

112TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. 2221

To prohibit the Secretary of Labor from finalizing a proposed rule under the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938 relating to child labor.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

MARCH 21, 2012

Mr. THUNE (for himself, Mr. MORAN, Mr. MCCAIN, Mr. TESTER, Mr. RUBIO, Mr. PAUL, Mr. TOOMEY, Mr. WICKER, Mr. SESSIONS, Mr. VITTER, Mr. LEE, Mr. MCCONNELL, Ms. AYOTTE, Mr. BARRASSO, Mr. BLUNT, Mr. BOOZMAN, Mr. BURR, Mr. CHAMBLISS, Mr. COCHRAN, Mr. COATS, Mr. CRAPO, Mr. DEMINT, Mr. ENZI, Mr. GRAHAM, Mr. CORNYN, Mr. GRASSLEY, Mr. COBURN, Mr. HOEVEN, Mr. INHOFE, Mr. ISAKSON, Mr. JOHANNIS, Mr. HATCH, Mr. KIRK, Mr. KYL, Mr. LUGAR, Mr. JOHNSON of Wisconsin, Mr. RISCH, Mr. ROBERTS, and Mr. ALEXANDER) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions

A BILL

To prohibit the Secretary of Labor from finalizing a proposed rule under the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938 relating to child labor.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE AND FINDINGS.**

4 (a) **SHORT TITLE.**—This Act may be cited as the
5 “Preserving America’s Family Farms Act”.

6 (b) **FINDINGS.**—Congress finds that—

1 (1) family farms often depend on the contribu-
2 tions of youth for their successful operation;

3 (2) regulations proposed to be adopted by the
4 Department of Labor will adversely impact the long-
5 standing tradition of youth working on farms to gain
6 valuable skills and lessons on hard work, character,
7 and leadership;

8 (3) the proposed regulations would be detri-
9 mental to the opportunity for youth to gain experi-
10 ential learning and hands-on skills for enrollment in
11 vocational agricultural training;

12 (4) the proposed regulations would obstruct the
13 opportunity for youth to find rewarding employment
14 and earn money for a college education or other
15 meaningful purposes;

16 (5) the proposed regulations will limit opportu-
17 nities to recruit young farmers to agriculture at a
18 time when the average age of farmers continues to
19 rise; and

20 (6) working on a farm has become a way of life
21 for thousands of youth across the rural United
22 States.

23 **SEC. 2. RULE RELATING TO CHILD LABOR.**

24 The Secretary of Labor shall not finalize or enforce
25 the proposed rule entitled “Child Labor Regulations, Or-

1 ders and Statements of Interpretation; Child Labor Viola-
2 tions—Civil Money Penalties” (published at 76 Fed. Reg.
3 54836 (September 2, 2011)).

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