

# Senate Bill 455

Sponsored by Senator THOMSEN (Presession filed.)

## SUMMARY

The following summary is not prepared by the sponsors of the measure and is not a part of the body thereof subject to consideration by the Legislative Assembly. It is an editor's brief statement of the essential features of the measure **as introduced**.

Freezes minimum wage rate for certain agricultural employers that experience lower than average commodity values. Authorizes Director of Agriculture to create rules.

## A BILL FOR AN ACT

1  
2 Relating to commodity fluctuations that affect an agricultural employer's ability to pay current  
3 minimum wage.

4 **Be It Enacted by the People of the State of Oregon:**

5 **SECTION 1. (1) For each hour of work time that an agricultural worker as defined in**  
6 **ORS 315.163 is gainfully employed, no employer shall employ or agree to employ the agricul-**  
7 **tural worker at wages computed at a rate lower than the rate described in ORS 653.025 un-**  
8 **less:**

9 (a) **The value of an agricultural commodity produced by the employer in a calendar year**  
10 **falls below 80 percent of the 10-year average value for that commodity; and**

11 (b) **The commodity or commodities described in paragraph (a) of this subsection account**  
12 **for 30 percent or more of the general revenue of the employer.**

13 (2) **An employer that meets the conditions described in subsection (1) of this section may**  
14 **employ an agricultural worker at the rate in effect on July 1 of the previous year under ORS**  
15 **653.025.**

16 **SECTION 2. The Director of Agriculture may adopt rules necessary for the implementa-**  
17 **tion and enforcement of section 1 of this 2017 Act.**

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**NOTE:** Matter in **boldfaced** type in an amended section is new; matter [*italic and bracketed*] is existing law to be omitted. New sections are in **boldfaced** type.