

## ■ OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH AND SAFETY ACT

**TERMS:** In general, farm operators and most other employers in New Mexico are required to protect their workers against on-the-job hazards that could cause death or serious injury, and to comply with any state safety and health regulations that apply to their operations.

More specifically, the state environmental improvement board has adopted rules requiring roll-over protections on tractors and safety measures on other agricultural equipment. These regulations are identical to those established by the U.S. Occupational Safety and Health Administration (*see entry, U.S. — Health & Safety — Workplace Safety*) and apply only to farm operations that employ more than 10 workers in a given year or that maintain a temporary labor camp.

**ENFORCEMENT:** *Compliance Section, Occupational Health and Safety Bureau, New Mexico Environment Department, Santa Fe, New Mexico 87502 (505-476-8711; toll-free 877-610-6742).* A worker or worker representative may file a written complaint with the Department concerning a particular workplace hazard or an alleged violation of the Act or its regulations.

**SPECIAL NOTE:** An employer may not fire, discipline or discriminate in any way against a worker because the worker has filed a complaint, participated in a proceeding, or exercised any other right afforded by these provisions.