

# Know Your Rights: **Workplace Discrimination is Illegal**

The U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC) enforces Federal laws that protect you from discrimination in employment. If you believe you've been discriminated against at work or in applying for a job, the EEOC may be able to help.

#### Who is Protected?

- Employees (current and former), including managers and temporary employees
- Union members and applicants for membership in a union
- Job applicants

#### What Organizations are Covered?

- Most private employers
- Educational institutions (as employers)
- State and local governments (as employers)
- UnionsStaffing agencies
- What Types of Employment Discrimination are Illegal?

Under the EEOC's laws, an employer may not discriminate against you, regardless of your immigration status, on the bases of:

- Race
- Color
- Religion
- National origin
- Sex (including pregnancy and related conditions, sexual orientation, or gender identity)
- Age (40 and older)
- Disability

- Genetic information (including employer requests for, or purchase, use, or disclosure of genetic tests, genetic services, or family medical history)
- Retaliation for filing

   a charge, reasonably
   opposing discrimination,
   or participating in a
   discrimination lawsuit,
   investigation, or proceeding.

# What Employment Practices can be Challenged as Discriminatory?

All aspects of employment, including:

- Discharge, firing, or lay-off
- Harassment (including unwelcome verbal or physical conduct)
- Hiring or promotion
- Assignment
- Pay (unequal wages or compensation)
- Failure to provide reasonable accommodation for a disability or a sincerely-held religious belief, observance or practice
- Benefits

- Job trainingClassification
- Referral
- Obtaining or disclosing genetic information of employees
- Requesting or disclosing medical information of employees
- Conduct that might reasonably discourage someone from opposing discrimination, filing a charge, or participating in an investigation or proceeding.

# What can You Do if You Believe Discrimination has Occurred?

Contact the EEOC promptly if you suspect discrimination. Do not delay, because there are strict time limits for filing a charge of discrimination (180 or 300 days, depending on where you live/work). You can reach the EEOC in any of the following ways:

Submit	an inquiry through the EEOC's public portal:
	https://publicportal.eeoc.gov/Portal/Login.aspx

- Call 1–800–669–4000 (toll free) 1–800–669–6820 (TTY) 1–844–234–5122 (ASL video phone)
- Visit an EEOC field office (information at www.eeoc.gov/field-office)

#### E-Mail info@eeoc.gov

Additional information about the EEOC, including information about filing a charge of discrimination, is available at www.eeoc.gov.



#### **EMPLOYERS HOLDING FEDERAL CONTRACTS OR SUBCONTRACTS**

The Department of Labor's Office of Federal Contract Compliance Programs (OFCCP) enforces the nondiscrimination and affirmative action commitments of companies doing business with the Federal Government. If you are applying for a job with, or are an employee of, a company with a Federal contract or subcontract, you are protected under Federal law from discrimination on the following bases:

#### Race, Color, Religion, Sex, Sexual Orientation, Gender Identity, National Origin

Executive Order 11246, as amended, prohibits employment discrimination by Federal contractors based on race, color, religion, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, or national origin, and requires affirmative action to ensure equality of opportunity in all aspects of employment.

#### Asking About, Disclosing, or Discussing Pay

Executive Order 11246, as amended, protects applicants and employees of Federal contractors from discrimination based on inquiring about, disclosing, or discussing their compensation or the compensation of other applicants or employees.

#### Disability

Section 503 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended, protects qualified individuals with disabilities from discrimination in hiring, promotion, discharge, pay, fringe benefits, job training, classification, referral, and other aspects of employment by Federal contractors. Disability discrimination includes not making reasonable accommodation to the known physical or mental limitations of an otherwise qualified individual with a disability who is an applicant or employee, barring undue hardship to the employer. Section 503 also requires that Federal contractors take affirmative action to employ and advance in employment qualified individuals with disabilities at all levels of employment, including the executive level.

