K3 7lr2909 CF SB 1016

By: Delegates Valderrama, Angel, Atterbeary, Aumann, Chang, Fennell, Hettleman, Hill, Kelly, Lam, Lewis, Lierman, Morales, Pena-Melnyk, Proctor, Sanchez, and Valentino-Smith

Introduced and read first time: February 10, 2017

Assigned to: Economic Matters

A BILL ENTITLED

1 AN ACT concerning

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Labor and Employment – Regulation of Farm Labor Contractors and Foreign Labor Contractors

FOR the purpose of establishing licensing and regulatory requirements for foreign labor contractors; providing that an agreement by a foreign worker to waive certain rights is void as contrary to public policy; authorizing the Commissioner of Labor and Industry to enter certain housing at certain times for a certain purpose; requiring the Commissioner to keep a certain public registry of all licensed foreign labor contractors beginning on a certain date; authorizing the Attorney General, under certain circumstances, to investigate certain allegations and proceed in a court to enforce certain provisions of law; requiring an individual to be licensed by the Commissioner before the individual may perform a foreign labor contracting service in the State for consideration; altering the contents of a certain application; providing that a certain license authorizes the licensee to perform foreign labor contracting services for consideration; requiring a licensee to take certain actions while performing a foreign labor contracting service in the State; altering the grounds on which the Commissioner is authorized to deny a certain license or suspend or revoke a certain license; authorizing the Commissioner to suspend a license summarily under certain circumstances; authorizing the Commissioner to pass an order under certain circumstances to require a person immediately to cease performing a foreign labor contracting service; requiring the Commissioner to require, except under certain circumstances, a foreign labor contractor to post a surety bond or other security under certain circumstances; authorizing the Commissioner to require security in a certain amount; requiring each foreign labor contractor to provide each foreign worker with a certain contract at a certain time and in a certain language; prohibiting changes to a certain contract from being made except under certain circumstances; requiring a foreign labor contractor who provides certain housing to ensure that certain conditions of occupancy are posted conspicuously while the foreign worker stays in the housing; requiring the

EXPLANATION: CAPITALS INDICATE MATTER ADDED TO EXISTING LAW.

[Brackets] indicate matter deleted from existing law.



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Commissioner to make available to a foreign labor contractor a certain contract; requiring a foreign labor contractor to file with the Commissioner certain contracts; prohibiting a foreign labor contractor or an employer that uses a foreign labor contractor from assessing to a foreign worker certain costs, fees, and expenses; requiring a foreign labor contractor to immediately repay a foreign worker and provide the foreign worker with certain employment under certain circumstances; requiring certain employers to file with the Commissioner certain information; providing that a certain employer is jointly and severally liable for a violation of certain provisions of this Act committed by a foreign labor contractor; requiring the Commissioner to require by regulation a foreign labor contractor to keep certain records; requiring a foreign labor contractor to keep certain records even if the foreign labor contractor is not responsible for paying a foreign worker; requiring that certain information be included on a certain pay stub; requiring each foreign labor contractor to ensure that certain vehicles meet certain standards and that certain drivers are authorized under certain provisions of law to drive certain vehicles; requiring that each foreign labor contractor ensure that owners of certain vehicles have certain liability policies; prohibiting a person from performing a foreign labor contracting service in the State for consideration except under certain circumstances; prohibiting a foreign labor contractor from discriminating against a foreign worker to the same extent an employer is prohibited from discriminating under certain provisions of law; prohibiting a person from making certain representations to the public except under certain circumstances; prohibiting a person from using a foreign labor contractor to perform a foreign labor contracting service except under certain circumstances; providing that a person is not liable for hiring a certain person under certain circumstances; altering certain penalties; requiring the Commissioner to consider certain factors before assessing a certain penalty against a foreign labor contractor; establishing certain penalties for a willful violation of certain provisions of law by a foreign labor contractor; prohibiting a foreign labor contractor from taking adverse action against a foreign worker for a certain reason; authorizing a foreign worker, under certain circumstances, to bring an action in a certain court to recover certain damages; making conforming changes; defining certain terms; altering a certain defined term; providing for the construction of this Act; and generally relating to regulation of farm labor contractors and foreign labor contractors.

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BY repealing and reenacting, with amendments,
Article – Labor and Employment
Section 7–101, 7–103, 7–202, 7–203, 7–205, 7–301, 7-
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Section 7–101, 7–103, 7–202, 7–203, 7–205, 7–301, 7–302, 7–305, 7–307, 7–308, 7–310, 7–311; 7–403 and 7–404 to be under the amended subtitle "Subtitle 4. Responsibilities of Farm Labor and Foreign Labor Contractors"; and 7–501, 7–502, 7–503, 7–506, and 7–507 to be under the amended title "Title 7. Farm Labor and Foreign Labor Contractors"

Annotated Code of Maryland

(2016 Replacement Volume)

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44 BY adding to
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45 Article – Labor and Employment

1 2 3	Section 7–312.1, 7–401.1, 7–401.2, 7–401.3, and 7–508 Annotated Code of Maryland (2016 Replacement Volume)								
$\frac{4}{5}$	SECTION 1. BE IT ENACTED BY THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF MARYLAND, That the Laws of Maryland read as follows:								
6	Article – Labor and Employment								
7	Title 7. Farm Labor AND FOREIGN LABOR Contractors.								
8	7–101.								
9	(a) In this title the following words have the meanings indicated.								
10	(b) "Agricultural operation" means:								
11		(1)	a per	rson:					
12			(i)	who performs a farm labor contracting service; and					
13			(ii)	who:					
14				1. owns or operates a farm;					
15 16	processing e	establi	ishmen	2. owns or operates a cannery, packing shed, or other t; or					
17				3. produces or conditions seed; or					
18		(2)	a not	z-for-profit or cooperative association that:					
19			(i)	performs a farm labor contracting service;					
20			(ii)	consists of owners or operators of farms; and					
21			(iii)	is incorporated or qualified under the laws of the State.					
22	(c)	"Agr	icultur	al work" means employment:					
23 24 25 26	or operation of the farm or its tools or other equipment, including cultivation of soil, raising of bees, or the growing, harvesting, or producing of an agricultural or horticultural								

