

■ **OREGON SAFE EMPLOYMENT ACT (*AGRICULTURAL LABOR HOUSING*)**

TERMS: Under the Safe Employment Act, Oregon has adopted regulations to assure the health and safety of occupants of housing which is rented, leased or provided free of charge to farmworkers by an agricultural employer, farm labor contractor, or a housing operator in connection with the workers' farm employment. The following is a summary of key provisions.

Registration — All labor housing facilities must be registered with the state at least 45 days before opening each year.

Minimum Standards — Among many other factors considered in determining if a housing facility meets the standards specified in the state regulations are these:

- The size and condition of the housing site
- The availability of electric service
- The water supply
- Toilet, bathing and laundry facilities
- The sewage disposal system and plumbing
- Trash collection equipment and procedures
- The size and condition of living areas
- Heating equipment
- Sleeping accommodations
- Lighting and ventilation
- Fire protection devices and emergency escape facilities
- Cooking and eating facilities
- First aid equipment and emergency planning procedures

Closure and Alternative Housing — In the event a governmental authority declares a housing facility uninhabitable and orders it vacated, the operator of the facility must provide the occupants with replacement lodging for up to 7 consecutive days. The replacement housing must be approved in advance by Oregon OSHA and must be available at no charge to the displaced occupants.

ENFORCEMENT: *Oregon Occupational Safety and Health Division, Oregon Department of Consumer and Business Services, Salem, Oregon 97309 (503-378-3272; toll-free 800-922-2689).*

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. A worker who has been subjected to retaliation may file a complaint with the *Oregon Bureau of Labor and Industries, Portland, Oregon 97232 (971-673-0844)* at any time within 90 days after learning of the alleged violation.