

WRITTEN COMMENTS REGARDING S.102 –

An Act relating to expanding employment protections and collective bargaining rights.

Thank you for the opportunity to present concerns from the members of the Vermont Farm Bureau on the deleted language regarding farm workers.

On page 5 (of 12), line 1 has been struck through, which removes the exclusion of agricultural laborer from being available for unionization.

Vermont Farm Bureau upholds the right of farm workers to decline union membership based on their own convictions and believes that, once declining of their own accord, no further pressure should be put on them to change their minds. We also support including unions in the same regulations and standards employers must follow with regards to bullying, lying and coercion in their unionization efforts.

We respectfully request under the definition of employee, the exclusion for those employed as an agricultural laborer be returned to S.102.

On behalf of Vermont Farm Bureau,

Jackie Folsom, President