



UNITED FARM WORKERS of AMERICA AFL-CIO

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August 10, 1976

MEMORANDUM

TO: Nick Jones

FROM: Marc Grossman

RE: Bracero program resolution approved by California Legislature

Assembly Joint Resolution No. 59, a UFW-sponsored measure opposing any renewal of the Bracero program, has been tentatively approved by the California Legislature. The resolution, authored by Assemblyman Richard Alatorre and the state's five other Mexican American legislators, declares the Legislature's "vigorous opposition" to any proposal considered in Congress that would "reimpose a Bracero Program on the American people or the people of California."

Assemblyman Alatorre introduced the measure with strong support from the National Executive Board in fall, 1974, as Assembly Joint Resolution No. 6. Recent talks between the U.S. and Mexican governments raised the prospects of a new Bracero system. AJR 6 was approved by the Assembly but killed in the state Senate Industrial Relations Committee after heavy opposition from the California Farm Bureau Federation.

Introduction of Senator Eastland's illegal alien proposal with a little Bracero provision added new importance to the Alatorre resolution. Arizona Governor Raul Castro has also called for a reinstated Bracero plan. The Eastland bill is strongly opposed by the AFL-CIO, and church and civil rights groups.

AJR 59 passed the Assembly, was amended slightly in the state Senate, and has been returned to the Assembly for concurrence, which is expected.

