

78. LABOR

We support:

1. A proactive and positive effort to pursue a dialogue with organized labor to identify common ground and common goals to achieve a common good.
2. The effective and prompt administration of existing laws to resolve secondary boycotts or other illegal actions which disrupt the orderly flow of commerce.
3. Maintaining the agriculture exemption for overtime pay provisions under the Illinois Minimum Wage Law.
4. A study by the appropriate state agencies regarding the programs and activities of federally funded Legal Services Corporation entities in Illinois. Such a study would review the impact of such programs on agricultural operations.
5. American Farm Bureau Federation efforts in lobbying Congress to investigate the Legal Service Corporation's behavior and scrutinize its budget.
6. The minimum wage rate at its current level and support an increase only when it is believed to be non-inflationary.
7. The passage of federal legislation to establish an improved program for agricultural guest workers that assist all crop and livestock farmers in finding, retaining, and maintaining an adequate, legal, and cost-competitive labor supply.
8. Permanent employment-based immigration visas for those individuals who have a demonstrated work history and can pass an appropriate background screening.

We oppose:

1. The use, by either labor or management, of force, coercion, intimidation, secondary boycotts or other such means designed to force its will upon the other.
2. Lawsuits which are filed against agricultural growers by Legal Services Corporation entities which create economic hardship for the agricultural operations involved and appear to be intended only to harass the employer of farm labor into providing additional benefits without justification.
3. All legislation which increases the revenue base for legal assistance activities in the State of Illinois.
4. Legislation that would require state licensure and inspection for electrical work performed on agricultural property and single-family residences.
5. The elimination of the present family farm exemption in the child labor provisions of the Fair Labor Standards Act (FLSA).
6. Amnesty (as defined as a general pardon for offenses against the laws of the United States of America) for undocumented immigrants.