



1997 SENATE JOINT RESOLUTION 16

March 6, 1997 - Introduced by Senator BURKE, cosponsored by Representative KUNICKI. Referred to Committee on Labor, Transportation and Financial Institutions.

1 **Relating to:** commending the United Farm Workers of America's campaign to
2 organize strawberry workers.

3 Whereas, farm workers toiling in strawberry fields are among the more
4 exploited workers in the nation; and

5 Whereas, over 20,000 women, men and children working in California
6 strawberry fields typically spend 10 to 12 hours a day picking fruit from ankle-level
7 plants, suffer chronic back pain and injuries and experience the dangerous effects
8 of pesticide poisoning; and

9 Whereas, strawberry workers have not received wages above the poverty level
10 for 10 years; and

11 Whereas, most strawberry workers have few or no medical benefits, sexual
12 harassment is commonplace and bathrooms in the fields are filthy; and

13 Whereas, over 20,000 strawberry workers are tired of these terrible conditions
14 and seek safety, security and a voice on the job; and

