Labor law proposals rejected

The Legislature, whose six month regular session made nobody but big business very happy, went into special session Monday on Governor Brown's call to do something about the state budget and schools.

The governor's budget was lopped back $104,000,000 by the regular session, imperilling not only school financing but operations of the Fair Housing Bill, the last line of defense against the state's income $147,000,000 by speeding collection of corporate and personal income taxes. Brown, with the state AFL-CIO support, had sought state income tax withholdings and prepayment of big business' taxes. The Legislature disagreed.

GOVERNOR BROWN angrily deplored the State Chamber of Commerce and Standard Oil of California for their leading part in sinking his proposed $104,000,000 increase in the state's income $147,000,000 by speeding collection of corporate and personal income taxes. Brown, with the state AFL-CIO support, had sought state income tax withholdings and prepayment of big business's taxes. The Legislature disagreed.

Brown's cabinet budget asked for a "Republican minority in the Senate," which he charged sabotaged his tax program. "At the request of a few very powerful senators and fought for by a Republican minority in the Senate catered to a few corporate interests," said Brown. "Also included were $1,200,000 for medical assistance and $1,000,000 for local health programs; $2,800,000 for crippled children, $1,500,000 for social welfare programs, etc."

THE FAIR HOUSING Bill was passed in a desperate last-minute contest against the "Republican minority in the Senate," which has all the year spent more than a month stalled in Senate hearings. Finally, with 22 Democrats' aye and 11 Republicans and two Democrats opposing, the Senate passed the bill and sent it to the Assembly for concurrence on amendments.

The Senate President Pro Tem Hugh Burns, hotly rejected a request by Senator Edward Regan to take up the bill out of order. Burns, leader of the Senate Democratic majority, told Regan that he faced the fight of his life if he tried to move the bill out of order. Despite Burns' opposition, Regan won a 28-13 vote to set the Fair Housing debate at 11 a.m., prior to a late adjournment. Then, with 22 Democrats voting aye and 11 Republicans and two Democrats opposing, the Senate passed the bill and sent it to the Assembly for concurrence on amendments.

A PLUS in consumer legislation was outlawing of "deficiency judgments," which have often forced buyers to pay for merchandise which has been assessed, but the law exempts automobiles, which make up a big part of the buying public. A similar bill to outlaw automobile sales deficiency judgment went into the convenient cold storage of interim study along with a number of other consumer measures.

Not only labor, schoolchildren, consumers and minorities got little from the Legislature but college students, eplied children, mental patients, local public health programs and welfare clients were given short shift in the budget cutting.

ELIMINATED were: $6,000,000 for mental hospitals, clinics and local mental health programs; $2,000,000 for crippled children, $1,500,000 for social welfare assistance and $1,000,000 for local public health aids.

Also eliminated were $1,300,000 for state colleges, $1,500,000 for parks and recreation, $1,600,000 for mental hygiene department expansion and $300,000 for a pilot youth conservation program among other items.

The Legislature turned down bills to

With 5 minutes to spare

The San Francisco Labor Council renewed its call for a citywide, top- level campaign to work out the problems of discrimination and segregation in San Francisco.

The council inaugurated its proposal of a broad, powerful civil rights committee at a meeting of 400 unionists in San Francisco. W. John and the five-point program outlined by President Kennedy to some 300 union officials at a White House conference.

The President called on the labor representatives. "I think this problem out the difficulties facing the program in Congress."

The President urged strong emphasis on the problems of discrimination particularly among minority groups.

And he urged greater Negro representation in positions of responsibility in trade union movement, the President pointed out that for practical purposes, the education and tax bills, which will create jobs, are too much on the platform (administration officials).

As a fifth step, the President called for bicameral representation in each community designed to work on these problems.

In the open discussion that took place, the conference was a general consensus that pious platitudes must be abandoned and the time has come to put its part and lend its influence in a national and community effort to do something about these problems.

Foran invited to defend vote

Assemblyman John F. Foran, elected with San Francisco labor's support, reacted sharply last month to a blunt labor denunciation of his part in giving working people "a big handful of nothing" at the closing of the regular 1963 session.

In answer to his three-page letter, the San Francisco Labor Council voted to invite him to a Council meeting after the special Legislative session where he may address him as a member of the Assembly Committee on Finance and Insurance.

What provoked his reaction was the report in the Council's official bulletin pointing out that only four votes, not including his, were cast against a subcommittee report scuttling up to 49 new and existing programs.

It quoted his explanation for his vote upholding the subcommittee's hatchet job as that he would have voted more effectively in Sacramento had he voted otherwise, adding: "He chose instead to vote with the faces of 'leadership' in defeating these proposals to meet the documented needs of injured workers."