

# House Bill 3193

Sponsored by Representative MARSH, Senator PHAM K, Representative VALDERRAMA; Representatives CHAICHI, HUDSON, MUNOZ, NGUYEN H, Senator PATTERSON (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**. The statement includes a measure digest written in compliance with applicable readability standards.

Digest: The Act would create a relief program to provide money to farmworkers who have lost income due to a disaster. (Flesch Readability Score: 63.8).

Requires the Oregon Health Authority to establish and implement a permanent farmworker disaster relief program.

Appropriates moneys out of the General Fund to the authority to carry out the program.

## A BILL FOR AN ACT

1  
2 Relating to farmworker disaster relief.

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

### **SECTION 1. (1) As used in this section:**

4  
5 (a) **“Farmworker” means an individual who is or has been employed in Oregon in a lawful**  
6 **activity related to agriculture, farming, fishing, planting or harvesting trees, dairy, ranching,**  
7 **food processing, canning, slaughtering, packaging, butchering or a nursery.**

8 (b) **“Qualifying disaster” includes:**

9 (A) **A drought, wildfire, earthquake, hurricane, flood, excessive heat, tornado, winter**  
10 **storm, snowstorm, freeze, hail, smoke, tsunami, volcanic eruption or other adverse weather**  
11 **event.**

12 (B) **A pandemic or other public health crisis.**

13 (C) **A declaration of an emergency under ORS 401.165 or public health emergency under**  
14 **ORS 433.441 by the Governor.**

15 (D) **An emergency declaration related to public health or a natural disaster that is issued**  
16 **by a municipality, county or public health official.**

17 (2) **The Oregon Health Authority shall establish and implement a permanent farmworker**  
18 **disaster relief program to provide financial support to farmworkers who lose income or**  
19 **wages due to a qualifying disaster.**

20 (3)(a) **The authority shall enter into a contract with a worker relief organization to dis-**  
21 **tribute financial support to eligible farmworkers under the program.**

22 (b) **To be eligible to enter into a contract with the authority under this subsection, a**  
23 **worker relief organization must:**

24 (A) **Be registered in the State of Oregon for at least six months prior to the date on**  
25 **which the contract is signed.**

26 (B) **Specialize in providing financial support to workers experiencing a financial hardship.**

27 (4) **To be eligible to receive financial support under this section, a farmworker must**  
28 **submit to the worker relief organization evidence of:**

**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.

1 (a) A qualifying disaster that resulted in a loss of income or wages, including a loss of  
2 income due to slower work for piece-rate workers.

3 (b) The specific zip code and county in which the farmworker was employed during the  
4 qualifying disaster described in paragraph (a) of this subsection.

5 (c) Having experienced a financial hardship due to the qualifying disaster's impact on the  
6 ability of the farmworker to pay for reasonable and necessary living expenses.

7 (5) The authority shall adopt rules necessary to carry out this section, including rules  
8 establishing application procedures for farmworkers to apply for financial support.

9 **SECTION 2.** In addition to and not in lieu of any other appropriation, there is appropri-  
10 ated to the Oregon Health Authority, for the biennium beginning July 1, 2025, out of the  
11 General Fund, the amount of \$10,000,000 for the purpose of carrying out the provisions of  
12 section 1 of this 2025 Act.  
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