

RESOLUTION OF FARM WORKER MINISTRY NORTHWEST

Endorsing the Boycott of Windmill Farms Mushroom Products

WHEREAS, Farm Worker Ministry Northwest is a faith-based organization committed to connecting people of faith and conscience to the farm worker movement; and

WHEREAS, Farm Worker Ministry Northwest has been committed to standing and acting in solidarity with farm workers for 40 years,

WHEREAS, Farm workers are not afforded the protections of many federal and state employment laws such as the National Labor Relations Act; and

WHEREAS in 2022, farm workers at Ostrom Mushrooms in Sunnyside, Washington, sought to improve their wages and working conditions by voting to unionize with the United Farm Workers; and

WHEREAS, Ostrom illegally fired 170 local workers and brought in foreign H2A workers in 2021-22 and paid a \$3.4 million lawsuit settlement in 2023. The farm workers' efforts to unionize were stymied in 2023, when Ostrom was purchased by Windmill Farms, one of the largest mushroom producing companies in Canada. The workers were fired and offered jobs in which they earned less, have a 90-day probationary period, and were required to sign an arbitration agreement —giving up their rights to sue the company if it violates the law. Windmill Farms also reassigned some workers to new positions without proper training; and

WHEREAS, Windmill Farms has ignored the farm workers' requests to be recognized as a union and has responded with intimidation and retaliation, dismissing anyone who shows interest in the union; and

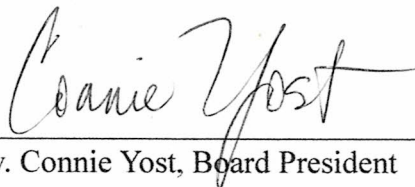
THEREFORE, be it resolved that Farm Worker Ministry Northwest Board of Directors, on February 11, 2025, endorses the United Farm Workers of America boycott of Windmill Farms mushrooms as a means of using our economic power to support the farm workers who are struggling for justice.

THEREFORE, be it further resolved that Farm Worker Ministry Northwest commits to inform our subscribers about the conditions of the farm workers at Windmill Farms and to urge them to publicize and support the boycott of Windmill Farms mushrooms and any mushroom sold with labels from Sunnyside, WA.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that Farm Worker Ministry Northwest will communicate its endorsement of the boycott to the officials of Windmill Farms.

2/11/25

Date



Rev. Connie Yost, Board President