

November 12, 2014

2014 LEGISLATIVE SUMMARY

The following bills affecting California's state Civil Service Act and other statutes pertaining to the State Personnel Board's jurisdiction and operation were passed by the Legislature and signed into law by Governor Brown in 2014. All enacted or amended statutes are effective on January 1 of the year following the enactment or enrollment of the bills. (Cal. Const. Art. IV, sec. 8, subd. (c).)

2014 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Subject: State Personnel Board Administrative Regulations
Applies to: State Personnel Board
Bill Number: SB 1206 (Evans, D), Chapter 223, Statutes of 2014
Section Amended: Government Code section 18215

The bill makes technical changes to which Board regulations are subject to the regulatory approval process under the Administrative Procedures Act (APA). Before the recent reorganization initiated by Governor Brown, SPB was vested with the responsibility of developing, maintaining and implementing equal employment opportunity guidelines. After the reorganization, the responsibility over the equal employment opportunity program was transferred to the Department of Human Resources. The bill amends Government Code section 18215 to delete any reference to SPB creating regulations pertaining to the equal employment opportunity program so as to eliminate any confusion to the departments regarding which entity has jurisdiction over the program.

Subject: State Civil Service: Employment Procedure
Applies to: All state departments and employees
Bill Number: SB 1240 (Anderson, R), Chapter 254, Statutes of 2014
Section Amended: Government Code section 18720.45

This bill adds a new provision to the Government Code requiring employment application forms used by state agencies and departments to include an inquiry of the applicant to disclose whether he or she has ever entered into any agreement with the state prohibiting the applicant from seeking employment with the state in the future.

Subject: State Civil Service: Employment Procedure
Applies to: All state departments and employees
Bill Number: AB 1820 (Mullin, D), Chapter 266, Statutes of 2014
Section Amended: Government Code section 18934

This bill requires that whenever CalHR or an appointing authority receives an application for examination that was filed online, CalHR and/or the appointing authority shall provide its electronic communication address to the applicant and shall contact the applicant via electronic communication instead of by mail unless the applicant request otherwise. Lastly, the bill also requires CalHR and/or the appointing authority to inform the online applicant that employment inquiry notifications and scores and ranking on examinations will be communicated electronically unless the applicant request for notifications by regular mail.

Subject: Bagley-Keene Open Meeting Act
Applies to: All state body subject to Bagley-Keene Open Meeting Act
Bill Number: AB 2720 (Ting, D), Chapter 510, Statutes of 2014
Section Amended: Government Code section 11122

This bill amends the provision of the Bagley-Keene Open Meeting Act to require a state body to report *any* action taken at an open meeting, and the vote or abstention on that action, of each member present for that action. In effect, each member's vote or abstention shall be recorded. This ensures open and transparent governance by state bodies.

Subject: Personal Services Contracts, Exemption
Applies to: Commission on Peace Officers Standard and Training (POST)
Bill Number: AB 2387 (Pan, D), Chapter 504, Statutes of 2014
Section Amended: Government Code section 19132, Public Contract Code section 10340

This bill would exempt POST from having to notify affected organizations of its intent to enter into personal services contracts under its contracting authority, a Government Code requirement for all state entities when entering into personal services contracts. This bill would also include POST's contracts for services of instructors for public safety training as an exception to the bidding requirements in the Public Contract Code.

Any questions may be directed to Alvin Gittisriboongul, Chief Counsel, State Personnel Board, at (916) 653-1403 or agittisriboongul@spb.ca.gov.