






Proposition

- The United States federal government should implement a plan to allow immigrants to come work legally in the United States to decrease the problems of shortage of agriculture workers, the deportations of undocumented citizens, and to help farm workers speak up against bad treatment.
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Problems

- 6 out of 10 of our farm works are immigrants (Farmworkers Justice, 2018)
- 50%-70% farm workers are undocumented (Business Insider, 2017)
- Immigrants are getting deported



Sansan.com, 2017

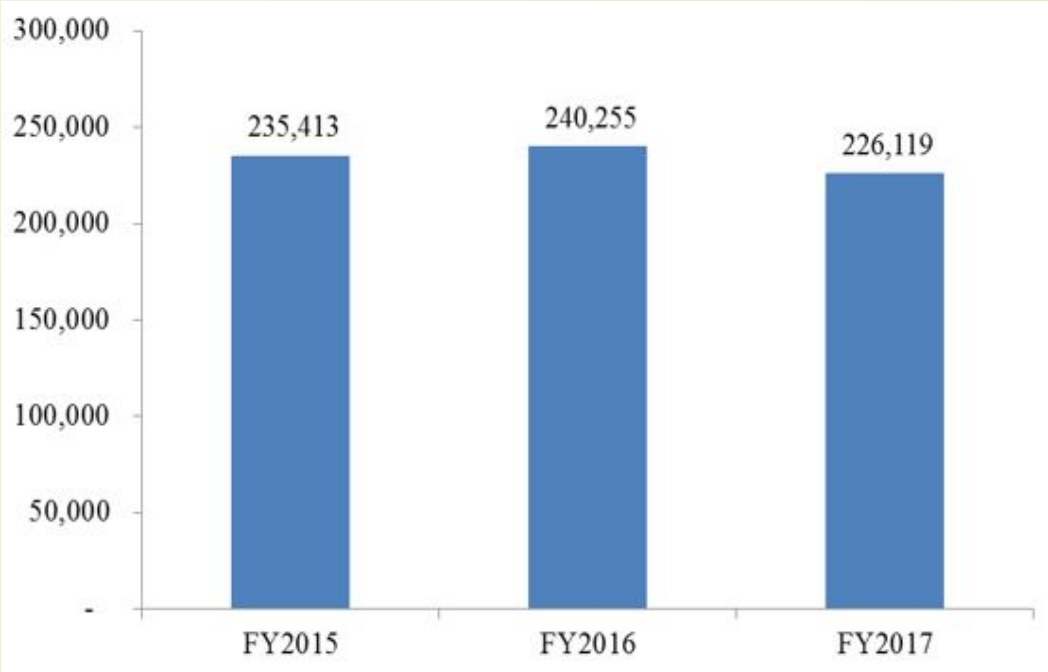
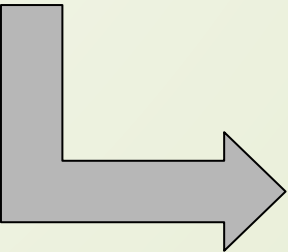


Image by: Ice.gov, 2017

FY2017 ICE Removals

Problems of farm workers


<https://vimeo.com/12569242>



(LA Times Graphic, 2014)



(Photo: Flickr)



