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HOUSE BILL 2032

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State of Washington                      61st Legislature                      2009 Regular Session

By Representatives Chandler, Ericks, Newhouse, and Kessler

Read first time 02/06/09. Referred to Committee on Commerce & Labor.

1            AN ACT Relating to creating the community agricultural worker  
2 safety grant program; adding a new section to chapter 15.04 RCW;  
3 creating a new section; and providing an expiration date.

4 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF WASHINGTON:

5            NEW SECTION.    **Sec. 1.** The legislature finds that agricultural  
6 workers are challenged not only in finding full-time, year-round work,  
7 but also face difficulties in upgrading their agricultural skills. The  
8 legislature also finds that the agricultural industry's demand for  
9 skilled workers far outnumbers the current supply. In addition, the  
10 legislature finds that despite recent advances in the safety of  
11 agricultural production, additional training of agricultural workers  
12 should assist the agricultural sector in ongoing efforts to reduce  
13 occupational injuries.

14            NEW SECTION.    **Sec. 2.** A new section is added to chapter 15.04 RCW  
15 to read as follows:

16            Subject to the availability of amounts appropriated for this  
17 specific purpose, the department shall administer the community  
18 agricultural worker safety grant program, to be implemented by the

1 501(c)(3) nonprofit opportunities industrialization center of  
2 Washington. As grant recipient, the center shall work with the  
3 agricultural industry to provide practical, hands-on training for the  
4 state's agricultural workers in tractor and farm machinery skills and  
5 safety, pesticide training, adult basic skills, civics, English as a  
6 second language, commercial drivers' licensing, and other related  
7 topics. The grant recipient may receive up to two hundred fifty  
8 thousand dollars per year.

9 NEW SECTION. **Sec. 3.** This act expires July 1, 2013.

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