LOUISIANAWORKS

PREGNANCY RIGHTS OF EMPLOYEES

Non-Discrimination

Louisiana employers who employ more than twenty-five employees for each working day in each of twenty or more calendar weeks in the current or preceding calendar year are prohibited from discriminating against an applicant for employment or an employee with medical needs causing limitations arising from **pregnancy, childbirth, and related medical conditions.**

Reasonable Accommodations

Louisiana employers have a general duty to reasonably accommodate an employee's physical limitations caused by her pregnancy, unless the employer can demonstrate the accommodation would pose an undue hardship on the operation of its business. "Reasonable accommodation" may include but is not limited to:

- Making existing facilities readily accessible to and usable by an applicant or employee with covered limitations;
- Providing scheduled and more frequent or longer compensated break periods;
- Providing more frequent bathroom breaks;
- Providing a private place, other than a bathroom stall, for the purpose of expressing breast milk;
- Modifying food or drink policy;
- Providing seating or allowing the employee to sit more frequently if the job requires the employee to stand;
- Assistance with manual labor and limits on lifting;
- Temporarily transferring the employee to a less strenuous or hazardous vacant position, if qualified;
- Providing job restructuring or light duty, if available;
- Acquiring or modifying equipment or devices necessary for performing essential job functions; or
- Modifying work schedules.

Employer Obligations

In addressing an employee's pregnancy, childbirth, or related medical condition, Louisiana employers may not:

- Refuse to promote her;
- Refuse to select her for a training program leading to promotion, provided she is able to complete the training program at least three months prior to the anticipated date of departure for her pregnancy leave;
- Discharge her from employment or from a training program leading to promotion;
- Discriminate against her in compensation or in terms, conditions, or privileges of employment;
- Deny the same benefits and privileges of employment given other non-pregnant persons, including the taking of disability or sick leave made available to temporarily disabled employees;
- Deny leave to her for a reasonable amount of time;
- Refuse to transfer her to a less strenuous or hazardous position, if so requested and if a policy, practice, or collective bargaining agreement is in place authorizing such a transfer.

The provisions of law detailed herein may be found in La. R.S. 23:341 and 23:342.

Complaints arising from these provisions of law may be made to the Louisiana Commission on Human Rights (LCHR). To learn more or to file a complaint online please visit the following site: https://gov.louisiana.gov/page/lchr

La. R.S. 23:342 states that this notice shall be posted in a conspicuous place in an area that is accessible to employees in an employer's place of business.