EMPLOYEE RIGHTS
UNDER THE H-2A PROGRAM

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF LABOR **WAGE AND HOUR DIVISION**

The Immigration and Nationality Act (INA) allows for the employment of temporary, non-immigrant workers in agriculture (H-2A WORKERS) only if the employment of U.S. workers would not be adversely impacted. To ensure that U.S. workers are not adversely impacted, ***H-2A WORKERS*** **and** ***OTHER WORKERS employed on an H-2A work contract or by an H-2A employer in the same agricultural work as the H-2A workers*** have the following rights:

DISCLOSURE

- To receive accurate, **WRITTEN INFORMATION** about the wages, hours, working conditions, and benefits of the employment being offered
- To receive this information prior to getting a visa and no later than on the first day of work
- To receive this information in a language understood by the worker

WAGES

- To be **PAID** at least twice per month at the rate stated in the work contract
- To be informed, in writing, of all **DEDUCTIONS** (not otherwise required by law) that will be made from the worker's paycheck
- To receive an itemized, written **STATEMENT OF EARNINGS** (pay stub) for each pay period
- To be guaranteed employment for at least **THREE-FOURTHS** (75%) of the total hours promised in the work contract

TRANSPORTATION

- To be provided or, upon completion of 50 percent of the work contract period, reimbursed for reasonable costs incurred to the place of employment for transportation and subsistence (lodging incurred on the employer's behalf and meals)
- Upon completion of the work contract, to be provided or paid for return transportation and subsistence
- For workers living in employer-provided housing, to be provided **TRANSPORTATION**, at no cost to the worker, between the housing and the worksite
- All employer-provided transportation must meet applicable safety standards, be properly insured, and be operated by licensed drivers

HOUSING

- For any worker who is not reasonably able to return to his/her residence within the same day, to be provided **HOUSING AT NO COST**
- Employer-provided housing must meet applicable safety standards
- Workers who live in employer-provided housing must be offered three meals per day at no more than a DOL-specified cost, or provided free and convenient cooking and kitchen facilities

ADDITIONAL PROVISIONS

- To be provided state **WORKERS' COMPENSATION** insurance or its equivalent
- To be provided, at no cost, all **TOOLS**, supplies, and equipment required to perform the assigned duties
- **TO BE FREE FROM DISCRIMINATION** or discharge for filing a complaint, testifying, or exercising your rights in any way or helping others to do so
- Employers **MUST** comply with all other applicable laws (including the prohibition against holding workers' passports or other immigration documents)
- Employers and their agents, including foreign recruiters, or anyone working on behalf of the employer, **MUST NOT** receive payment from any worker for any costs related to obtaining the H-2A certification (such as application and recruitment fees)
- Employers **MUST** display this poster where employees can readily see it
- Employers **MUST NOT** lay off or displace similarly employed U.S. workers within 60 days of the date of need for H-2A workers
- Employers **MUST** hire any eligible U.S. worker who applies during the first 50 percent of the approved work contract period

Workers who believe their rights under the program have been violated may file confidential complaints.

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