

Seattle Unions Back Claims

Strongly worded telegrams from eight Seattle trade unions were sent this week to the Washington State Congressional delegation, Secretary of the Interior Walter J. Hickel, Alaska's Governor Keith Miller and Alaska State Senators, Brad Phillips and Gene Guess.

The unions, which represent 25,000 members, urged full support of the Alaska Federation of Natives land claims bill now before the Senate Interior and Insular Affairs Committee.

"The Alaska Natives are entitled to share in the development of their own land and its resources," the telegram states. They also urged state participation in the land claims settlement.

According to Don Wright, a member of the Alaska Federation of Natives board of directors and a Public Relations Speaker Bureau member, the eight unions, all representing shipping and freighting trades in import and export to Alaska do not want to see the same recession which is now facing Seattle because of the Boeing Company's labor force cut-back.

Wright also said we are all in the same boat because Washing-

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ton state and Alaska are like brother and sister with the same problems and must protect the rights of the individual worker in both states.

The unions are as follows:

Sailors Union of the Pacific; National Maritime Union of America; Operating Engineers local 302; International Organization of Masters, Mates and Pilots of the West Coast, locals 6 and 19; Inland Boatmen's Union of the Pacific and Boilermakers local 104.