#### **Protected Veteran Status**

The Vietnam Era Veterans' Readjustment Assistance Act of 1974, as amended, 38 U.S.C. 4212, prohibits employment discrimination against, and requires affirmative action to recruit, employ, and advance in employment, disabled veterans, recently separated veterans (i.e., within three years of discharge or release from active duty), active duty wartime or campaign badge veterans, or Armed Forces service medal veterans.

#### Retaliation

Retaliation is prohibited against a person who files a complaint of discrimination, participates in an OFCCP proceeding, or otherwise opposes discrimination by Federal contractors under these Federal laws.

Any person who believes a contractor has violated its nondiscrimination or affirmative action obligations under OFCCP's authorities should contact immediately:

The Office of Federal Contract Compliance Programs (OFCCP) U.S. Department of Labor 200 Constitution Avenue, N.W. Washington, D.C. 20210 1–800–397–6251 (toll-free)

If you are deaf, hard of hearing, or have a speech disability, please dial 7–1–1 to access telecommunications relay services. OFCCP may also be contacted by submitting a question online to OFCCP's Help Desk at *https://ofccphelpdesk.dol.gov/s/*, or by calling an OFCCP regional or district office, listed in most telephone directories under U.S. Government, Department of Labor and on OFCCP's "Contact Us" webpage at *https://www.dol.gov/agencies/ofccp/contact*.

#### PROGRAMS OR ACTIVITIES RECEIVING FEDERAL FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE

#### Race, Color, National Origin, Sex

In addition to the protections of Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended, Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended, prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color or national origin in programs or activities receiving Federal financial assistance. Employment discrimination is covered by Title VI if the primary objective of the financial assistance is provision of employment, or where employment discrimination causes or may cause discrimination in providing services under such programs. Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972 prohibits employment discrimination on the basis of sex in educational programs or activities which receive Federal financial assistance.

#### **Individuals with Disabilities**

Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended, prohibits employment discrimination on the basis of disability in any program or activity which receives Federal financial assistance. Discrimination is prohibited in all aspects of employment against persons with disabilities who, with or without reasonable accommodation, can perform the essential functions of the job.

If you believe you have been discriminated against in a program of any institution which receives Federal financial assistance, you should immediately contact the Federal agency providing such assistance.

# **EMPLOYEE RIGHTS** UNDER THE FAIR LABOR STANDARDS ACT

# FEDERAL MINIMUM WAGE

**BEGINNING JULY 24, 2009** 

#### The law requires employers to display this poster where employees can readily see it.

**OVERTIME PAY** At least 1<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> times the regular rate of pay for all hours worked over 40 in a workweek.

- **CHILD LABOR** An employee must be at least 16 years old to work in most non-farm jobs and at least 18 to work in non-farm jobs declared hazardous by the Secretary of Labor. Youths 14 and 15 years old may work outside school hours in various non-manufacturing, non-mining, non-hazardous jobs with certain work hours restrictions. Different rules apply in agricultural employment.
- **TIP CREDIT** Employers of "tipped employees" who meet certain conditions may claim a partial wage credit based on tips received by their employees. Employers must pay tipped employees a cash wage of at least \$2.13 per hour if they claim a tip credit against their minimum wage obligation. If an employee's tips combined with the employer's cash wage of at least \$2.13 per hour do not equal the minimum hourly wage, the employer must make up the difference.

**NURSING MOTHERS** The FLSA requires employers to provide reasonable break time for a nursing mother employee who is subject to the FLSA's overtime requirements in order for the employee to express breast milk for her nursing child for one year after the child's birth each time such employee has a need to express breast milk. Employers are also required to provide a place, other than a bathroom, that is shielded from view and free from intrusion from coworkers and the public, which may be used by the employee to express breast milk.