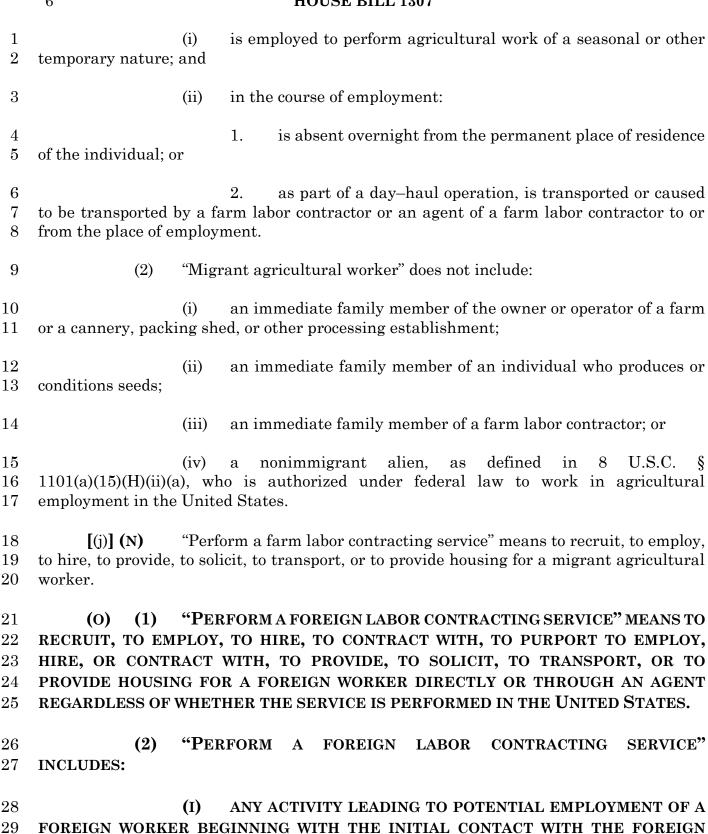
- 1 (2) by the owner or operator of a farm, to dry, to freeze, to grade, to pack, 2 to package, to plant, to process, or otherwise to handle an agricultural or horticultural 3 commodity in its unmanufactured state before delivery for storage.

 4 (d) "Commissioner" means the Commissioner of Labor and Industry.
- (E) "EMPLOYMENT" INCLUDES CULTURAL EXCHANGE, TRAINING, OR BUSINESS ACTIVITIES FOR WHICH A FOREIGN WORKER RECEIVES ANY FORM OF COMPENSATION, INCLUDING A STIPEND, FROM ANY SOURCE, WHETHER PAID IN THE UNITED STATES OR IN THE FOREIGN WORKER'S COUNTRY OF ORIGIN.
- 9 **[(e)] (F)** (1) "Farm" means an area that is used primarily to raise an 10 agricultural or horticultural commodity.
- 11 (2) "Farm" includes:
- 12 (i) a dairy farm;
- 13 (ii) a fruit farm;
- 14 (iii) a furbearing animal farm;
- 15 (iv) a greenhouse;
- (v) a nursery;
- 17 (vi) an orchard;
- (vii) a poultry farm;
- (viii) a ranch;

- 20 (ix) a stock farm; and
- 21 (x) a truck farm.
- [(f)] (G) "Farm labor contractor" means a person, other than an agricultural operation or an employee of an agricultural operation, who performs a farm labor contracting service for consideration.
- 25 (H) (1) "FOREIGN LABOR CONTRACTOR" MEANS A PERSON WHO 26 PERFORMS A FOREIGN LABOR CONTRACTING SERVICE.
 - (2) "FOREIGN LABOR CONTRACTOR" INCLUDES:

- 1 A PERSON WORKING ON BEHALF OF AN EMPLOYER LOCATED (I)2 IN THE STATE REGARDLESS OF WHETHER THE FOREIGN WORKER IN RELATION TO 3 WHOM THE FOREIGN LABOR CONTRACTING SERVICE IS PERFORMED IS LOCATED IN THE UNITED STATES; 4 5 (II)PERSON THAT PERFORMS A FOREIGN Α LABOR 6 CONTRACTING SERVICE WHOLLY OUTSIDE THE UNITED STATES; 7 (III) A SPONSOR IN THE J-1 VISA PROGRAM; AND 8 (IV) AN AGENT OF A SPONSOR IN THE J-1 VISA PROGRAM. **(I)** "FOREIGN WORKER" MEANS AN INDIVIDUAL WHO: 9 **(1)** 10 **(I)** IS SEEKING EMPLOYMENT; 11 (II)IS NOT A U.S. CITIZEN OR A PERMANENT RESIDENT; AND 12 (III) IS AUTHORIZED BY THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT TO WORK IN THE UNITED STATES UNDER A NONIMMIGRANT VISA CLASSIFICATION OR STATUS: 13 14 1. DESCRIBED IN § 101(A)(15) OR § 214(E) OF THE FEDERAL IMMIGRATION AND NATIONALITY ACT; OR 15 16 2. THAT IS OTHERWISE ESTABLISHED UNDER FEDERAL 17 IMMIGRATION LAWS. 18 **(2)** "FOREIGN WORKER" DOES NOT INCLUDE AN INDIVIDUAL WHO RECEIVED A GREEN CARD ON ADMISSION TO THE UNITED STATES. 19 20 "License" means a license issued by the Commissioner to perform farm labor contracting services OR FOREIGN LABOR CONTRACTING SERVICES for 2122consideration. 23[(h)] **(K)** "Licensed farm labor contractor" means an individual who is licensed by the Commissioner to perform farm labor contracting services for consideration. 24"LICENSED FOREIGN LABOR CONTRACTOR" MEANS AN INDIVIDUAL 25 WHO IS LICENSED BY THE COMMISSIONER TO PERFORM FOREIGN LABOR 26
- [(i)] (M) (1) "Migrant agricultural worker" means, except as provided in paragraph (2) of this subsection, an individual who:

CONTRACTING SERVICES.

