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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.

Relating to: commending the United Farm Workers of America's campaign to 1 2 organize strawberry workers. 3 Whereas, farm workers toiling in strawberry fields are among the more exploited workers in the nation; and 4 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 Whereas, strawberry workers have not received wages above the poverty level 9 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 Whereas, over 20,000 strawberry workers are tired of these terrible conditions 13

and seek safety, security and a voice on the job; and

Whereas, the United Farm Workers of America are leading a public pledge campaign to advocate for the rights of strawberry workers; now, therefore, be it *Resolved by the senate, the assembly concurring, That* the Wisconsin legislature commends the United Farm Workers of America's California strawberry organizing campaign and expresses indignation at the abuse committed against farm workers.

(END)