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MEMORANDUM

TO : Friends for Fair Immigration Reform

FROM: Sylvia Arriola, State Policy Advocate

RE : Immigration Legislation "Mark-Up"

DATE: June 23, 1986

The House Judiciary Committee is scheduled to continue it's consideration of the Rodino Immigration Reform Bill (H.R. 3810) June 25, 1986. Chairman Rodino had delayed action pending a compromise on the bill's controversial agricultural guestworker provision. Committee members Shumer, Berman and Panetta recently reached agreement on the elements of such a compromise.

The compromise ignores high unemployment in many agricultural regions and greatly expands the existing H-2 program, thereby subjecting foreign workers to exploitation, and taking jobs away from domestic farmworkers. The Simpson bill set a cap of 350,000 and we thought that was too many - the compromise legislation sets no limit on the number of foreign workers that can be brought into the country to pick perishable crops. The compromise provides that foreign/undocumented workers in the U.S. who can prove they have worked at least 80 days in American agriculture will be eligible for permanent resident status and for citizenship within the next 5 years if they work 40 days/yr. for that period of time. This new proposal will, in essence, provide a vast sub-class of individuals who will, practically, be held in involuntary servitude for the benefit of American Agriculture.

The strategy to get the bill passed out of the House continues. Proponents of the Guestworker compromise are continuing to work to have the sequential process, the procedure which a bill must go through when being considered, halted.

We need your calls of opposition to the Guestworker program(s) and the legislation as a whole <u>TODAY</u>. Please call your Congress person and the following:

John Bryant (Dallas) 506 Cannon House Office Bldg Washington, D.C. 20515 (202) $\overline{2}25-2231$

Jim Wright (Ft. Worth) Room 1236 Longworth House Office Bldg Washington, D.C. 2015 (202) 225-5071

Jack Brooks (Beaumont) Room 2449 Rayburn House Office Bldg Washington, D.C. 20515

Peter Rodino (New Jersey) 2462 Rayburn House Office Bldg Washington, D.C. 20515 (202) 225-3436

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