



DOL Announces Re-proposal of Child Labor Parental Exemption

Grand Rapids, Michigan

Bridgewater Place
333 Bridge Street, N.W.
P.O. Box 352
Grand Rapids, MI 49501
Phone: 616/336-6000
Fax: 616/336-7000

Lansing, Michigan

The Victor Center
201 N. Washington Square
Suite 810
Lansing, MI 48933
Phone: 517/482-6237
Fax: 517/482-6937

Kalamazoo, Michigan

251 North Rose Street
4th Floor
Kalamazoo, MI 49007
Phone: 269/382-2300
Fax: 269/382-2382

Grand Haven, Michigan

The Chemical Bank Building
1600 South Beacon
Suite 240
Grand Haven, MI 49417
Phone: 616/846-7100
Fax: 616/846-7101

Metro Detroit, Michigan

39500 High Pointe Boulevard
Suite 350
Novi, MI 48375
Phone: 248/567-7400
Fax: 248/567-7440

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by Kimberly A. Clarke

Department of Labor ("DOL") announced that it will re-propose the "parental exemption" portion of its September 2011 proposed agricultural child labor regulations. Many Congressmen and agricultural industry representatives submitted comments advocating reconsideration of proposed rules which substantially restricted the parental exemption. DOL recognized the "unique attributes of farm families and rural communities" and intends to publish the re-proposed parental exemption for public comment in early summer. Until the re-proposed parental exemption is published, comments are reviewed and rule is finalized, the current parental exemption remains in effect and will apply to situations in which the parent or person standing in the place of a parent is a part owner of the farm, a partner in a partnership or an officer of a corporation that owns the farm, if the ownership interest in the partnership or corporation is substantial. DOL's announcement may be found at <http://www.dol.gov/opa/media/press/whd/WHD20120203.htm>.