the street, or at your door, to make sure you are not being asked to sign for the repeal of the Rumford Fair Housing Bill.

The ILWU Northern California District Council appealed to all members to refuse to sign the petition and allow the Fair Housing Bill to remain in effect. All sections of labor in the state have done likewise.

The Southern California District Council unanimously voted to urge all ILWU members, their friends, neighbors and fellow unionists to refuse to sign the petition which would drain away the funds that the Legislature to act where civil rights are concerned.

PEOPLE NEED LAW

"The passage of the Rumford Act, a first rate beginning in ending discrimination in housing," declared Local 13's William S. Lawrence, an ILWU International Executive Board member and president of the District Council, "was a significant victory for the trade union movement and minority groups which have worked together for many years to secure the passage of such a measure."

"There is no doubt that this law was enacted in a situation of overwhelming urgent, and correctly responds to the needs of the people. It is an outrage that the initiative procedure is an outgrowth of one of California's most valuable democratic safe guards, is here being misused by a greedy few whose only concern appears to be super profits wrung out of the pockets of the poor.

TEACHERS

"We call upon all friends of the people to refuse to sign this initiative petition and if, through devious means, the organizers succeed in putting it on the ballot, to vote it down over-whelmingly. At the same time, we are requesting all of our locals to take concurrent action.

Supporters of the initiative to repeal the Rumford Fair Housing Act were criticized as "California style racial bigots" by an official of the California Federation of Teachers, AFT-ACFL-CIO.