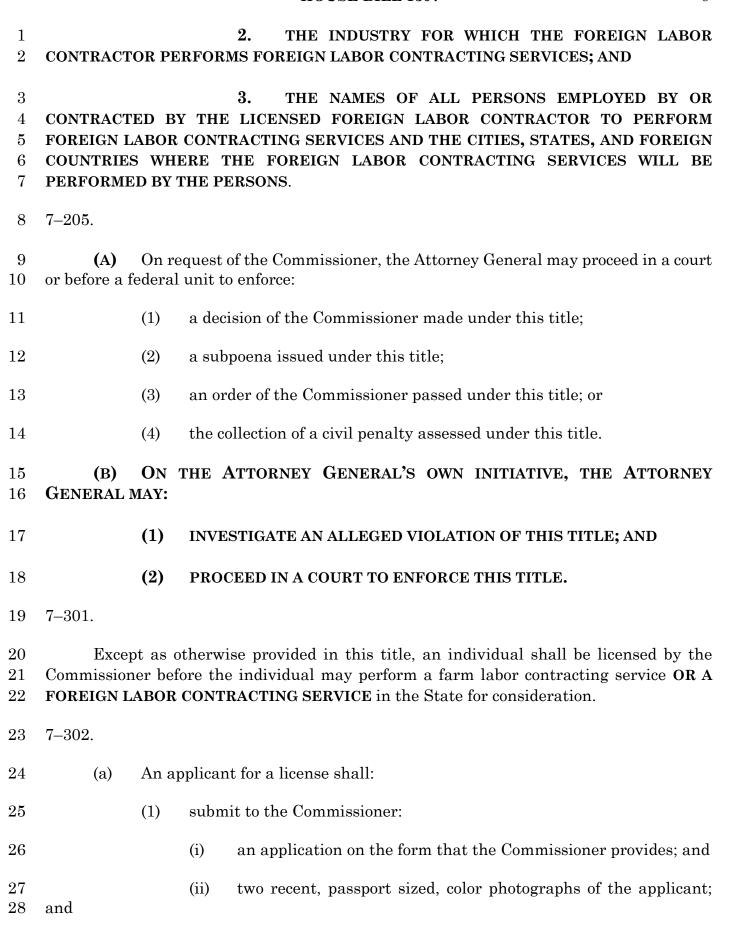


(II) 31 **COORDINATING** OR **PROVIDING TRANSPORTATION** SPECIFICALLY FOR THE PURPOSE OF AIDING A FOREIGN WORKER TO OBTAIN 3233 **EMPLOYMENT**;

WORKER OUTSIDE THE UNITED STATES:

$\frac{1}{2}$	FOREIGN W	VORKI	(III) ER FOR		ERVIEWING, TESTING, EVALUATING, AND SCREENING A QUALIFICATIONS;
3 4	AND		(IV)	SET	TING UP A VISA APPOINTMENT WITH THE CONSULATE;
5 6	CONSIDERA	ATION	(V) FOR F		FERRING THE FOREIGN WORKER TO AN EMPLOYER FOR
7	7–103.				
8 9 10	•	right o	of the m	igran	rant agricultural worker OR A FOREIGN WORKER to waive a gricultural worker OR FOREIGN WORKER under this title blicy.
1	7–202.				
2	(a)	The	Commi	ssion	er shall administer and enforce this title.
13	(b)	To a	dminist	er or	enforce this title, the Commissioner may:
4		(1)	condu	ıct ne	ecessary investigations; and
5		(2)	enter	, at re	easonable times, without delay:
16			(i)	a m	igratory labor camp;
17			(ii)	a pla	ace of employment; or
18			(iii)	hous	sing that:
19 20	worker; OR			1.	a farm labor contractor provides to a migrant agricultural
$\frac{21}{22}$	FOREIGN W	ORKI	ER.	2.	A FOREIGN LABOR CONTRACTOR PROVIDES TO A
23 24	(c) and depose			ter or	enforce this title, the Commissioner may administer oaths
25 26 27	(d) subpoena fo papers, and		attenda		ster or enforce this title, the Commissioner may issue a of a witness to testify or the production of books, documents,

1 2 3 4	or fails to test complaint file resides or is	If a person fails to comply with a subpoena issued under this subsection tify on any matter on which the person lawfully may be interrogated, on a ed by the Commissioner, the circuit court for the county where the person then present may pass an order directing compliance with the subpoena or
5	compelling te	stimony.
6	7–203.	
7	(a)	In addition to any powers set forth elsewhere, the Commissioner:
8		(1) may accept from any source a grant to carry out this title; and
9	,	(2) to administer or enforce this title, may certify to official acts.
10	(b)	In addition to any duties set forth elsewhere, the Commissioner shall keep:
11		(1) a central public registry of all licensed farm labor contractors; AND
12 13		(2) BEGINNING JULY 1, 2018, A CENTRAL PUBLIC REGISTRY OF ALL DREIGN LABOR CONTRACTORS THAT:
14		(I) IS AVAILABLE ONLINE IN A USER-FRIENDLY FORMAT;
15		(II) IS AVAILABLE, AT A MINIMUM, IN ENGLISH AND SPANISH;
16 17 18		(III) IS UPDATED WITHIN 5 BUSINESS DAYS AFTER A MATERIAL MADE IN THE INFORMATION PREVIOUSLY PROVIDED BY A LICENSED BOR CONTRACTOR; AND
19		(IV) INCLUDES THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION:
20 21	LABOR CONT	1. FOR EACH EMPLOYER FOR WHOM THE FOREIGN TRACTOR PERFORMS FOREIGN LABOR CONTRACTING SERVICES:
22 23	EMPLOYER;	A. THE NAME AND CONTACT INFORMATION OF THE AND
24 25 26 27 28	HIRED BY T	B. THE NUMBER, OCCUPATIONS, WAGES, VISATIONS, AND EMPLOYMENT DATES OF FOREIGN WORKERS WHO WERE HE EMPLOYER AND WITH RESPECT TO WHOM THE FOREIGN LABOR R PERFORMED A FOREIGN LABOR CONTRACTING SERVICE FOR THE



