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UFCW LOCAL 7 APPLAUDS PASSAGE OF COLORADO LEGISLATION TO ALLOW AGRICULTURE WORKERS TO UNIONIZE

SB21-087, Signed by Gov. Polis Today, Allows Agriculture Workers to Join Unions, Earn Minimum Wage, and Be Eligible for Overtime Pay.

DENVER, CO – Kim Cordova, President of UFCW Local 7, which represents more than 25,000 workers in Colorado and Wyoming, issued the following statement:

“Local 7 members have seen the benefits of working together to make sure workers are fairly paid, treated, and protected by their employers. With the support of Union Brothers and Sisters, we can stand up to large companies who tend to put their interests over their employees.

“We’re proud to welcome Colorado agriculture workers into our Union family and we thank the legislators who worked on this legislation and Gov. Polis for signing it into law. For far too long, agricultural workers have been underrepresented and therefore unfairly treated. Union representation is especially important during this difficult year where the food chain has been under unprecedented stress, and Essential Food Workers have bared the burden of the pandemic, often with their lives.

“All workers deserve the representation of a Union to fight for their needs. From fighting for hazard pay, to fairly compensating the Essential Workers who risk their health every day, to ending the ‘Work While Sick’ culture promoted by employers, to providing proper PPE for COVID-19 and fighting for basic workforce protections, Local 7 has stood strong together. We look forward to fighting alongside our fellow food workers to continue in the fight for fair labor laws.”

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Local 7, the largest Union in Colorado is affiliated with United Food and Commercial Workers International Union which represents over 1.3 million workers in the United States and Canada, and is one of the largest private sector Unions in North America. UFCW members work in a wide range of industries, including retail food, food processing, agriculture, retail sales, and health care.

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