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Sent: Thursday, October 27, 2011 10:17 AM
To: McKinney, Nikki - OCIA
Cc: Kingsley, Sara - OCIA
Subject: DOL Notification: Comment Period for NPRM addressing Child Labor in Agriculture is Extended



Congressional Staff:

Comment period for Department of Labor Notice of Proposed Rulemaking addressing child labor extended to **December 1, 2011.**

On September 2, 2011, the Department of Labor published a Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (NPRM) in the Federal Register (see 76 FR 54836) that includes proposals to amend its existing regulations addressing child labor in both agricultural and nonagricultural employment under the Fair Labor Standards Act and to incorporate into the regulations the enforcement policies that the Department's Wage and Hour Division follows when determining whether to assess a civil money penalty for child labor violations and the amount of that penalty. The public was requested to submit comments on the proposal by November 1, 2011.

Although many comments have been submitted on the proposal, the Department has also received requests to extend the period for filing public comments from members of Congress and various agricultural business organizations, including, but not limited to: American Sheep Industry Association; National Cattlemen's Beef Association; National Pork Producers Council; National Turkey Federation; California Farm Bureau Federation; National Association of State Departments of Agriculture; National Association of Agricultural Employers; National FFA Organization; and the American Farm Bureau Federation.

Because of the interest that has been expressed in this matter and the Department's desire to obtain as much information about its proposals as possible, the Department will announce in the Federal Register on October 31, 2011, that it has extended the period for submitting public comment on the NPRM through December 1, 2011. Those interested in submitting comments should go to the Federal eRulemaking Portal at <http://www.regulations.gov>. The Department does not believe that extending the comment period will delay publication of the important final rule.

If you have any additional questions or concerns, you can reach me at mckinney.julia.n@dol.gov or 202-693-4600.

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