

Ford Boosters Launch State Drive

Only one day after President Ford announced he would seek election his California campaign began in earnest.

The five-member steering committee heading the President's state campaign yesterday announced the formation of a 44-member statewide organizing committee, composed of most of California's top Republicans.

Prominent among them are long-time supporters of Governor Ronald Reagan, giving rise to speculation the Reagan boomlet does not have much major GOP

backing here.

For example, Henry Salvatori of Los Angeles, who was co-chairman of Reagan's 1966 campaign, has joined the Ford forces, as has Taft Schreiber of Los Angeles, long identified as one of Reagan's kitchen cabinet members.

San Diego businessman Leon Parma, spokesman for the steering committee, said the formation of the state organizing committee was made with the "complete approval and authorization" of National Campaign Director Howard (Bo) Callaway.

The organizing committee, Parma said, marks "the beginning of what will become a broad-based, grassroots movement which will encompass all Republicans throughout the state."

On the committee are former state party chairmen Putnam Livermore of San Francisco, and James Halley of San Mateo; the current chairman, Paul Haerle of San Francisco; National Committeeman William Banowsky of Los Angeles, and Attorney General Evelle J. Younger.

Haerle, who formerly

served as appointments secretary to Reagan, said, "with President Ford, the Republican party can win big in 1976 . . . there is a sweet smell of success in the air. President Ford is the only logical choice."