

● **CHILD LABOR LAWS (COMPULSORY SCHOOL ATTENDANCE)**

*STATUTORY CITATION:* 29 Laws P.R. Ann. §§ 450 - 456

*GENERAL SUMMARY:* Every parent or other person having charge of a minor under 16 years of age must assure the child's regular attendance at a public or private school during regular school hours and for the entire length of the public school term, unless the child is found to be mentally unfit to attend and is excused by the school supervisor.

*PROVISIONS APPLICABLE TO AGRICULTURE:* These provisions apply to all minors under 16, regardless of the employment status or occupation of the minor or the child's parent or custodian.

*ADMINISTRATION AND ENFORCEMENT*

*PRIMARY ENFORCEMENT AGENCY* — *Bureau of Labor Standards, Puerto Rico Department of Labor and Human Resources, Hato Rey, Puerto Rico 00918 (787-754-2100).* Local school officials are obligated to report to the Department the name of any enrolled minor under the age of 16 who has been absent from school for a week during any school month for the purpose of employment. If the child is unlawfully absent again after a written notice requiring attendance, legal action may be taken against the child's parent or guardian. Failing to cause a child to regularly attend, or inducing a child not to attend, in contravention of these provisions may result in a fine of up to \$50.

*SECONDARY OR ASSOCIATED ENFORCEMENT AGENCY* — *None.*