



Legislation Summary:

An Act Establishing Fairness for Agricultural Workers

Initial bill number(s): H.2812/S.1837

Sponsors: Rep. Carlos Gonzalez and Sen. Adam Gomez

What the bill does, why LWVMA supports or opposes it, and the League position relative to this bill.

Farmworkers in MA earn \$8.00 per hour, are not paid overtime, are not allowed a day of rest, and are often paid for this work by the pound. This bill would increase the minimum wage for farmworkers to the current MA minimum wage rate of \$15.00 per hour. It would also require farmworkers to be paid overtime rates of time-and-a-half after working more than 55 hours in a week. Additionally, it would require two paid 15-minute breaks every workday, and one day of rest per week.

1. Equality of Opportunity: The League of Women Voters of the United States believes that the federal government shares with other levels of government the responsibility to provide equality of opportunity for education, employment, and housing for all persons in the United States regardless of their race, color, gender, religion, national origin, age, sexual orientation, or disability. [Impact on Issues](#) p.122
2. Social Policy/Meeting Basic Human Needs: The League of Women Voters of the United States supports programs and policies to prevent or reduce poverty and to promote self-sufficiency for individuals and families. [Impact on Issues](#) p.14.
3. Equality of opportunity: The League supports: equal access to education, employment and housing. [Where We Stand](#) p.45.
4. Immigration: The League supports: The Commonwealth of Massachusetts should promote and fund educational programs and materials that seek to inform all workers, including documented and undocumented immigrants, of their rights in the workplace. [Where We Stand](#) p.49.