■ MOTOR VEHICLE LAWS *(MOTOR CARRIERS OF MIGRATORY FARM WORKERS)*

TERMS:

Transportation Standards — Anyone who, for pay or profit, transports 5 or more migrant farmworkers in North Carolina at any one time to or from the workplace, in any motor vehicle other than a passenger car or station wagon, must comply with state safety standards, briefly summarized here:

Vehicles — Vehicles used to transport workers must meet minimum specifications on trailer connection devices, lighting equipment, exhaust systems, rear-view mirrors, brakes, steering mechanisms, tires, windshield wipers, and warning devices.

Operating Rules — Anyone who drives a vehicle transporting 5 or more migrant farmworkers must follow prescribed rules governing operation of the vehicle, the loading of passengers and cargo, and maximum driving hours. Individuals who operate vehicles covered by these provisions must meet minimum age and skill requirements, be in acceptable physical condition, and be properly licensed, all in accordance with specific regulatory standards.

Passenger Safety — Vehicles must be properly outfitted with fire extinguishers and first-aid equipment, have adequate seating accommodations, and comply with other passenger safety standards. The law also requires periodic meal and rest stops and requires operators to observe limits on the passenger capacity of their vehicles.

Exemptions — These provisions *do not apply* to (1) a migrant farmworker transporting only the worker and the worker's immediate family, (2) the transportation of migratory farmworkers in a vehicle owned by a farmer to and from employment in the farmer's own operation, or (3) any public transportation service certified or licensed by the state or federal government.

ENFORCEMENT: These provisions are enforced by state and local law enforcement agencies, which are authorized to stop any motor vehicle on the public streets and highways for the purpose of assuring compliance.