

A RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, the Board of Directors of QUALITY ORANGE GROWERS, INC. an agricultural cooperative marketing association, organized and existing under the laws of the State of Florida, the same being Chapter 618, Florida Statutes, with its office and principal place of business being in Dunedin, Florida, is gravely concerned and indeed shocked at the recent arbitrary, capricious, and unreasonable policy adopted by the United States Department of Labor as dictated by Willard Wirtz, Secretary of Labor, limiting the importation of off-shore laborers from the Bahamas and Caribbean Islands on and after April 15, 1965, and replacing same with unemployed domestic labor from other southern states, and wishes to record and express its unalterable objections, now therefore

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF QUALITY ORANGE GROWERS, INC. IN MEETING DULY ASSEMBLED:

Section 1. Withdrawal of off-shore laborers on or about April 15, 1965, will occur at the height of the harvest period of Florida's largest single citrus crop, to wit: the Valencia orange crop, thereby most certainly resulting in great financial losses to Florida citrus growers and handlers throughout the State.

Section 2. That as a result of such withdrawal untold boxes of citrus fruit most likely will go unharvested resulting in irreparable damage to Florida's agricultural industry as well as its economy.

Section 3. That the replacement of off-shore labor with unemployed domestic labor from other southern states will be, and indeed has already shown itself to be, a complete farce and totally ineffectual in that such domestic labor is untrained, unfamiliar and inexperienced in the methods and procedures involved in harvesting citrus crops.

Section 4. That in many cases it has already been determined that growers and handlers who have expended large amounts of their own funds to bring domestic labor to their groves have been rewarded for their efforts by sullenness, uncooperative attitudes, complaints that the work is too hard, and the ultimate disappearance of such domestic laborers, with consequent loss to growers and handlers of such transportation costs and expenses.

Section 4. That in many cases it has already been determined that growers and handlers who have expended large amounts of their own funds to bring domestic labor to their groves have been rewarded for their efforts by sullenness, uncooperative attitudes, complaints that the work is too hard, and the ultimate disappearance of such domestic laborers, with consequent loss to growers and handlers of such transportation costs and expenses.

Section 5. That QUALITY ORANGE GROWERS, INC. vehemently protests the arbitrary, capricious, and unreasonable attitude taken by the United States Department of Labor as regards this situation and most urgently insists upon a change in said attitude.

Section 6. That a true copy of this resolution be sent to The President of the United States, the Secretary of Labor, the Secretary of Agriculture and Florida's Senators and Congressmen.

Section 7. That this resolution shall take effect immediately upon its passage and adoption this 23rd day of February, 1965.

A true copy:

WAB
A Jan
Ralph Brubaker
SECRETARY



Quality Orange Growers, Inc.

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Cetras*

P. O. BOX 979

PHONE 733-2121

Dunedin, Florida

March 1, 1965

The Honorable Sam Gibbons
House of Representatives
Washington, D.C.

Sir:

Enclosed is a Resolution adopted by our Board of Directors on February 23, 1965.

The Resolution indicates concern with the fruit harvesting problem which we consider will affect the economy of Florida in serious proportions in the months ahead.

We have read accounts of your efforts to help us in this matter and we sincerely appreciate your every effort.

Very truly yours,

QUALITY ORANGE GROWERS, INC.

Ralph Brincklow

S. R. Brincklow
Secretary

SRB:ntl
Enc.

Off-shore citrus laborer
problem

March 4, 1965

Mr. S. R. Brincklow
Secretary,
Quality Orange Growers, Inc.
P. O. Box 979,
Dunedin, Florida

Dear Mr. Brincklow:

I appreciated receiving a copy of your organization's resolution on the serious labor problem in the Florida citrus industry.

As you know, the Secretary of Labor, Mr. Wittz, has agreed to extend the deadline for all off-shore laborers from March 1 to March 7, even though it is obvious to anyone who really has studied the situation thoroughly that this is not sufficient to meet the needs of the industry.

Please be assured that I, along with Senator Holland, and others in our State's Congressional Delegation, are continuing to do all we can to see justice done in this matter. There is far too much at stake for us to do otherwise.

With kindest regards, I am

Sincerely yours,

Sam M. Gibbons,
United States Congressman

SMG:w