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Sen. Carpenter Reflects on First Meeting in 2025 of the Governor’s Council on Migrant Labor

(MADISON)—Today, Senator Tim Carpenter (D-Milwaukee) issued the following statement following his recent appointment on the Governor’s Council on Migrant Labor (MLC). The first meeting of the MLC in 2025 was on January 29th. Senator Carpenter previously served on the MLC during the 2003-2004 session of the legislature.

“I’m excited to be serving on the Governor’s Council on Migrant Labor once again. The issues that this workgroup tackles provide important protections to not just migrant laborers in Wisconsin, but all workers in our great state. For years we have had historically low unemployment, at the same time businesses are growing in Wisconsin, and our state is facing significant challenges finding enough workers to fill open positions. Migrant laborers have become essential to the success of our state, especially in the manufacturing, agriculture, construction, and hospitality industries.

“I look forward to working closely with Migrant Labor Council Chairperson José Martinez to ensure Wisconsin workers are being treated fairly in safe working conditions. Chairperson Martinez is also the President and CEO of UMOS, an organization from Milwaukee that provides programs and services to assist people with employment, education, health and housing opportunities across six states.

“Careless actions from the Trump Administration are already threatening to eliminate important guarantees and protections for workers across all industries from healthcare to unemployment insurance to worksite protections.

“Just one of the important issues that we discussed was the jeopardization of heat related illness protections in Wisconsin. On President Trump’s first day in office, he issued an executive order that froze pending regulations which has put heat-related illness protections on the chopping block across the country. The Wisconsin Department of Workforce Development is now acting quickly to reinstate state-level rules to protect Wisconsinites working in hot conditions. As we continue to see average temperatures climb year-to-year, it is essential that we keep Wisconsin workers safe from heat-related illness.”

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