AMENDMENTS TO HOUSE BILL NO. 2104

Sponsor: REPRESENTATIVE DAWKINS

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Amend Bill, page 1, lines 1 through 13, by striking out all 1 2 of said lines and inserting Amending the act of October 27, 1955 (P.L.744, No.222), entitled 3 4 "An act prohibiting certain practices of discrimination 5 because of race, color, religious creed, ancestry, age or national origin by employers, employment agencies, labor 6 7 organizations and others as herein defined; creating the 8 Pennsylvania Human Relations Commission in the Governor's Office; defining its functions, powers and duties; providing 9 for procedure and enforcement; providing for formulation of 10 an educational program to prevent prejudice; providing for 11 12 judicial review and enforcement and imposing penalties," 13 further providing for powers and duties of the commission; 14 providing for policies and procedures; and establishing the Human Relations Training Fund. 15 16 Amend Bill, page 1, lines 16 through 23; pages 2 and 3, lines 1 through 30; page 4, lines 1 through 21; by striking out all of 17 18 said lines on said pages and inserting 19 Section 1. Section 7(f) of the act of October 27, 1955 (P.L.744, No.222), known as the Pennsylvania Human Relations 20 21 Act, is amended to read: Section 7. Powers and Duties of the Commission. -- The 22 23 Commission shall have the following powers and duties: 24 25 To initiate, receive, investigate and pass upon 26 complaints charging unlawful discriminatory practices and 27 violations of section 7.1. * * * 2.8 Section 2. The act is amended by adding a section to read: 29 Section 7.1. Policies and Procedures. -- (a) An employer 30 31 shall adopt written policies and procedures for preventing

(1) An explanation that harassment, discrimination and

following:

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harassment, discrimination and retaliation against employes. The

policies and procedures shall include, at a minimum, all of the

- retaliation are unlawful acts under Federal and State law.
- (2) An explanation that sexual harassment is a form of unlawful discrimination under Federal and State law.
- (3) A complaint procedure to report and address harassment, discrimination and retaliation claims, including a provision allowing employes to report the claims to persons other than their supervisor.
- (4) The specific responsibilities of a supervisor in the identification, prevention and reporting of harassment, discrimination and retaliation.
- (5) An explanation of the procedures for maintaining confidentiality surrounding the reporting of harassment, discrimination and retaliation claims.
- (6) A procedure for the timely, thorough and prompt investigation of claims of harassment, discrimination and retaliation filed by an employe.
- (b) An employer shall make the policies and procedures under this section available and easily accessible to all employes. An employer may post the policies and procedures on the employer's Internet website which is accessible to employes.
- (c) An employer shall keep records of the current policies and procedures under this section and make them available for inspection by the Commission upon request. If applicable, employers shall also keep a record of the immediately preceding policies and procedures for a period of three years after the effective date of the current policies and procedures and make them available for inspection by the Commission upon request.
- (d) The Commission shall develop standard policies and procedures that may be used by employers to satisfy the requirements under clause (a). The policies and procedures shall be made publicly available at no cost on the publicly accessible Internet website of the Commission.
- (e) Within forty-five days of any changes to Federal or State harassment, discrimination or retaliation laws that would impact the standard policies and procedures under clause (d), the Commission shall publish the changes on its publicly accessible Internet website and transmit notice of the changes to the Legislative Reference Bureau for publication in the next available issue of the Pennsylvania Bulletin. The Commission shall alert employers of changes to the standard policies and procedures and shall establish and utilize an electronic notification system to issue the alerts. An employer shall adopt the required change to the standard policies and procedures within forty-five days of receiving notification of the change from the Commission.
- (f) A person claiming a violation of this section may make a

 complaint with the Commission. The complaint must state the name

 and address of the employer alleged to have violated this

 section. If, after investigation by the Commission, the

 Commission determines that the employer violated this section,

 the Commission shall endeavor to cause compliance with this

1 section and may issue a citation and impose a fine as provided
2 in clause (q).

- (g) The Commission may issue citations and impose fines on an employer for a violation of this section as follows:
- (1) A fine of not less than five hundred dollars (\$500) and not more than one thousand dollars (\$1,000) for the first violation.
 - (2) A fine of not less than one thousand dollars (\$1,000) and not more than five thousand dollars (\$5,000) for the second or each subsequent violation.
- (3) Unless an employer has demonstrated willful disregard for the requirements of this act, the Commission shall waive the fine for a first-time violation of this section if the employer proves to the satisfaction of the Commission, within sixty days of the issuance of the citation, that the violation has been cured. The Commission may waive the fine for a second-time violation of this section if the violation is a result of the employer failing to update policies and procedures in accordance with clause (e), provided the employer proves to the satisfaction of the Commission, within sixty days of the issuance of the citation, that the violation has been cured.
- (h) The Human Relations Training Fund is established as a separate fund in the State Treasury. The following apply:
- (1) A fine imposed and collected by the Commission under clause (g) or a civil penalty assessed under section 9(f)(2) shall be deposited into the Human Relations Training Fund.
- (2) The money in the Human Relations Training Fund is appropriated on a continuing basis to the Commission to be used for training, education and outreach.
- 30 Section 3. This act shall take effect in 120 days.