1		(2) pay to the Commissioner an application fee of \$25.
2	(b)	The application shall state:
3		(1) the permanent place of residence of the applicant;
4		(2) each address where the applicant expects to reside while in the State;
5 6	CONTRACT	(3) each farm labor contracting service OR FOREIGN LABOR ING SERVICE that the applicant will perform for consideration;
7 8 9 10		(4) IF THE APPLICANT WILL BE PERFORMING A FARM LABOR ING SERVICE, the name and address of each agricultural operation for whom nt will perform [a] THE farm labor contracting service, in the State, for on;
11 12	custodian of	(5) the name and permanent address of each person who will act as frecords of wages that are required under this title to be kept;
13 14 15		(6) IF THE APPLICANT WILL BE PERFORMING A FARM LABOR ING SERVICE, the number of migrant agricultural workers that the applicant se in the State to perform a farm labor contracting service for consideration;
16 17 18 19		(7) IF THE APPLICANT WILL BE PERFORMING A FOREIGN LABOR ING SERVICE, THE NUMBER OF FOREIGN WORKERS WITH RESPECT TO EAPPLICANT EXPECTS TO PERFORM A FOREIGN LABOR CONTRACTING
20 21	provided to	[(7)] (8) if the applicant will provide housing or cause housing to be a migrant agricultural worker OR A FOREIGN WORKER:
22		(i) the name of each person who will provide the housing; and
23		(ii) each address where the housing will be provided;
24 25 26	Seasonal Agapplicant;	[(8)] (9) if registration is required under the federal Migrant and gricultural Worker Protection Act, the registration identification number of the
27 28	Commission	[(9)] (10) the name of a resident agent who is acceptable to the ner;
29 30 31	agent when	[(10)] (11) the consent of the applicant to service of process on the resident ever the applicant leaves the State or otherwise is unavailable to accept service;

- 1 (12) IF THE APPLICANT WILL BE PERFORMING A FOREIGN LABOR 2 CONTRACTING SERVICE:
- 3 (I) WHETHER THE APPLICANT HAS VIOLATED ANY 4 EMPLOYMENT, LABOR, OR IMMIGRATION LAWS;
- 5 (II) THE AMOUNT OF TIME THE APPLICANT HAS BEEN 6 PERFORMING FOREIGN LABOR CONTRACTING SERVICES;
- 7 (III) THE APPLICANT'S REVENUE AND OPERATING BUDGET;
- 8 (IV) THE MANNER IN WHICH THE FOREIGN LABOR CONTRACTING 9 SERVICE WILL BE PERFORMED;
- 10 (V) WHETHER THE APPLICANT IS OR HAS BEEN REGISTERED
- 11 WITH ANY OTHER STATE OR THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT TO PERFORM A FOREIGN
- 12 LABOR CONTRACTING SERVICE;
- 13 (VI) IF THE APPLICANT IS OR HAS BEEN REGISTERED WITH ANY
- 14 OTHER STATE OR THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT TO PERFORM A FOREIGN LABOR
- 15 CONTRACTING SERVICE:
- 1. WHETHER THE REGISTRATION HAS EVER BEEN
- 17 REVOKED OR SUSPENDED AND, IF SO, THE REASONS FOR THE REVOCATION OR
- 18 SUSPENSION; AND
- 2. WHETHER THE OTHER STATE OR THE FEDERAL
- 20 GOVERNMENT EVER REFUSED TO REISSUE THE REGISTRATION AND, IF SO, THE
- 21 REASONS FOR THE REFUSAL;
- 22 (VII) ANY PROFESSIONAL ORGANIZATIONS OF WHICH THE
- 23 APPLICANT IS A MEMBER;
- (VIII) A LIST OF EMPLOYERS WHO HAVE USED THE SERVICES OF
- 25 THE APPLICANT WITHIN THE IMMEDIATELY PRECEDING 2 YEARS THAT INCLUDES:
- 26 1. THE NAME OF EACH EMPLOYER;
- 27 2. REGARDING FOREIGN WORKERS WITH RESPECT TO
- 28 WHOM THE APPLICANT PERFORMED A FOREIGN LABOR CONTRACTING SERVICE FOR
- 29 EACH EMPLOYER:

1	A. THE NUMBER OF FOREIGN WORKERS HIRED BY THE
2	EMPLOYER;
3	B. THE CITIES AND COUNTRIES OF ORIGIN OF THE
4	FOREIGN WORKERS;
5	C. THE CITIES AND STATES WHERE THE FOREIGH
6	WORKERS WERE EMPLOYED;
7	D. THE RANGE OF WAGES PAID TO THE FOREIGH
8	WORKERS; AND
9	E. THE INDUSTRIES AND OCCUPATIONS IN WHICH THE
10	FOREIGN WORKERS WERE EMPLOYED; AND
11 12	3. THE VALUE OF THE CONTRACT ENTERED INTO BY THE EMPLOYER AND THE APPLICANT;
14	EMI EOTEM AND THE ATT EIGHT,
13	(IX) THE NAMES AND ADDRESSES OF ALL REGISTERED BUSINES
14	AGENTS IN THE UNITED STATES OR IN A FOREIGN JURISDICTION;
15	(X) ALL TAX IDENTIFICATION NUMBERS ISSUED TO THE
16	APPLICANT; AND
1.5	
17 18	(XI) THE NAMES OF ALL INDIVIDUALS, INCLUDING AN INDEPENDENT CONTRACTORS OR SUBCONTRACTORS, EMPLOYED OR USED BY THE
19	APPLICANT OR WITH WHOM THE APPLICANT CONTRACTS TO PERFORM A FOREIGH
20	LABOR CONTRACTING SERVICE; AND
21	[(11)] (13) other relevant information that the Commissioner requires.
22	(c) If information required under subsection (b) of this section changes, th
23	applicant or, if a license has been issued, the licensee shall give the Commissioner notice of
24	the change within 10 days after the applicant or licensee knows or should have known of
25	the change.
26	(d) Information in an application or in a notice of change may not be used to impl
27	legal responsibility on an agricultural operation for the care, custody, or activities of

migrant agricultural worker whom a farm labor contractor provides.

convenient locations throughout the State.

The Commissioner shall make application forms reasonably available at

31 7–305.

