

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

March 14, 2013

The President
The White House
c/o Julie Chaves Rodriguez, Associate Director
Latino Affairs and Immigration
Office of Public Engagement
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. President:

We write to express our support to posthumously award the Presidential Medal of Freedom to Fred Ross, Sr.

Mr. Ross was a dedicated community organizer whose life's calling was to train oppressed workers to mobilize and stand up for their rights. He began his work managing a federal migratory labor camp near Bakersfield, California, where he advocated for migrant farm workers living in deplorable conditions. Mr. Ross spent his days visiting cabins and tents within the camp encouraging residents to organize. For nearly fifty years, Mr. Ross educated and inspired people of all races, ethnicities, and backgrounds to assert their basic human and civil rights.

Fred Ross, Sr., was responsible for training thousands of organizers to build grass roots campaigns in order to participate in the democratic process. His efforts have left an indelible mark on American history for which he should be honored. We believe Mr. Ross is worthy of this distinguished recognition, and hope that you will give him every appropriate consideration to be posthumously awarded the Presidential Medal of Freedom. Thank you for your kind attention to this request.

Sincerely,



Jack Reed
United States Senator



Sheldon Whitehouse
United States Senator