

April 18, 2007

H 1818. AGRICULTURAL FAMILY PROTECTION ACT. Filed 4/18/07. *AMENDING THE LABOR AND PESTICIDE LAWS FOR THE PROTECTION OF AGRICULTURAL FAMILIES.*

Amends GS 143-466 to require records maintained on sale and application of pesticides to be provided to the state Labor Department, health care personnel treating suspected pesticide poisoning, or an employee filing a workers compensation claim; specifies that the provisions of 40 C.F.R. 170 apply to the maintenance of the records. Allows the employee or his or her representative to request a workplace inspection upon notice to the Pesticide Board and allows the complaining employee to request that his or her name not appear in the records of the inspection. Amends GS 95-24 to add complaints under the pesticide regulation statutes to the list of complaints for which an employee is protected from retaliation. Amends GS 95-225 to require an operator of migrant housing to provide at least one working telephone, which must have contact information for the nearest emergency medical care facilities in a language the migrants can understand, and must provide one showerhead with a separate shower for each eight migrants. Amends GS 143-460(29) to exclude from the definition of pesticide applicator a person producing an agricultural commodity whose only employees are family members; provides that a person in this category who violates the pesticide laws may be penalized only \$500 per violation, while other violations may be punished by up to a \$2,000 fine; deletes provision providing for reduced penalties for violations by certain farmers who use pesticides on their own property or in trades with others in transactions that do not involve compensation.

Intro. by Blue, Martin.

GS 95, 143