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UAW Cheers for Kennedy to Run

Atlantic City, N.J.

A frenzied, cheering meeting of delegates to the United Auto Workers constitutional convention overwhelmingly expressed support yesterday for Senator Edward M. Kennedy (Dem-Mass.) to run for the presidency.

But Kennedy repeated his intention not to accept the Democratic nomination.

Kennedy addressed the union's 23rd constitutional convention and said President Nixon "leads the list of American prisoners of the war" in Vietnam.

At a brief news conference before he addressed the convention, Kennedy repeated his oft-stated refusal to run for the Democratic presidential nomination, even if a draft movement developed.

"My position is unchanged. I won't be a candidate in 1972, and I'm not endorsing any candidate either," Kennedy told newsmen.

But inside the hall, a standing throng of cheering delegates, officers and visitors delayed the beginning of Kennedy's address. An informal straw vote endorsing a draft of the Massachusetts senator at this summer's

Democratic national convention was nearly unanimous.

"The first and greatest failure of our policy, the one that leads all the rest, is the failure on the war," Kennedy said. "The name of President Nixon now leads the list of American prisoners of the war because he has become the greatest prisoner of them all.

"President Nixon is more concerned about the closing price of ITT than the take-home wages of workers. While profits are going through the roof, workers' wages are going to the lar." *United Press*

Woodcock Pledges Support if Kennedy Decides to Run

Special to The New York Times

ATLANTIC CITY, April 25—

"The U.A.W. is ready to enlist in his cause" if Senator Edward M. Kennedy seeks the Presidency, Leonard Woodcock, president of the auto workers union, said today.

Senator Kennedy spoke to the union's convention here and received a standing ovation. In his speech he attacked President Nixon for not ending the war and accused him of being too close to big business. He also accused General Motors Corporation of running "inhumane" assembly lines.

The Massachusetts Democrat reiterated that he was not a candidate for the Democratic nomination.

Mr. Woodcock, when he was a U.A.W. vice president four years ago, was a supporter of Robert F. Kennedy for the Presidency. He said today that if Senator Edward Kennedy decided to become a candidate, "I would have no difficulty in enlisting in that cause."