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U. S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR  
WAGE AND HOUR DIVISION  
Washington

MARYLAND LEAF TOBACCO SEASONAL EXEMPTION MADE FINAL

Seasonal exemption from the hours provisions of the Fair Labor Standards Act for the handling of Maryland leaf tobacco was made final today by the Wage and Hour Division, U. S. Department of Labor. (Federal Register, May 30, 1940.)

As a "seasonal" industry, the buying, handling, sorting, grading, packing and storing of Maryland leaf tobacco (type 32, as defined by the Bureau of Agricultural Economics, U. S. Department of Agriculture) may be carried on for twelve hours in any workday, or for fifty-six hours in any workweek, for a period aggregating fourteen workweeks in any calendar year, before the overtime provisions requiring payment of at least time and one-half the regular rate of pay become effective. The exemption does not relieve the industry from the minimum wage provisions of the Act.

The Maryland Tobacco Packing Company of Upper Marlboro, Maryland and other interested parties requested the exemption. On May 9, 1940, a prima facie case for the granting of such exemption was declared to exist. Since no objection or request for a hearing was received within 15 days from the date the exemption was proposed, a finding declaring this industry to be of a seasonal nature and therefore entitled to the exemption sought was made final.

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