**ENFORCEMENT** The Department has authority to recover back wages and an equal amount in liquidated damages in instances of minimum wage, overtime, and other violations. The Department may litigate and/or recommend criminal prosecution. Employers may be assessed civil money penalties for each willful or repeated violation of the minimum wage or overtime pay provisions of the law. Civil money penalties may also be assessed for violations of the FLSA's child labor provisions. Heightened civil money penalties may be assessed for each child labor violation that results in the death or serious injury of any minor employee, and such assessments may be doubled when the violations are determined to be willful or repeated. The law also prohibits retaliating against or discharging workers who file a complaint or participate in any proceeding under the FLSA.

#### ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

- Certain occupations and establishments are exempt from the minimum wage, and/or overtime pay provisions.
- Special provisions apply to workers in American Samoa, the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands, and the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico.
- Some state laws provide greater employee protections; employers must comply with both.
- Some employers incorrectly classify workers as "independent contractors" when they are actually employees under the FLSA. It is important to know the difference between the two because employees (unless exempt) are entitled to the FLSA's minimum wage and overtime pay protections and correctly classified independent contractors are not.
- Certain full-time students, student learners, apprentices, and workers with disabilities may be paid less than the minimum wage under special certificates issued by the Department of Labor.









# **IDAHO MINIMUM WAGE LAW**

**<u>SECTION 44-1502, IDAHO CODE</u>**: Except as hereinafter otherwise provided, no employer shall pay to any of his employees any wages computed at a rate of less than:

### \$7.25 PER HOUR

#### AS OF JULY 24, 2009

**TIPPED EMPLOYEES:** Any employee engaged in an occupation in which he customarily and regularly receives more than thirty dollars (\$30.00) a month in tips will be paid a minimum of \$3.35 per hour. If an employee's tips combined with the employer's cash wage do not equal the minimum hourly wage, the employer must make up the difference.

**OPPORTUNITY WAGE:** Employees under 20 years of age may be paid \$4.25 per hour during their first 90 consecutive calendar days of employment with an employer.

SECTION 44-1504, IDAHO CODE, EXEMPTIONS FROM MINIMUM WAGE: The provisions of this act shall not apply to any employee employed in a bona fide executive, administrative, or professional capacity; to anyone engaged in domestic service; to any individual employed as an outside salesperson; to seasonal employees of a non-profit camping program; or to any child under the age of sixteen (16) years working part-time or at odd jobs not exceeding a total of four (4) hours per day with any one (1) employer; or any individual employed in agriculture if; such employee is the parent, spouse, child or other member of his employer's immediate family; or such employee is older than sixteen (16) years of age and is employed as a harvest laborer and is paid on a piece-rate basis in an operation which has been, and is customarily and generally recognized as having been paid on a piece -rate basis in the region of employment, and commutes daily from his permanent residence to the farm on which he is so employed, and has been employed in agriculture less than thirteen (13) weeks during the preceding calendar year; or such employee is sixteen (16) years of age or under and; is employed as a harvest laborer, is paid on a piece-rate basis in an operation which has been, and is customarily and generally recognized as having been paid on a piece-rate basis in the region of employment, and is employed on the same farm as his parent or person standing in the place of his parent, and is paid at the same piece-rate basis as employees over the age of sixteen (16) years are paid on the same farm; or such employee is principally engaged in the range production of livestock.

**SECTION 45-606, IDAHO CODE:** All wages due a separated employee must be paid the earlier of the next regularly scheduled payday or within 10 days of separation, weekends and holidays excluded. If the separated employee makes a written request for earlier payment, all wages then due must be paid within 48 hours, weekends and holidays excluded.

The Wage and Hour Section of the Idaho Department of Labor is responsible for the administration of the Idaho Minimum Wage and the Wage Payment Act.

For further information, "A Guide to Idaho Labor Laws" is available at any Idaho Department of Labor office in the state and online at <u>labor.idaho.gov/pdf/wagehour.pdf</u> (English) and <u>labor.idaho.gov/pdf/wagehourspan.pdf</u> (Spanish) or call Kootenai County (208) 457-8789; Boise (208) 332-3570; Pocatello (208) 236-6710, ext. 3659; or Burley (208) 678-5518, ext. 3128. Dial 800-377-3529 for Idaho Relay Service.

