## THE DEMOCRATS IN SAN FRANCISCO;

# MONDALE PROMISES CAUSUS HE'LL FIGHT IMMIGRATION BILL

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## **Body**

Walter F. <u>Mondale</u> pledged today to work against an <u>immigration bill</u> strongly opposed by Hispanic leaders, but Hispanic delegates still threatened a boycott of the first ballot at the Democratic National Convention.

The guerrilla movement, sponsored by delegates committed to Senator Gary Hart and the Rev. Jesse Jackson in the Hispanic caucus continued despite efforts by caucus leaders, including <u>San</u> Antonio Mayor Henry Cisneros and Representatives Robert Garcia, **Democrat** of the Bronx, and Edward R. Roybal, **Democrat** of California.

Leaders of the insurgency say they will continue to press the boycott issue until Wednesday night's vote on the party's Presidential nomination.

After a one-hour meeting with Hispanic leaders, Mr. <u>Mondale</u> issued a statement calling the <u>immigration bill</u> "harmful" and saying it would "cause human suffering."

Representative Roybal, leader of the Hispanic Caucus, said he believed the <u>Mondale</u> statement would end the threat that Hispanic delegates would withhold their votes on the first ballot for the Presidential nomination Wednesday.

"It is good enough for the delegates and good enough for the convention," Mr. Roybal told reporters.

#### Stormy Meeting of Delegates

At an ensuing caucus marked by stormy debate, a boycott motion by Carlos Alcala, a California delegate, failed on a 39-to-39 vote. But Mr. Alcala said he would bring the motion up again at another caucus Wednesday and demand a roll-call of all Hispanic delegates and their alternates.

Mr. <u>Mondale</u>'s statement said he had opposed the <u>immigration</u> legislation and would "communicate" that opposition to "the legislative leadership."

Still an issue for the Hispanic delegates is the position of organized labor.

Hispanic leaders have met with Lane Kirkland, president of the American Federation of Labor and Congress of Industrial Organizations, and he was expected to issue a statement. Mr. Roybal said that Mr. Kirkland "opposes the **bill** in its present form."

That opposition is based on a provision of the <u>bill</u> that would allow large numbers of foreign agricultural workers into the country to do harvesting, a move that labor believes would take jobs away from American workers.

A number of Hispanic leaders, including several members of Congress, as well as the Rev. Jesse Jackson and Mr. *Mondale*'s son, William, appeared at the caucusg to plead for support.

Mario Obledo, president of the League of United Latin American Citizens, chief sponsor of the boycott demand, said his organization had set a deadline for action by both the party's leadership and organized labor to kill the *immigration bill*.

Privately, some Hispanic leaders said negotiations were under way between Hispanic leaders, House Speaker Thomas P. O'Neill Jr., and possibly Mr. Kirkland to work out a statement that would satisfy the Hispanic demand that the **bill** be killed when it is considered again by the House after the convention.

Many of the grass-roots delegates want a specific commitment that the party leadership will work to kill the **bill** when it comes out of a House-Senate conference after Congress returns Monday.

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