◒ STATE LABOR LAWS *(MIGRANT LABOR RECRUITMENT)*

STATUTORY CITATION: Minn. Stat. §§ 181.85 – 181.91

GENERAL SUMMARY: The state labor statutes include protections for out-of-state migrant workers recruited for seasonal agricultural employment in Minnesota, including provisions related to housing.

SPECIFIC TERMS AND CONDITIONS

HOUSING DISCLOSURES — Every processor of fruits and vegetables that directly or indirectly recruits and employs more than 30 migrant workers per day for more than 7 days in any calendar year must, at the time of recruitment, furnish each worker with a bilingual statement indicating, among other things, whether or not housing will be provided. A migrant worker is defined as an individual at least 17 years of age who travels more than 100 miles to Minnesota from some other state to perform seasonal agricultural labor in Minnesota.

REQUIREMENT TO VACATE — A processor, as defined above, who recruits, employs and provides housing facilities to migrant workers, as defined above, may require any such worker to vacate the housing, but only after final payment of wages.

ADMINISTRATION AND ENFORCEMENT

PRIMARY ENFORCEMENT AGENCY — *None.*

SECONDARY OR ASSOCIATED ENFORCEMENT AGENCY — *None.*

PRIVATE CIVIL ACTION — Using private legal counsel or a public legal service provider, a migrant worker aggrieved by a violation of these provisions may file a civil suit for damages and injunctive relief against the employer involved. A judgment in the worker's favor may include an assessment against the employer for actual damages suffered by the worker, or penalties ranging from $50 to $500, plus court costs and attorney's fees.