

HOUSE COMMITTEE ON HUMAN SERVICES AND HOUSING

June 10, 2013, 3:00 p.m.

Field Trip

**PCUN (Pineros y Campesinos Unidos del Noroeste)-Oregon's Farmworker Union
Migrant Housing Van Tour, Woodburn**

MEMBERS PRESENT: Chair Carolyn Tomei, Vice-Chair Andy Olson, Vice-Chair David Gomberg, Rep. Joe Gallegos, Rep. Alissa Keny-Guyer; Rep. Gail Whitsett.

STAFF PRESENT: Regina Wilson, Debbie Nealy, Committee Services; Brian Little, Roberto Gutierrez, staff for Rep. Keny-Guyer; Debbie Runciman, Jake Foster, staff for Chair Tomei.

SUMMARY: Committee members and staff met at PCUN (Pineros y Campesinos Unidos del Noroeste), Oregon's Farmworker Union, in Woodburn at 3:00 p.m. in their conference room. Ramon Ramirez, President of PCUN, gave a brief background of PCUN. Members and staff were provided a tour of PCUN buildings, which were energy efficient and qualified under "green" building standards.

Members and staff then boarded a van and Ramon Ramirez began the tour by driving by a migrant housing section inside the city of Woodburn, indicating there were a total of 85 houses within the city. He indicated there were 30,000 farmworkers in Willamette Valley, and 27,000 units were needed to meet the demand.

The tour proceeded out Highway 213 Newburg/Woodburn Highway, traveling by several farmworker labor camps. The last location was through the farmworker's newest housing development located on 5th Street in Woodburn. Roberto Jimenez, Executive Director of Farmworker Housing Development Corporation, provided an overview of housing developments and community centers, followed by a history of funding and legislation. He reported there were a total of 150,000 farmworkers in Oregon, reiterating 30,000 were located in the Willamette Valley. The housing development was on a 14-acre site and housed 130 families, including 500 children. There were four phases to the development. Phase II was built in 1998, under a community-based Farmworkers Tax Credit Housing program.

Members were then returned to PCUN at approximately 6:00 p.m. for adjournment.