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1	While a lice	nse is i	n effect, it authorizes the licensee to:		
2 3	(1) labor contracting s		E LICENSEE IS A FARM LABOR CONTRACTOR, perform farm s for consideration; OR		
4 5	(2) FOREIGN LABOR		E LICENSEE IS A FOREIGN LABOR CONTRACTOR, PERFORM RACTING SERVICES FOR CONSIDERATION.		
6	7–307.				
7 8			s performing a farm labor contracting service OR A FOREIGN SERVICE in the State, the licensee shall:		
9	(1)	carry	the license; and		
10	(2)	show	the license:		
11 12	labor contractor O	(i) R A FO	to each person with whom the licensee intends to deal as a farm REIGN LABOR CONTRACTOR ; and		
13		(ii)	on request, to an authorized employee or official of the State.		
14	7–308.				
15 16	· ·		ring provisions of § 7–309 of this subtitle, the Commissioner may licant or suspend or revoke a license if the applicant or licensee:		
17 18	(1) fraudulently or deceptively obtains or attempts to obtain a license for the applicant or licensee or for another;				
19	(2)	fraud	ulently or deceptively uses a license;		
20	(3)	know	ingly makes any misrepresentation in the application;		
21 22	(4) real party in interes		the real party in interest in the application for a license and the		
23		(i)	has been refused a license;		
24		(ii)	has had a license suspended or revoked; or		
25		(iii)	otherwise fails to qualify under this section for a license;		
26	(5)	fails t	o comply with any provision of this title;		
27	(6)	fails t	o comply with any regulation that the Commissioner adopts;		

1	(7) fails to comply with an order that the Commissioner passes;						
2 3	(8) fails to satisfy a judgment that the Commissioner obtains under this title;						
4 5 6	(9) knowingly gives a migrant agricultural worker OR A FOREIGN WORKER who is recruited or hired false or misleading information about the existence or conditions of employment;						
7 8 9	(10) fails, without just cause, to comply with any agreement or arrangement with an agricultural operation or with a migrant agricultural worker OR FOREIGN WORKER ;						
10 11 12	(11) is found by the Secretary of Health and Mental Hygiene to have violated a regulation of the Secretary on housing, sanitation, or safety for migrant agricultural workers OR FOREIGN WORKERS ;						
13 14 15	(12) has had a farm labor contractor registration certificate suspended or revoked by the United States Department of Labor or by another state for a reason that would justify suspension or revocation of a license in this State;						
16 17	(13) has been convicted of a felony under a law of the State or under federal law; [or]						
18 19 20	(14) during the past 5 years, has been convicted of a misdemeanor in connection with performing a farm labor contracting service OR A FOREIGN LABOR CONTRACTING SERVICE if the misdemeanor relates to:						
21	(i) gambling;						
22	(ii) sale, distribution, or possession of an alcoholic beverage; or						
23 24	(iii) sale, distribution, or possession of a controlled dangerous substance; OR						
25 26	(15) ASSESSES TO A FOREIGN WORKER ANY COSTS, FEES, OR EXPENSES RELATED TO THE PERFORMANCE OF A FOREIGN LABOR CONTRACTING SERVICE.						
27	7–310.						
28 29	The Commissioner may suspend a license summarily pending the determination of a hearing under § 7–309 of this subtitle if the Commissioner finds suspension necessary to						

prevent abuse of or injury to a migrant agricultural worker OR A FOREIGN WORKER.

31 7–311.

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- 1 (a) If, after an investigation, the Commissioner has reason to believe that a person is performing a farm labor contracting service **OR A FOREIGN LABOR**3 **CONTRACTING SERVICE** for consideration in the State without a license, the Commissioner may pass an order to require the person immediately to cease performing the farm labor contracting service **OR FOREIGN LABOR CONTRACTING SERVICE**.
- 6 (b) The Commissioner shall give notice of the order and, if requested under 7 subsection (d) of this section, hold a hearing in accordance with Title 10, Subtitle 2 of the 8 State Government Article.
- 9 (c) An order passed under this section shall be:
- 10 (1) served personally; or
- 11 (2) sent by certified mail to the last known address of the person.
- 12 (d) (1) Within 7 days after service of an order under this section, the person 13 may submit to the Commissioner a written request for a hearing.
- 14 (2) Unless a person requests a hearing in accordance with paragraph (1) of this subsection, the order is final.
- 16 **7–312.1.**
- 17 (A) EXCEPT AS PROVIDED IN SUBSECTION (B) OF THIS SECTION, THE 18 COMMISSIONER SHALL REQUIRE A FOREIGN LABOR CONTRACTOR TO POST A 19 SURETY BOND OR OTHER SECURITY IF THE COMMISSIONER:
- 20 (1) FINDS THAT THE FOREIGN LABOR CONTRACTOR HAS VIOLATED A
 21 PROVISION OF THIS TITLE OR ANY ORDER THAT THE COMMISSIONER ISSUES OR
 22 REGULATION THAT THE COMMISSIONER ADOPTS; OR
- 23 (2) RECEIVES A CERTIFIED RECORD OF THE FINDING OF A UNIT OF
 24 ANOTHER STATE OR THE UNITED STATES THAT THE FOREIGN LABOR CONTRACTOR
 25 HAS VIOLATED ANY LAW THAT RELATES TO:
- 26 (I) REGISTRATION AS A FOREIGN LABOR CONTRACTOR; OR
- 27 (II) THE EMPLOYMENT OF, PROVISION OF HOUSING FOR, OR 28 TRANSPORTATION OF A FOREIGN WORKER.
- 29 (B) THE COMMISSIONER MAY NOT REQUIRE SECURITY ON THE BASIS OF AN 30 ADMINISTRATIVE DECISION THAT A COURT NULLIFIES.

