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Jeanne S. Paquette  
COMMISSIONER  
  
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DIRECTOR

August 26, 2016

Dear Employer:

I'm writing to let you know about this year's Blueberry Mechanical Operator Wage Survey. We are required to conduct this survey as part of a federal program that determines the prevailing wages paid to blueberry mechanical operators in Maine. We greatly appreciate the cooperation you have given us in the past, making it possible to establish prevailing wages by occupational activity for your industry.

This survey asks employers to provide wage rates, number of hours worked, etc. for blueberry mechanical operators during one week of the peak season. **The payroll week selected for this year's survey is the week which includes Friday, August 19.**

We ask that you complete the enclosed forms and return them to us by Friday, September 9 in the enclosed postage-paid envelope. Please include only those workers whose primary duties are blueberry mechanical operating and do not include workers who are family members or students. We are seeking information for mechanical operators only; information for helpers is not needed. If an operator rotates, worked the back of the machine, or spent time on machine maintenance, only the time worked in actual operations is needed.

We know this is a busy time for you; if you would rather send us a copy of your payroll records for the survey week, please do so. If you had no employment of blueberry mechanical operators during this week, please still complete and return the *Survey of Prevailing Practices*. All information regarding individuals and employers will be kept confidential.

If you have any questions or prefer assistance with the survey, please contact Suzanne Thivierge at (207) 621-5176, e-mail at [Suzanne.P.Thivierge@Maine.gov](mailto:Suzanne.P.Thivierge@Maine.gov), or fax to (207) 287-2947. Visit our website for forms, links, FAQs, and more at <http://www.maine.gov/labor/cwri/wageSurveys.html>.

Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads 'Julie D. Rabinowitz'.

Julie D. Rabinowitz  
Director of Policy, Operations and Communication  
JDR: spt Enclosures