

This week, I joined over 150 other representatives in [expressing opposition](#) to the Department of Labor's pending rule to limit youth under 16 from working in agriculture. Because of the potential for subjective interpretations, the rule could prohibit youth from working on a family farm or ranch unless it is run and owned solely by their parents. For example, it could be interpreted as forbidding adolescents from working on a farm that is partially owned by other relatives—even if their parents have partial ownership. In doing so, the rule could make it significantly more difficult for the next generation of farmers and ranchers to get valuable work experience, such as operating machinery and handling livestock, during their youth. Since many family farms and ranches fall under these situations, it could harm the livelihoods of many in Northern California and across our nation. For these reasons, I strongly oppose this regulation and will continue to do all I can to prevent it from taking effect in its current form.