CHANGE TO WIN

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Bruce Raynor General President UNITE HERE

Arturo S. Rodriguez President United Farm Workers of America (UFW)

Andrew L. Stern International President Service Employees International Union (SEIU) May 14, 2009

The Honorable Diane Feinstein U.S. Senate 331 Hart Senate Office Building Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Feinstein:

The seven affiliated unions and six million members of Change to Win write to thank you for your continued leadership in reintroducing the "AgJOBS" bill (the Agricultural Job Opportunities, Benefits, and Security Act of 2009), and to pledge our full support for its enactment.

The effects of our broken immigration system on the labor market must be addressed. Farm workers and their families live in fear of deportation, and agricultural growers across the country face worker shortages. AgJOBS would enable farm workers to bargain for better working and living conditions and provide growers a legal stable labor supply by offering undocumented farm workers the chance to come out of the shadows and earn legal status by meeting stringent agricultural-work requirements. It is important that AgJOBS would also revise the H-2A agricultural guestworker program in a balanced manner.

This bipartisan bill is the product of congressional negotiations and an historic compromise between the United Farm Workers and major agribusiness employers. It also has the full support of hundreds of farmer, worker, and immigrant organizations. Its passage would be a substantial down payment on the kind of comprehensive immigration reform our country needs.

Sincerely,

Anna Burger

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Treasurer

Service Employees

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Executive Vice President

UNITE HERE

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Commercial Workers International Union

(UFCW)

James Hoffa

General President International Brotherhood of Teamsters (IBT) Geralyn Lutty

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International Vice President United Food and Commerical Workers International Union (UFCW) Douglas J. McCarron

General President United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners of America (UBC)

Terence M. O'Sullivan

June M. O'Sullina

General President
Laborer's International Union

of North America (LIUNA)

arhunoflety

Bruce Raynor General President

UNITE HERE

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