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Membership Directory Advertising Opportunity

Thank you for your continued support of the Pacific Seed Association and our activities. We are working on the 2020 edition of the membership directory and would like to invite your company to advertise. Listings will include member firms engaged in the western regional, non-profit organization of recognized individuals, firms, and corporations actively connected with the seed industry and its allied branches. It is composed mainly of members located in Alaska, Arizona, California, Colorado, Hawaii, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, New Mexico, Oregon, Utah, Washington, Wyoming, Mexico, and the Canadian provinces of Alberta and British Columbia. The listings will provide the following information: company name, address, phone number, FAX number, Email address, Website, classifications and key company personnel.

I encourage you to look over the advertising contract information. We feel confident that your company will benefit by advertising in the directory. We sincerely appreciate the support of the Association and its activities and feel that the directory is a valuable tool for your company to utilize.

[Click Here for Advertising Contract Information](#)

Committee Involvement Request

President Carolyn Lockwood recently approved the committee chairs for the 2020 membership year. It is within the committees that industry problems are identified, analyzed, discussed--and where solutions and courses of action are born. Here the individual can have his/her voice heard and contribute effectively to the process of industry self-determination. Committees also play a major role in the development of PSA policy and the planning and scheduling of PSA events. The final effectiveness of this system depends on your active involvement. On behalf of the PSA board and staff we would like to thank you for considering the generous donation of your time and talents to help make this a viable and productive Association!

[Click Here for Committee Sign Up Form](#)

In Memoriam: Robert Lowry

Robert "Bob" Lowry passed away on Friday, May 8, at the age of 96, in Albany. Bob was a co-founder of Willamette Seed Company in Albany. He served as president of OSA in 1976-77, and appointed as an honorary life member sometime thereafter.

A Celebration of Life will be held at a later date when such gatherings are more feasible. Donations can be made to the charity of one's choice.

[Read Robert's Obituary Here](#)

Final Rule: Hours of Service of Drivers

The Hours of Service (HOS) Final Rule published today in the Federal Register with an effective date of September 29, 2020. Petitions for reconsideration must be resubmitted by July 1, 2020.

Direct link to the Federal Register publication (pdf also attached):

<https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2020/06/01/2020-11469/hours-of-service-of-drivers>

The rulemaking publication is 57 pages; however, you will find the new regulatory text on the last two pages of the document.

Also attached are a couple of factsheets on the HOS rule changes that you may find helpful; additional information on the FMCSA website is forthcoming.

[HOS Final Rule](#)

[FMCSA Hours of Service One Page](#)

[FMCSA Hours of Service Get to Know the New Rule](#)



OSHA Guidance on Preparing Workplaces for COVID-19

The Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) has issued “Guidance on Preparing Workplaces for COVID-19” (the Guidance). Although the Guidance is not legally binding, OSHA does emphasize that employers must comply with existing safety and health standards and regulations published by OSHA or by applicable states with their own OSHA-approved

plans. In addition, employers should keep in mind the Occupational Safety and Health Act's (OSH Act) General Duty Clause, which requires employers to “provide their employees with a workplace free from recognized hazards likely to cause death or serious physical harm.”

[Read More](#)

House Passes Bill Easing PPP Restrictions; Senate "Likely" to Take Up More COVID-19 Aid

As the Nation comes together to slow the spread of COVID-19, on March 16th the President issued updated Coronavirus Guidance for America that highlighted the importance of the critical infrastructure workforce.

The Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA) executes the Secretary of Homeland Security's authorities to secure critical infrastructure. Consistent with these authorities, CISA has developed, in collaboration with other federal agencies, State and local governments, and the private sector, an “Essential Critical Infrastructure Workforce” advisory list. This list is intended to help State, local, tribal and territorial officials as they work to protect their communities, while ensuring continuity of functions critical to public health and safety, as well as economic and national security. Decisions informed by this list should also take into consideration additional public health considerations based on the specific COVID-19-related concerns of particular jurisdictions.

[Read More Here](#)

SBA and Treasury Release Paycheck Protection Program Loan Forgiveness Application

The Small Business Administration (SBA), in consultation with the Department of the Treasury, released the Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) Loan Forgiveness Application and detailed instructions for the application.

The form and instructions inform borrowers how to apply for forgiveness of their PPP loans, consistent with the Coronavirus Aid, Relief, and Economic Security

Act (CARES Act). SBA will also soon issue regulations and guidance to further assist borrowers as they complete their applications, and to provide lenders with guidance on their responsibilities.

[Read More Here](#)

House Passes Bill Easing PPP Restrictions; Senate "Likely" to Take Up More COVID-19 Aid

On Thursday, the House overwhelmingly approved changes to the Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) that would give small business owners more flexibility in utilizing the program. Notably, this vote marked the first-time lawmakers used proxy votes on the floor. A total of 70 Democrats filed public letters with the House Clerk's office stating that they would not be physically present "due to the ongoing public health emergency" and assigned a colleague to vote on their behalf.

The plan would: reduce the share of aid money small business are required to spend on payroll from 75% to 60% (the PPP's architects aimed to encourage companies to keep workers employed); extend the window businesses have to use the funds from two months to six months; push back a June 30 deadline to rehire workers; extend the time recipients have to repay the loan; and let companies that get loan forgiveness defer payroll taxes.

The Senate has put forward a plan similar to the House bill, but has not yet passed it. Senators will not convene again until next week.

On Tuesday, Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell (R-KY) said that there would "likely" be a fifth coronavirus relief bill "in the next month or so."

"Many of you are asking, what next? I think there's likely to be another bill. It will not be the \$3 trillion bill the House passed the other day. But there's still a likelihood that more will be needed," McConnell said during an event at a hospital in Louisville, Ky.

"In the next month or so we'll be talking about possibly another bill," McConnell added about "what may lay ahead" for Congress's response to the coronavirus.



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