Contacting Your Congressional Representative

To find your representative, go to https://ziplook.house.gov/htbin/findrep_house

Agenda for Contacting your Congressional Representative

- Introductions: Briefly introduce yourself and others in the group. Thank the Congressperson or staffer for meeting.

- Opening: Before the meeting, check the Representative’s record on their website to see if they have issued any press releases or endorsed any legislation related to immigration/farm workers and compliment them on doing so.

- State the Ask: To co-sponsor the Agricultural Worker Program Act of 2019 (“Blue Card” Bill), S. 175/H.R. 641

- Share your Message: (Why do we want what we’re asking for? Why should they care? Use this space to articulate your faith. You may want to say that your faith dictates loving others and farm workers deserve to be treated with dignity and respect. Everyone should have safe, decent working and living conditions.)

Key Points:
  - The Agricultural Worker Program Act of 2019 or Blue Card Bill would establish an earned legalization program for undocumented farmworkers
who have been consistently employed in U.S. agriculture and meet other requirements. A majority of the nation’s 2.4 million farmworkers are undocumented.

- Farm worker communities across the country are living and working in fear of immigration enforcement and deportation. If enacted, this legislation would alleviate that fear by providing farm workers and their families an opportunity to earn legal immigration status. The Act also protects agricultural employers of the eligible farm workers from civil penalties for previously hiring undocumented immigrants. With legal status and a path to citizenship, farm workers would be better able to improve their wages and working conditions, resulting in a more stable farm labor force, and greater food safety and security to the benefit of employers, workers, and consumers.

- Our current immigration system is harming farm worker families, agricultural businesses, rural communities and the economy. The Agricultural Worker Program Act is a sensible step toward needed reform of our immigration system. This bill would bring greater fairness to our treatment of farm workers while also providing a stable workforce for agricultural employers.

- Leave: Your contact information, fact sheets and thank the Congressperson or staffer for their time.