



Kriss Worthington

Councilmember, City of Berkeley District 7
2180 Milvia Street, 5th Floor, Berkeley, CA 94704
PHONE 510-981-7170 FAX 510-981-7177 kworthington@ci.berkeley.ca.us

CONSENT CALENDAR

November 15, 2005

To: Honorable Mayor and
Members of the City Council

From: Councilmember Kriss Worthington

Subject: Support the UFW in Urging Cal/OSHA to Adopt a Permanent Heat Illness Regulation

RECOMMENDATION:

That the Berkeley City Council urge the California State Occupational Safety and Health Administration (Cal/OSHA) to create a permanent and vigorously enforced heat illness regulation.

BACKGROUND:

Since July 28, 2004, six farm workers in California have died due to extreme heat. Four of these needless deaths came during a three-week period this past July. Some deaths occurred after growers or farm labor contractors ordered work speed-ups when temperatures soared above 100 degrees. The United Farm Workers asked Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger to issue an emergency regulation to prevent future tragedies.

Governor Schwarzenegger issued a temporary emergency heat regulation lasting 120 days. This regulation would end on December 21, 2005. The United Farm workers along with supporters for workers' rights are collectively urging the California State Occupational Safety and Health Administration to make heat illness regulation permanent.

FINANCIAL IMPLICATIONS:

NONE

CONTACT PERSON:

Councilmember Kriss Worthington 981-7170.