



National Farm Worker Ministry's **HARVEST OF JUSTICE**

Giving thanks and
working for justice
alongside immigrant
& migrant farm workers

WEEK 5

2018

LEARN

Regardless of their status, immigrant farm workers pay the same sales, real estate, and consumer taxes as all United States residents. The US Social Security Administration has estimated that three out of four undocumented immigrants pay payroll taxes, and that they contribute six to seven billion dollars in Social Security funds that they are not able to claim. During their lifetime, immigrants will pay an average of \$80,000 more per capita in taxes than they will use in government services yet they lack the same protections as other workers.

REFLECT

Sometimes even with a labor contract, farm workers still have to struggle for their rights. In WA, farm workers fought for fair wages and won a contract that among other things specified how much they would be paid per flat for berries during the season. About half way through the harvest, the company changed the number of flats required to earn the piece rate agreed to by the farm workers, doubling what they had to pick to receive the same price. The workers' union negotiated unsuccessfully with the company and ultimately took the case to court. Ultimately, the court forced the company to pay wages accordance with the contract and to pay back wages to workers that were due them.

ACT

On June 25, the 80th anniversary of the Fair Labor Standards Act (FLSA), Sen. Kamala Harris (CA) and Rep. Raúl Grijalva (AZ) introduced the "Fairness for Farm Workers Act" (S 3131/HR 6230). This new "Fairness" Act would amend the FLSA to include agricultural workers in its overtime provisions. It would also remove most of the remaining exclusions of farm workers from the minimum wage. The bill has 9 original co-sponsors in the Senate and 51 original co-sponsors in the House. The UFW, UFW Foundation, Farmworker Justice, NFWM and a coalition of over 100 groups are supporting the Harris - Grijalva bill to end the discriminatory denial of overtime pay and the minimum wage to all farm workers. It's simple, farm workers deserve the same minimum wage and overtime protections as any other US worker. WE NEED YOUR SENATORS & REPRESENTATIVE TO JOIN THEM. ACT TODAY TO SUPPORT FAIRNESS FOR FARM WORKERS!

ufw.org/overtime



National Farm Worker Ministry educates and mobilizes people of faith and conscience to support farm worker led campaigns to improve farm workers' working and living conditions.

To learn more, visit nfwm.org

112 Cox Avenue, Ste. 208

Raleigh, NC 27605

919.807.8707

nfwmenfwm.org

