

Bishop Opposes UFW Boycott

Fresno Catholic Bishop Hugh A. Donohoe explained Saturday he does not favor the boycott against supermarkets in connection with the United Farm Workers struggle against the Teamsters.

Donohoe said he feels the boycott serves only to "muddy the waters" in the legislative fight for the right of farm workers to

choose or reject union representation by secret ballot. Thus, at the national conference of Catholic bishops in Washington, DC, Donohoe voted against support of the Cesar Chavez boycott.

"It brings into the picture too many innocent persons who are included without any redress whatsoever," the bishop explained.

"I wasn't in favor of the boycott because I wanted to keep the climate as free of the issue as possible."

Donohoe was outvoted by the other bishops at the annual meeting and a statement was released supporting the UFW boycott.

The Fresno bishop who has long been involved in the farm labor controversy, said he feels the focus now

should be on the legislative area to gain the secret ballot for farm worker representation.