



City of Cambridge

6.

IN CITY COUNCIL

April 22, 1974

Councillor Wylie:

WHEREAS:

Migrant farm workers are presently the largest remaining component of organized labor yet to achieve the decent wage, living and working conditions which were won by now established labor unions in the first half of this century, and the United Farm Workers of America AFL-CIO has led the effort to organize and protect such workers; and

WHEREAS:

The United States Department of Agriculture, the United States Department of Labor and the 1969 Report of the United States Senate Sub-Committee on Migrating Labor have reported of migrant workers that:

- (a) death rates far exceed (and often double) death rates of the rest of the Nation especially in the case of infant and maternal mortality, influenza and pneumonia, tuberculosis, and accidents.
- (b) life expectancy is only forty-nine years.
- (c) average hourly wages are less than one-half those of the United States industrial workers.
- (d) exploitation of children for economic gain is shamefully similar to industrial conditions of the nineteenth century; and

WHEREAS:

The basic right to organize their own union has often been denied migrating farm workers and despite the frequency of violent attacks upon them, the workers and their organizers have remained dedicated to non-violence; and

WHEREAS:

The nationwide consumer boycott of grapes and lettuce has proved the most effective means of assisting migrating workers, whose poverty renders ineffective the possibility of strikes as a means of organizing, and almost all the major grocery chains in New England have observed the boycott, including Star Market, Purity Supreme, Stop and Shop and First National; now therefore be it



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Councillor Wylie

RESOLVED:

That the Cambridge City Council:

- (1) Congratulates the United Farm Workers of America AFL-CIO on its honorable struggle to improve working conditions for farm workers.
- (2) Endorses United Farm Worker Week in America and proclaims that week, April 28th-May 4th, 1974 as "Cambridge United Farm Workers Week."
- (3) Encourages Cambridge citizens to join the boycott of iceberg lettuce, California table grapes and Gallo wine; and
- (4) Requests and directs the City Manager and Department Heads to observe the boycott in city purchasing.

City Council April 22, 1974

Adopted by the affirmative vote

of 9 members

Paul E. Hsieh City Clerk
CITY CLERK

C. Wylie re: to UNITED FARM WORKER WEEK

4/22/74

Order Adopted
Copies sent to
John Dept
Pharmacy

In City Council,

April 22, 1974

Hapitoc
Pharmacy

Copies sent to, Infirmary,
Hospital, Purchasing &
School Dept. & City
manager 4/24/74 dl.