The chairman of CODOFIL (Council For the Development Of French In Louisiana) took a dim view of the term applied to one of the amendments to a proposed charter being drafted by Democrats in Kansas City, and called for an apology from the Lafayette man who says he is the author of the "coonass amendment."

Walter Landry of Lafayette, a delegate to the mini-convention, posed one of the few amendments approved to the party's new charter. The amendment, co-authored by Gov. Edwin Edwards and deLesseps S. (Tony) Morrison and accepted without debate by the rules committee, calls for publication of the Democratic Party Charter in Spanish and French, the "other language" of South Louisiana.

Takes Issue

James Domengeaux, chairman of CODOFIL, took issue with a statement reportedly made by Landry and published in the Baton Rouge Morning Advocate, that the addition to the historic Democratic charter has earned the title of "the coonass amendment."

"The characterization of Mr. Landry's amendment on printing the proposed charter in the French language as the 'coonass amendment' is vulgar, offensive and in appropriate," Domengeaux said Friday.

He said there was no "historic or linguistic origin in the use of this word in identifying the Acadian, Cajun or French-speaking Louisianian in this manner."

After War

"This word came into use for the first time after World War II," Domengeaux continued. "It is derived from the French word, 'coonass,' one of the most offensive words in the French language. It is defined as a stupid, ignorant person. In the parlance of the military, the word is defined as a prostitute without a health card, according to Larousse's Dictionnaire des Argots (1965)."

"Mr. Landry, by the use of this word in characterizing his amendment, has insulted every French-speaking Louisianian and he should apologize," Domengeaux declared.