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YOUTH EMPLOYMENT; FARMING

House Bill 5732

Sponsor: Rep. Glenn Oxender

Committee: Agriculture and Forestry

Complete to 9-10-96

A SUMMARY OF HOUSE BILL 5732 AS INTRODUCED 3-28-96

The bill would amend the Youth Employment Standards Act to expand the exception to the restrictions on the number of hours minors are generally allowed to work.

Currently, the act places restrictions on the number of hours that a minor 16 years of age or older may work. Specifically, the act prohibits minors from working for more than six days in a week, a period longer than a weekly average of 8 hours per day or 48 hours in a week, 10 hours in one day, or, if a student, a combined school and work week of 48 hours during the period school is in session. The act also limits which hours in the day a minor may work to between 6 a.m. and 10:30 p.m., or until 11:30 p.m. during school vacation periods or when the minor is not regularly enrolled in school.

The act also provides an exception for minors involved in agricultural processing allowing them to work longer hours, provided certain conditions are met. Specifically, minors can work longer hours than outlined above when: school is not in session, the minor is employed for no more than 11 hours in one day, nor more than 62 hours in one week for not more than four weeks, the minor does not work between the hours of 2 a.m. and 5:30 a.m., and the agricultural processing employer obtains and keeps a written acknowledgment from the minor's parent or guardian consenting to the employment.

The bill would expand this exception to allow for minors involved in "farming operations involved in the production of seed" to work these extended hours provided the same conditions are met. Farming operations involved in the production of seed would be defined as farming activities and research involved in the production of seed, including plant detasseling, hand-pollination, roguing, or hoeing, and any other similar farming activity required for seed production.

Analyst: W. Flory

■ This analysis was prepared by nonpartisan House staff for use by House members in their deliberations, and does not constitute an official statement of legislative intent.