1 2 3	(C) THE COMMISSIONER MAY REQUIRE SECURITY IN AN AMOUNT THAT THE COMMISSIONER CONSIDERS ADEQUATE TO ENSURE COMPLIANCE WITH THE LAWS OF THE STATE.
4	Subtitle 4. Responsibilities of Farm Labor AND FOREIGN LABOR Contractors.
5	7–401.1.
6 7 8 9 10 11	(A) (1) IN ACCORDANCE WITH THIS SECTION, EACH FOREIGN LABOR CONTRACTOR SHALL PROVIDE EACH FOREIGN WORKER WITH AN ENFORCEABLE EMPLOYMENT CONTRACT SIGNED BY THE FOREIGN LABOR CONTRACTOR AND THE FOREIGN WORKER THAT INCLUDES ALL ASSURANCES MADE BY THE FOREIGN LABOR CONTRACTOR AND ALL TERMS AND CONDITIONS OF EMPLOYMENT TO BE PROVIDED TO THE FOREIGN WORKER AND OTHER RELEVANT INFORMATION, INCLUDING:
12	(I) EACH PLACE OF EMPLOYMENT IN THE STATE;
13 14	(II) THE NAME OF THE EMPLOYER AND ANY AGENTS OF THE EMPLOYER OR THE FOREIGN LABOR CONTRACTOR;
15	(III) A DESCRIPTION OF THE WORK ACTIVITIES INVOLVED;
16 17	(IV) EACH CONDITION OF EMPLOYMENT AT EACH PLACE OF EMPLOYMENT, INCLUDING:
18	1. THE WAGE TO BE PAID;
19	2. THE PERSON WHO WILL PAY THE WAGE;
20	3. WHEN THE WAGE IS DUE;
21	4. THE HOURS TO BE WORKED;
22 23	5. INFORMATION ABOUT MEALS AND REST PERIODS TO BE PROVIDED TO THE FOREIGN WORKER;
24	6. ANY PRODUCTION STANDARDS; AND
25 26	7. THE PERIOD FOR WHICH THE FOREIGN WORKER IS TO BE EMPLOYED;
27 28	(V) THE HOUSING, INSURANCE, OR TRANSPORTATION THAT WILL BE PROVIDED TO THE FOREIGN WORKER;

1 2	(VI) ANY COST THAT WILL BE CHARGED TO THE FOREIGN WORKER FOR HOUSING OR INSURANCE;
3 4	(VII) EACH LABOR DISPUTE THAT THE FOREIGN LABOR CONTRACTOR KNOWS EXISTS AT A PLACE OF EMPLOYMENT;
5 6	(VIII) A DISCLOSURE REGARDING THE ABILITY OF THE FOREIGN WORKER TO ENGAGE IN A STRIKE OR LOCKOUT;
7	(IX) THE INFORMATION TO BE INCLUDED ON EACH PAY STUB;
8	(X) ANY AMOUNTS THAT WILL BE WITHHELD OR DEDUCTED FROM THE PAY OF THE FOREIGN WORKER;
10 11	(XI) ANY APPLICABLE PENALTIES FOR EARLY TERMINATION OF EMPLOYMENT;
12 13	(XII) THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION REGARDING THE VISA UNDER WHICH THE FOREIGN WORKER IS TO BE EMPLOYED:
14	1. THE TYPE OF VISA;
15	2. THE LENGTH OF TIME FOR WHICH THE VISA IS VALID;
16 17	3. THE TERMS AND CONDITIONS UNDER WHICH THE VISA WILL BE RENEWED;
18 19	4. WHETHER THE EMPLOYER OR THE FOREIGN WORKER IS RESPONSIBLE FOR SECURING THE RENEWAL OF THE VISA; AND
20	5. ANY EXPENSES ASSOCIATED WITH THE RENEWAL;
21 22 23 24	(XIII) CONTACT INFORMATION, INCLUDING THE PHONE NUMBER AND ADDRESS, FOR THE INDIVIDUAL, INDEPENDENT CONTRACTOR, SUBCONTRACTOR, OR AGENT WHO WILL BE IN DIRECT CONTACT WITH THE FOREIGN WORKER;

25 (XIV) WHETHER THE FOREIGN WORKER IS COVERED BY 26 WORKERS' COMPENSATION, PRIVATE INSURANCE, OR OTHER COVERAGE FOR 27 INJURIES OR DEATH SUSTAINED DURING THE COURSE OF EMPLOYMENT;

1	(XV)	A REQUIREMENT	THAT THE	FOREIGN	LABOR	CONTRACTOR
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- 2 OR THE EMPLOYER PAY ALL FEES, INCLUDING VISA APPLICATION FEES, BORDER
- 3 CROSSING FEES, TRANSPORTATION COSTS, OR ANY OTHER COST OR FEE RELATED
- 4 TO RECRUITMENT FOR EMPLOYMENT IN THE UNITED STATES;
- 5 (XVI) PROOF OF COMPLIANCE WITH THE LOCAL HOUSING CODE
- 6 FOR THE AREA WHERE THE FOREIGN WORKER WILL BE HOUSED;
- 7 (XVII) WHETHER ANY EDUCATION OR TRAINING WILL BE
- 8 PROVIDED TO THE FOREIGN WORKER AND, IF SO, ANY ASSOCIATED COSTS AND
- 9 WHETHER THE FOREIGN WORKER IS RESPONSIBLE FOR PAYING THE ASSOCIATED
- 10 COSTS; AND
- 11 (XVIII) A DESCRIPTION OF PROTECTIONS AVAILABLE TO THE
- 12 FOREIGN WORKER UNDER THE FEDERAL TRAFFICKING VICTIMS PROTECTION ACT.
- 13 (2) EACH FOREIGN LABOR CONTRACTOR SHALL PROVIDE THE
- 14 EMPLOYMENT CONTRACT REQUIRED UNDER THIS SUBSECTION TO THE FOREIGN
- 15 WORKER:
- 16 (I) AT THE TIME THE RECRUITMENT PROCESS BEGINS; AND
- 17 (II) IN THE PRIMARY LANGUAGE OF THE FOREIGN WORKER.
- 18 (3) CHANGES TO THE EMPLOYMENT CONTRACT REQUIRED UNDER
- 19 THIS SUBSECTION MAY NOT BE MADE UNLESS THE FOREIGN WORKER:
- 20 (I) IS GIVEN 48 HOURS TO REVIEW AND CONSIDER THE
- 21 CHANGES; AND
- 22 (II) VOLUNTARILY CONSENTS TO THE CHANGES.
- 23 (B) EACH FOREIGN LABOR CONTRACTOR WHO PROVIDES HOUSING FOR A
- 24 FOREIGN WORKER SHALL ENSURE THAT ALL OF THE CONDITIONS OF OCCUPANCY
- 25 ARE POSTED CONSPICUOUSLY WHILE THE FOREIGN WORKER STAYS IN THE
- 26 HOUSING.
- 27 (C) ON REQUEST, THE COMMISSIONER SHALL MAKE AVAILABLE TO A
- 28 FOREIGN LABOR CONTRACTOR A STANDARD EMPLOYMENT CONTRACT THAT CAN BE
- 29 USED TO MEET THE REQUIREMENTS OF THIS SECTION.