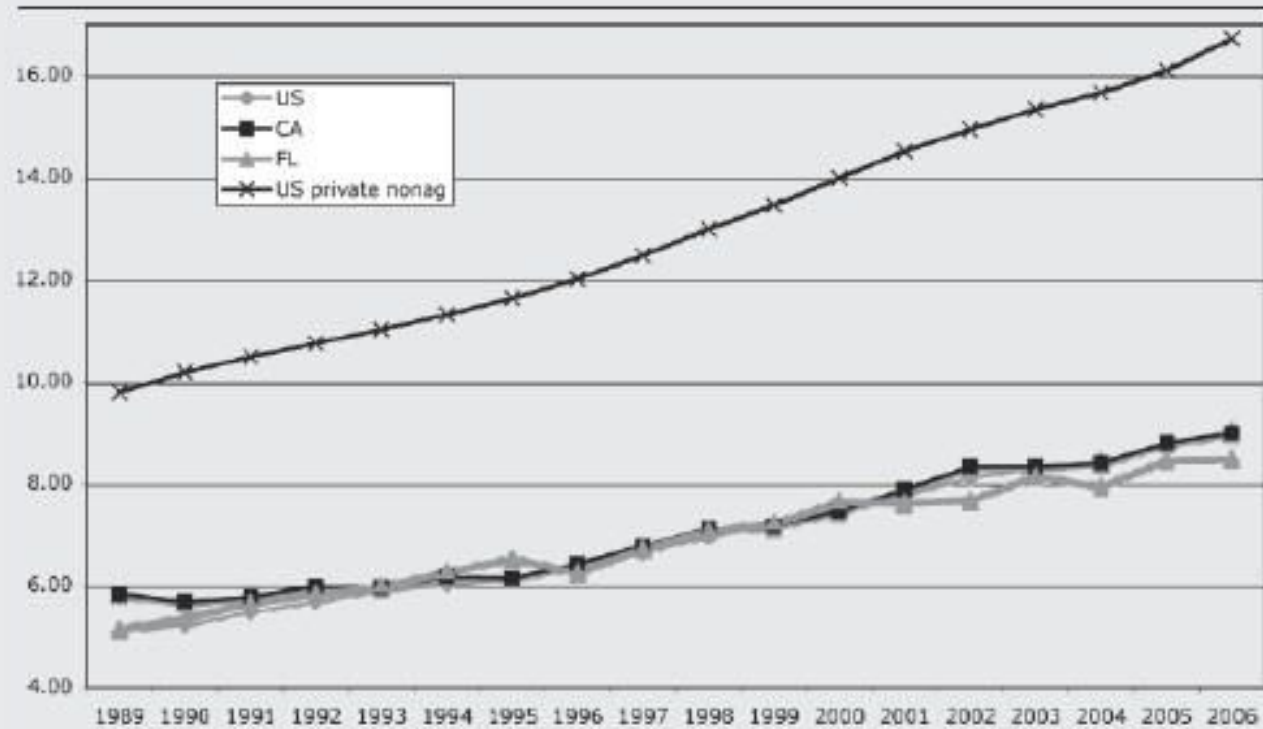
Problems - Pesticide

California (Farmwork Justice)

- 916 cases - 28% were of pesticide related
- A recent study of acute pesticide poisoning...

Problems - low wages

Figure 2. Average Hourly Earnings, Field Workers and US Private Nonfarm Workers, 1989-2006 (\$/hour)



Source: USDA, NASS and CEA, Table B-47

Crop workers rose \$5.40- \$7.50

Non-Ag rose \$10.34- \$14.26

(Farm Labor Shortage, 2007)



(image courtesy of FLOC)

How much is the industry worth?

35.1 Billion

Inherency (cause to problems)

- H-2A Visa (134,368 visas issued in 2016) (Economic Policy institute, 2017)
- 8 months
- \$2000 fee for employer



(The Pursuit of Green, 2013)

Plan


- Blue Cards



Quora.com



Solvency (proof that the plan work)

- The agricultural industry will benefit because they will have workers to harvest its fruits and vegetables.
 - The farm owners cannot risk losing workers because its very difficult for them to find workers to replace them.
 - Study Made in 2011 on the state of North Carolina (The Washington Post, 2017)
 - Employment Standards Act, 2000 (labour.gov.on.ca., 2015)
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Advantages

- Immigrant workers are the only available to do many unskilled jobs
- **\$180 Billion**, California farm workers contribute to the economy (PRI, 2017)
- Farm workers will have equal rights like any other employee in the U.S. by getting paid overtime after the 8th hour





Disadvantages



- People could overstay their visa
- Apprehension could become one of the biggest expenses for ICE
 - \$3.2 Billion (CNN Money, 2017)
- Fruits would be more expensive due to the cost of working overtime



Image Credit: Getty images



Image Credit: Planet Matters and More

Clincher

- Let's speak out for those who cannot speak, and defend the rights of the poor and needy because wanting a better life is not a crime.