#### NOTICE TO EMPLOYERS:

THIS OFFICIAL NOTICE MUST BE POSTED IN A CONSPICUOUS PLACE, IN OR ABOUT THE PREMISES WHERE ANY PERSON SUBJECT TO THE ACT IS EMPLOYED, OR IN A PLACE ACCESSIBLE TO EMPLOYEES (SECTION 44-1507, IDAHO CODE).

EMPLOYMENT OF WORKERS WITH DISABILITIES OR APPRENTICES MUST BE IN CONFORMANCE WITH SECTION 44-1505 AND 44-1506, IDAHO CODE.

FOR ADDITIONAL POSTERS OR INFORMATION, PLEASE CONTACT THE ADDRESS STATED ON THIS BULLETIN OR ACCESS OUR WEBSITE AT <u>http://labor.idaho.gov</u>

# EQUAL OPPORTUNITY IS THE LAW

# IT IS AGAINST THE LAW FOR THIS RECIPIENT OF FEDERAL FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE TO DISCRIMINATE ON THE FOLLOWING BASIS:

Against any individual in the United States, on the basis of race, color, religion, sex (including pregnancy, childbirth, and related medical conditions, sex stereotyping, transgender status, and gender identity), national origin (including limited English proficiency), age, disability, or political affiliation or belief, or, against any beneficiary of, applicant to, or participant in programs financially assisted under Title I of the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act, on the basis of the individual's citizenship status or participation in any WIOA Title I-financially assisted program or activity.

# THE RECIPIENT MUST NOT DISCRIMINATE IN ANY OF THE FOLLOWING AREAS:

- Deciding who will be admitted, or have access, to any WIOA Title I-financially assisted program or activity;
- Providing opportunities in, or treating any person with regard to, such a program or activity; or
- Making employment decisions in the administration of, or in connection with, such program or activity.

Recipients of federal financial assistance must take reasonable steps to ensure that communications with individuals with disabilities are as effective as communications with others. This means that, upon request and at no cost to the individual, recipients are required to provide appropriate auxiliary aids and services to qualified individuals with disabilities.

#### WHAT TO DO IF YOU BELIEVE YOU HAVE EXPERIENCED DISCRIMINATION

If you think that you have been subjected to discrimination under a WIOA Title I-financially assisted program or activity, you may file a complaint within 180 days from the date of the alleged violation with either:

- The recipient's Equal Opportunity Officer (or the person whom the recipient has designated for this purpose); or
- The Director, Civil Rights Center (CRC), U.S. Department of Labor, 200 Constitution Avenue NW., Room N-4123, Washington, DC 20210 or electronically as directed on the CRC Web site at www.dol.gov/crc.

If you file your complaint with the recipient, you must wait either until the recipient issues a written Notice of Final Action, or until 90 days have passed (whichever is sooner), before filing with the Civil Rights Center (see address above).

If the recipient does not give you a written Notice of Final Action within 90 days of the day on which you filed your complaint, you may file a complaint with CRC before receiving that Notice. However, you must file your CRC complaint within 30 days of the 90-day deadline (in other words, within 120 days after the day on which you filed your complaint with the recipient).

If the recipient does give you a written Notice of Final Action on your complaint, but you are dissatisfied with the decision or resolution, you may file a complaint with CRC. You must file your CRC complaint within 30 days of the date on which you received the Notice of Final Action.

To file a complaint with IDOL's Equal Opportunity Officer, contact: Amy Hohnstein WIOA Equal Opportunity Officer (208) 332-3570 x 3330 amy.hohnstein@labor.idaho.gov



Idaho Department of Labor is an equal opportunity employer. Auxiliary aids and services are available upon request to individuals with disabilities. Dial 711 for Idaho Relay Service.



