



## **HOUSE BILL 2113**

### **FARM LABOR CONTRACTOR**

### **LICENSING FEES**

In response to serious abuses affecting migratory farmworker, including the areas of wages, job safety and housing, the farm labor contractor law was enacted in 1959. One of its recommendations was to license farm labor contractors. To obtain a farm labor contractor license, the applicant provides information on the contractor's business identity, as well as those having a financial interest in the business, the motor vehicles used and their vehicular insurance, workers compensation insurance, state and federal tax compliance, and proof of financial ability to pay wages promptly.

A temporary license is given for 60 days, during which the applicant takes an exam on farm labor contractor requirements and wage and hour laws. Upon passing, the license is issued.

- Oregon law requires farm & forest labor contractors to be licensed.
- BOLI issues 250-300 licenses per year.
- Licensing fees have not been increased since 1999.
- One full-time bilingual employee is funded by the licensing fees to process and issue the license.
- BOLI has been operating this program at a deficit, relying on previous cash balances which are now depleted.
- 2013-15 expenditures for the program are expected to be \$180,000. Current fees generate \$140,000.
- HB 2113 will generate sufficient revenue to fully fund the program, including inflation costs, through 2019.
- HB 2113 was approved in the Governor's Balanced Budget.
- The bill has no known opposition.