- 1 (D) A FOREIGN LABOR CONTRACTOR SHALL FILE WITH THE COMMISSIONER 2 EACH EMPLOYMENT CONTRACT PROVIDED TO A FOREIGN WORKER UNDER 3 SUBSECTION (A) OF THIS SECTION.
- 4 **7–401.2.**
- 5 (A) A FOREIGN LABOR CONTRACTOR OR AN EMPLOYER THAT USES A 6 FOREIGN LABOR CONTRACTOR MAY NOT ASSESS TO A FOREIGN WORKER ANY COSTS,
- 7 FEES, OR EXPENSES RELATED TO THE PERFORMANCE OF A FOREIGN LABOR
- 8 CONTRACTING SERVICE.
- 9 (B) IF A FOREIGN LABOR CONTRACTOR OR EMPLOYER VIOLATES
- 10 SUBSECTION (A) OF THIS SECTION BEFORE THE FOREIGN WORKER BEGINS WORK
- 11 FOR WHICH THE FOREIGN LABOR CONTRACTING SERVICE WAS PERFORMED, THE
- 12 FOREIGN LABOR CONTRACTOR SHALL:
- 13 (1) IMMEDIATELY REPAY THE FOREIGN WORKER; AND
- 14 (2) PROVIDE THE EXACT OR COMPARABLE EMPLOYMENT FOR THE
- 15 FOREIGN WORKER.
- 16 **7–401.3.**
- 17 (A) EACH EMPLOYER THAT USES A FOREIGN LABOR CONTRACTOR SHALL
- 18 FILE WITH THE COMMISSIONER THE NAME AND CONTACT INFORMATION FOR THE
- 19 FOREIGN LABOR CONTRACTOR.
- 20 (B) AN EMPLOYER THAT USES A FOREIGN LABOR CONTRACTOR IS JOINTLY
- 21 AND SEVERALLY LIABLE FOR ANY VIOLATION OF § 7–401.1 OF THIS SUBTITLE
- 22 COMMITTED BY THE FOREIGN LABOR CONTRACTOR.
- 23 7–403.
- 24 (a) (1) The Commissioner may require, by regulation, a farm labor contractor
- 25 to keep records of:
- [(1)] (I) wages owed to each migrant agricultural worker for agricultural
- work performed in the State; and
- [(2)] (II) wages paid to each migrant agricultural worker for agricultural
- 29 work performed in the State.

- [(b)] (2) A farm labor contractor shall keep all of the records required under [subsection (a) of this section] PARAGRAPH (1) OF THIS SUBSECTION even if the farm labor contractor is not responsible for paying a migrant agricultural worker.
- 4 (B) (1) THE COMMISSIONER SHALL REQUIRE, BY REGULATION, A 5 FOREIGN LABOR CONTRACTOR TO KEEP RECORDS OF:
- 6 (I) WAGES OWED TO EACH FOREIGN WORKER FOR WORK 7 PERFORMED IN THE STATE FOR WHICH THE FOREIGN LABOR CONTRACTING 8 SERVICE WAS PERFORMED; AND
- 9 (II) WAGES PAID TO EACH FOREIGN WORKER FOR WORK 10 PERFORMED IN THE STATE FOR WHICH THE FOREIGN LABOR CONTRACTING 11 SERVICE WAS PERFORMED.
- 12 (2) A FOREIGN LABOR CONTRACTOR SHALL KEEP ALL THE RECORDS
 13 REQUIRED UNDER PARAGRAPH (1) OF THIS SUBSECTION EVEN IF THE FOREIGN
 14 LABOR CONTRACTOR IS NOT RESPONSIBLE FOR PAYING A FOREIGN WORKER.
- 15 (3) THE INFORMATION LISTED IN PARAGRAPH (1) OF THIS 16 SUBSECTION SHALL BE INCLUDED IN THE PAY STUB OF A FOREIGN WORKER.
- 17 7–404.
- 18 (a) Each farm labor contractor AND EACH FOREIGN LABOR CONTRACTOR shall
 19 ensure that each vehicle that the farm labor contractor OR FOREIGN LABOR
 20 CONTRACTOR uses or causes to be used to transport a migrant agricultural worker OR A
 21 FOREIGN WORKER in the State meets applicable federal and State standards for safety.
- 22 (b) Each farm labor contractor AND EACH FOREIGN LABOR CONTRACTOR shall
 23 ensure that the driver of each vehicle that the farm labor contractor OR FOREIGN LABOR
 24 CONTRACTOR uses or causes to be used to transport a migrant agricultural worker OR A
 25 FOREIGN WORKER in the State is authorized under Title 16 of the Transportation Article
 26 to drive the vehicle.
- 27(c) (1) labor contractor AND EACH FOREIGN LABOR 28CONTRACTOR shall ensure that the owner of each vehicle that the farm labor contractor 29 OR FOREIGN LABOR CONTRACTOR uses or causes to be used to transport a migrant agricultural worker OR FOREIGN WORKER in the State has a policy that insures against 30 liability for bodily injury and damage to property that arises from the ownership or 31 32 operation of the vehicle.