# Job Safety and Health IT'S THE LAW!

#### All workers have the right to:

- A safe workplace.
- Raise a safety or health concern with your employer or OSHA, or report a workrelated injury or illness, without being retaliated against.
- Receive information and training on job hazards, including all hazardous substances in your workplace.
- Request a confidential OSHA inspection of your workplace if you believe there are unsafe or unhealthy conditions. You have the right to have a representative contact OSHA on your behalf.
- Participate (or have your representative participate) in an OSHA inspection and speak in private to the inspector.
- File a complaint with OSHA within 30 days (by phone, online or by mail) if you have been retaliated against for using your rights.
- See any OSHA citations issued to your employer.
- Request copies of your medical records, tests that measure hazards in the workplace, and the workplace injury and illness log.

#### **Employers must**:

- Provide employees a workplace free from recognized hazards. It is illegal to retaliate against an employee for using any of their rights under the law, including raising a health and safety concern with you or with OSHA, or reporting a work-related injury or illness.
- Comply with all applicable OSHA standards.
- Notify OSHA within 8 hours of a workplace fatality or within 24 hours of any work-related inpatient hospitalization, amputation, or loss of an eye.
- Provide required training to all workers in a language and vocabulary they can understand.
- Prominently display this poster in the workplace.
- Post OSHA citations at or near the place of the alleged violations.

On-Site Consultation services are available to small and medium-sized employers, without citation or penalty, through OSHA-supported consultation programs in every state.

This poster is available free from OSHA.

Contact OSHA. We can help.

# EMPLOYEE POLYGRAPH PROTECTION ACT

The Employee Polygraph Protection Act prohibits most private employers from using lie detector tests either for pre-employment screening or during the course of employment.

#### PROHIBITIONS

Employers are generally prohibited from requiring or requesting any employee or job applicant to take a lie detector test, and from discharging, disciplining, or discriminating against an employee or prospective employee for refusing to take a test or for exercising other rights under the Act.

#### **EXEMPTIONS**

Federal, State and local governments are not affected by the law. Also, the law does not apply to tests given by the Federal Government to certain private individuals engaged in national security-related activities.

The Act permits polygraph (a kind of lie detector) tests to be administered in the private sector, subject to restrictions, to certain prospective employees of security service firms (armored car, alarm, and guard), and of pharmaceutical manufacturers, distributors and dispensers.

The Act also permits polygraph testing, subject to restrictions, of certain employees of private firms who are reasonably suspected of involvement in a workplace incident (theft, embezzlement, etc.) that resulted in economic loss to the employer.

The law does not preempt any provision of any State or local law or any collective bargaining agreement which is more restrictive with respect to lie detector tests.

#### EXAMINEE RIGHTS

Where polygraph tests are permitted, they are subject to numerous strict standards concerning the conduct and length of the test. Examinees have a number of specific rights, including the right to a written notice before testing, the right to refuse or discontinue a test, and the right not to have test results disclosed to unauthorized persons.

**ENFORCEMENT** The Secretary of Labor may bring court actions to restrain violations and assess civil penalties against violators. Employees or job applicants may also bring their own court actions.

#### THE LAW REQUIRES EMPLOYERS TO DISPLAY THIS POSTER WHERE EMPLOYEES AND JOB APPLICANTS CAN READILY SEE IT.





WAGE AND HOUR DIVISION UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF LABOR 1-866-487-9243 TTY: 1-877-889-5627 www.dol.gov/whd



# EMPLOYEE RIGHTS UNDER THE FAMILY AND MEDICAL LEAVE ACT

## THE UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF LABOR WAGE AND HOUR DIVISION

#### LEAVE ENTITLEMENTS

Eligible employees who work for a covered employer can take up to 12 weeks of unpaid, job-protected leave in a 12-month period for the following reasons:

- The birth of a child or placement of a child for adoption or foster care;
- To bond with a child (leave must be taken within 1 year of the child's birth or placement);
- To care for the employee's spouse, child, or parent who has a qualifying serious health condition;
- For the employee's own qualifying serious health condition that makes the employee unable to perform the employee's job;
- For qualifying exigencies related to the foreign deployment of a military member who is the employee's spouse, child, or parent.

