



October 26, 2023

To Whom It May Concern:

The Department of Labor (Department) has received requests, submitted via the regulations.gov docket, to extend the comment period associated with the recently published Notice of Proposed Rulemaking (NPRM) titled *Improving Protections for Workers in Temporary Agricultural Employment in the United States*, 88 FR 63750 (September 15, 2023). The NPRM was published on September 15, 2023, and invited the public to submit comments by November 14, 2023.

The 60 days provided to comment on this rule is the same amount of time that was provided to comment on the comprehensive 2019 proposed rule. See *Temporary Agricultural Employment of H-2A Nonimmigrants in the United States*, 84 FR 36168 (July 26, 2019). That rule involved the same program and addressed similar, though significantly more numerous, subjects as the current proposed rule. Accordingly, the Department continues to believe the 60-day comment period is a reasonable and adequate amount of time to provide notice and an opportunity to comment on this NPRM and has therefore decided not to extend the comment period.

The Department takes seriously its obligation to consider any "written data, views, or arguments" submitted by commenters and looks forward to reviewing all feedback received on the NPRM before the close of the comment period. See 5 U.S.C. 553(c). The Department encourages all interested parties to submit comments electronically on www.regulations.gov (RIN 1205-AC12) by 11:59 pm ET on November 14, 2023.

We have added this letter to the rulemaking record as a related document, which can be accessed through www.regulations.gov, Docket ID: ETA-2023-0003.

Thank you for your interest in this rulemaking.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, reading "Raj Nayak", is positioned above the typed name.

Rajesh D. Nayak
Assistant Secretary for Policy