- 1 (2) The Commissioner shall set, by regulation, the minimum amount of insurance coverage required under paragraph (1) of this subsection, but the amount may not exceed the coverage required under federal law.
- 4 7–501.
- 5 (A) Except as otherwise provided in this title, a person may not perform a farm 6 labor contracting service OR A FOREIGN LABOR CONTRACTING SERVICE in the State for consideration unless licensed by the Commissioner.
- 8 (B) A FOREIGN LABOR CONTRACTOR MAY NOT DISCRIMINATE AGAINST A
 9 FOREIGN WORKER, WHETHER DURING THE COURSE OF RECRUITMENT IN THE
 10 FOREIGN WORKER'S COUNTRY OF ORIGIN OR IN THE UNITED STATES, TO THE SAME
 11 EXTENT AN EMPLOYER IS PROHIBITED FROM DISCRIMINATING UNDER TITLE 20,
 12 SUBTITLE 6 OF THE STATE GOVERNMENT ARTICLE.
- 13 7–502.
- (A) Unless authorized under this title to perform a farm labor contracting service for consideration, a person may not represent to the public, by the use of a title, including "licensed farm labor contractor", by description of services, methods, or procedures, or otherwise, that the person is authorized to perform a farm labor contracting service in the State for consideration.
- 19 (B) UNLESS AUTHORIZED UNDER THIS TITLE TO PERFORM A FOREIGN
 20 LABOR CONTRACTING SERVICE FOR CONSIDERATION, A PERSON MAY NOT
 21 REPRESENT TO THE PUBLIC, BY THE USE OF A TITLE, INCLUDING "LICENSED
 22 FOREIGN LABOR CONTRACTOR", BY DESCRIPTION OF SERVICES, METHODS, OR
 23 PROCEDURES, OR OTHERWISE, THAT THE PERSON IS AUTHORIZED TO PERFORM A
 24 FOREIGN LABOR CONTRACTING SERVICE IN THE STATE FOR CONSIDERATION.
- 25 7–503.
- 26 (a) Except as otherwise provided in this title, a person may not use a farm labor contractor to perform a farm labor contracting service OR A FOREIGN LABOR 28 CONTRACTOR TO PERFORM A FOREIGN LABOR CONTRACTING SERVICE unless the person ascertains that the farm labor contractor OR FOREIGN LABOR CONTRACTOR is licensed by:
- 31 (1) requesting confirmation from the Commissioner that the farm labor 32 contractor **OR FOREIGN LABOR CONTRACTOR** is licensed; or
- 33 (2) examining the license.

1 (b) Whenever a person makes a request under subsection (a)(1) of this (1)2 section, the Commissioner shall inform the person whether the farm labor contractor OR 3 FOREIGN LABOR CONTRACTOR is licensed. 4 (2) Within 5 working days after a person makes a request under subsection 5 (a)(1) of this section, the Commissioner shall respond in writing. 6 (3)If the status changes during the term of the license, the Commissioner 7 shall give the person who made the request written notice of the change. 8 If the Commissioner fails to provide the notice required under this (4) 9 subsection, a person is not liable for hiring a person who is not authorized to perform farm labor contracting services OR FOREIGN LABOR CONTRACTING SERVICES in the State. 10 11 Notwithstanding subsection (b)(4) of this section, a person may not hire or (c) 12 continue to use a farm labor contractor to perform a farm labor contracting service OR A 13 FOREIGN LABOR CONTRACTOR TO PERFORM A FOREIGN LABOR CONTRACTING 14 SERVICE after the person receives notice from the Commissioner or otherwise learns that 15 the farm labor contractor OR FOREIGN LABOR CONTRACTOR is not licensed. 16 7-506.17 Subject to the limitations in this section, the Commissioner may assess a civil (a) 18 penalty against a person who willfully or repeatedly violates: 19 (1) any provision of this title: 20 (2) any order passed under this title; or 21(3) any regulation adopted to carry out this title. 22 A civil penalty under this section may not exceed [\$5,000] \$50,000 for each (b) 23violation. 24Before the Commissioner assesses a civil penalty against an (c) (1) 25agricultural operation, the Commissioner shall consider the appropriateness of the penalty 26 in relation to: the size of the business; 27 (i) 28(ii) any good faith effort to comply with § 7–503 of this subtitle; and 29 the history of previous violations. (iii)

- 1 Before the Commissioner assesses a civil penalty against a farm labor 2 contractor OR FOREIGN LABOR CONTRACTOR, the Commissioner shall consider the 3 appropriateness of the penalty in relation to: 4 (i) the size of the business; 5 (ii) the gravity of the violation; 6 (iii) the good faith of the farm labor contractor OR THE FOREIGN 7 LABOR CONTRACTOR: and 8 (iv) the history of previous violations in this State or in any other 9 state that relate to licensing or to the treatment of a migrant agricultural worker OR 10 FOREIGN WORKER. 11 7-507.12 A farm labor contractor **OR FOREIGN LABOR CONTRACTOR** who willfully violates any provision of this title or any regulation adopted to carry out this title is guilty of a 13 14 misdemeanor and on conviction is subject: for a first offense, to a fine not exceeding [\$5,000] \$50,000 or 15 (1) 16 imprisonment not exceeding 1 year or both; and 17 for a subsequent offense, to a fine not exceeding [\$10,000] \$100.000 or (2)imprisonment not exceeding 3 years or both. 18 7-508. 19 20 A FOREIGN LABOR CONTRACTOR MAY NOT TAKE ANY ADVERSE ACTION 21AGAINST A FOREIGN WORKER BECAUSE THE FOREIGN WORKER EXERCISED ANY 22 RIGHT GRANTED UNDER THIS TITLE. 23(B) IF A FOREIGN WORKER BELIEVES THAT A FOREIGN LABOR CONTRACTOR 24HAS VIOLATED THIS TITLE OR HAS CAUSED THIS TITLE TO BE VIOLATED, THE 25FOREIGN WORKER MAY BRING AN ACTION IN A COURT OF COMPETENT 26 JURISDICTION TO RECOVER ANY DAMAGES SUSTAINED BY THE FOREIGN WORKER 27 DUE TO THE VIOLATION. 28 SECTION 2. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act may not be construed
- 31 SECTION 3. AND BE IT FURTHER ENACTED, That this Act shall take effect 32 October 1, 2017.

to preempt or alter any rights or remedies, including any causes of action, available under

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federal law or any other State law.