An eligible employee who is a covered servicemember's spouse, child, parent, or next of kin may also take up to 26 weeks of FMLA leave in a single 12-month period to care for the servicemember with a serious injury or illness.

An employee does not need to use leave in one block. When it is medically necessary or otherwise permitted, employees may take leave intermittently or on a reduced schedule.

Employees may choose, or an employer may require, use of accrued paid leave while taking FMLA leave. If an employee substitutes accrued paid leave for FMLA leave, the employee must comply with the employer's normal paid leave policies.

While employees are on FMLA leave, employers must continue health insurance coverage as if the employees were not on leave.

Upon return from FMLA leave, most employees must be restored to the same job or one nearly identical to it with equivalent pay, benefits, and other employment terms and conditions.

An employer may not interfere with an individual's FMLA rights or retaliate against someone for using or trying to use FMLA leave, opposing any practice made unlawful by the FMLA, or being involved in any proceeding under or related to the FMLA.

#### ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

**BENEFITS &** 

PROTECTIONS

An employee who works for a covered employer must meet three criteria in order to be eligible for FMLA leave. The employee must:

- Have worked for the employer for at least 12 months;
- Have at least 1,250 hours of service in the 12 months before taking leave;\* and
- Work at a location where the employer has at least 50 employees
- within 75 miles of the employee's worksite.

\*Special "hours of service" requirements apply to airline flight crew employees.

#### REQUESTING LEAVE

Generally, employees must give 30-days' advance notice of the need for FMLA leave. If it is not possible to give 30-days' notice, an employee must notify the employer as soon as possible and, generally, follow the employer's usual procedures.

Employees do not have to share a medical diagnosis, but must provide enough information to the employer so it can determine if the leave qualifies for FMLA protection. Sufficient information could include informing an employer that the employee is or will be unable to perform his or her job functions, that a family member cannot perform daily activities, or that hospitalization or continuing medical treatment is necessary. Employees must inform the employer if the need for leave is for a reason for which FMLA leave was previously taken or certified.

Employers can require a certification or periodic recertification supporting the need for leave. If the employer determines that the certification is incomplete, it must provide a written notice indicating what additional information is required.

#### EMPLOYER RESPONSIBILITIES

Once an employer becomes aware that an employee's need for leave is for a reason that may qualify under the FMLA, the employer must notify the employee if he or she is eligible for FMLA leave and, if eligible, must also provide a notice of rights and responsibilities under the FMLA. If the employee is not eligible, the employer must provide a reason for ineligibility.

Employers must notify its employees if leave will be designated as FMLA leave, and if so, how much leave will be designated as

FMLA leave.

#### ENFORCEMENT

Employees may file a complaint with the U.S. Department of Labor, Wage and Hour Division, or may bring a private lawsuit against an employer.

The FMLA does not affect any federal or state law prohibiting discrimination or supersede any state or local law or collective bargaining agreement that provides greater family or medical leave rights.





## **UNEMPLOYMENT INSURANCE BENEFITS**

#### This firm is subject to the Employment Security Law of the State of Idaho.

All employees, except those specifically exempt, are insured for compensation during periods of involuntary unemployment.

#### **Unemployment Insurance**

is what the name implies — an INSURANCE paid from the Employment Security Trust Fund, a fund derived from taxation against the company or employer.

#### NO PORTION OF THE COST OF THIS PROGRAM IS DEDUCTIBLE FROM YOUR EARNINGS.

Claims for Unemployment Insurance must be filed online at <u>labor.idaho.gov/claimantportal</u>. Don't delay or you could lose your benefits. Claims should be filed immediately after separation.

