

1955 to 83 million pounds in 1966. Frozen strawberries are, of course, competitive 12 months in the year.

Even the small amount of Mexican produce that is out of season is still competitive, because everything on the produce counter is competing for the housewife's dollar.

A trend as strong as this may be expected to continue. Mexico has large acreages of land on the west coast adaptable to the production of fruits and vegetables. The upward trend in imports of such products would be accelerated by any substantial increase in wage costs or labor controversy.

Since Mexico produces and sells to the United States primarily those fruits and vegetables which require large amounts of labor to produce, an acceleration of such imports would result in displacement of comparatively large numbers of farmworkers in the United States.

So, while some workers would gain from the economic power the bill would place in the hands of labor unions, others would be hurt by a sharp reduction in farm employment. We suggest that the number of workers who would be hurt would be considerably larger than the number who would be helped.

Farm wages have been going up and will continue to go up. But any program that would have the effect of accelerating this trend would have undesirable consequences to both workers and farmers.

We summarize our statement.

Thus, there are some very real differences between industry and agriculture: The vulnerability of farmers. Productivity per man-hour in agriculture. The income position of farmers. A very elastic demand for labor in agriculture.

We submit that these factors are adequate justification to oppose enactment of the bill.

(The appendices referred to follow:)

APPENDIX A

SEASONALITY OF HIRED FARM LABOR EMPLOYMENT—1966—SELECTED STATES

[Thousands of farmworkers]

Month	New York	New Jersey	Pennsylvania	Ohio	Illinois	Michigan	Florida	Texas	California	Washington	Oregon
January.....	19	6	11	8	17	15	105	32	148	12	8
February.....	20	6	14	10	19	18	103	58	145	17	11
March.....	27	7	14	17	27	21	100	72	142	22	14
April.....	32	14	17	18	29	21	97	83	160	38	16
May.....	42	20	20	29	43	27	97	118	187	44	19
June.....	43	20	32	37	48	42	67	155	216	60	63
July.....	45	29	27	35	48	56	45	131	220	52	54
August.....	47	26	25	31	39	45	45	119	238	54	46
September.....	46	18	26	33	31	34	54	188	261	36	21
October.....	32	13	21	21	38	30	65	171	228	29	16
November.....	23	7	14	17	31	18	95	103	162	16	8
December.....	21	6	13	7	20	16	96	58	141	11	9

Source: "Farm Labor," USDA.

Annual average hired farm labor employment—United States—Selected years

[Thousands of workers]

1930	3, 190
1940	2, 679
1950	2, 329
1960	1, 869
1965	1, 482
1966	1, 357

Source: "Farm Labor," USDA.