Chavez demands ouster of Sutt, Stull from unit

SACRAMENTO (AP) — Cesar Chavez today demanded the removal of two legislators from a committee which watches over operation of the state’s farm labor law, charging that they are “agents of employers.”

Chavez, head of the AFL-CIO United Farm Workers, also filed unfair labor practice charges against the two legislators, state Sen. John Stull, R-Encino, and Assemblyman Tom Sutt, D-Indian Wells.

Both legislators represent Imperial County.

The union leader charges that Sutt and Sutt, at the invitation of growers, went last week to the Coachella Valley, where the union is trying to organize farm workers and where it has filed unfair labor practice charges against growers.

Marc Grossman, a spokesman for Chavez, said the legislators interrogated farm workers in the presence of employers and supervisors, using supervisors as translators. Grossman said they based their questions on “wild and unfounded” charges made by growers.


“arousal,” Grossman said.

Sutt said after talking to about 45 workers at the Larson and Bob Kull ranches, “I concluded that some board agents had been acting in a pro-union way.

Defending the fact he talked to workers, Sutt said, “I have no other way to get the information. What do they want me to do, talk to Chavez?”