> Idaho Department of Labor 317 W. Main St. Boise, Idaho 83735-0910 (208) 332-8942 Website: labor.idaho.gov

Idaho Department of Labor labor.idaho.gov

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# IDAHO LAW PROHIBITS DISCRIMINATION IN EMPLOYMENT

based on religion, race, color, sex, age (40+), disability and national origin. The law also prohibits retaliation against individuals who exercise their rights under Idaho's antidiscrimination laws.



The Commission also offers educational programs for businesses, human resource organizations and other agencies free of charge.

Rev. 5/2018

IDAHO HUMAN RIGHTS COMMISSION 317 W. Main St. Boise, ID 83735 t: 208.334.2873 f: 208.334.2664













# YOUR RIGHTS UNDER USERRA THE UNIFORMED SERVICES EMPLOYMENT AND REEMPLOYMENT RIGHTS ACT

USERRA protects the job rights of individuals who voluntarily or involuntarily leave employment positions to undertake military service or certain types of service in the National Disaster Medical System. USERRA also prohibits employers from discriminating against past and present members of the uniformed services, and applicants to the uniformed services.

#### **REEMPLOYMENT RIGHTS**

You have the right to be reemployed in your civilian job if you leave that job to perform service in the uniformed service and:

- you ensure that your employer receives advance written or verbal notice of your service;
- ☆ you have five years or less of cumulative service in the uniformed services while with that particular employer;
- ☆ you return to work or apply for reemployment in a timely manner after conclusion of service; and
- %  $\,$  you have not been separated from service with a disqualifying discharge or under other than honorable conditions.

If you are eligible to be reemployed, you must be restored to the job and benefits you would have attained if you had not been absent due to military service or, in some cases, a comparable job.

#### **RIGHT TO BE FREE FROM DISCRIMINATION AND RETALIATION**

#### If you:

- m interface are a past or present member of the uniformed service;
- $\Rightarrow$  have applied for membership in the uniformed service; or
- $\Rightarrow$  are obligated to serve in the uniformed service;

then an employer may not deny you:

- $\Rightarrow$  initial employment;
- $\Rightarrow$  reemployment;
- lpha retention in employment;
- $\Rightarrow$  promotion; or
- m lpha any benefit of employment

because of this status.

In addition, an employer may not retaliate against anyone assisting in the enforcement of USERRA rights, including testifying or making a statement in connection with a proceeding under USERRA, even if that person has no service connection.

#### **HEALTH INSURANCE PROTECTION**

- If you leave your job to perform military service, you have the right to elect to continue your existing employer-based health plan coverage for you and your dependents for up to 24 months while in the military.
- Even if you don't elect to continue coverage during your military service, you have the right to be reinstated in your employer's health plan when you are reemployed, generally without any waiting periods or exclusions (e.g., pre-existing condition exclusions) except for service-connected illnesses or injuries.

#### ENFORCEMENT

- ☆ The U.S. Department of Labor, Veterans Employment and Training Service (VETS) is authorized to investigate and resolve complaints of USERRA violations.
- For assistance in filing a complaint, or for any other information on USERRA, contact VETS at 1-866-4-USA-DOL or visit its website at http://www.dol.gov/vets. An interactive online USERRA Advisor can be viewed at http://www.dol.gov/elaws/userra.htm.
- ☆ If you file a complaint with VETS and VETS is unable to resolve it, you may request that your case be referred to the Department of Justice or the Office of Special Counsel, as applicable, for representation.
- ☆ You may also bypass the VETS process and bring a civil action against an employer for violations of USERRA.

The rights listed here may vary depending on the circumstances. The text of this notice was prepared by VETS, and may be viewed on the internet at this address: http://www.dol.gov/vets/programs/userra/poster.htm. Federal law requires employers to notify employees of their rights under USERRA, and employers may meet this requirement by displaying the text of this notice where they customarily place notices for employees.





**U.S. Department of Justice** 



**Office of Special Counsel** 



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