

from instituting the automatic enrollment program under this section.

(June 25, 1938, ch. 676, §18A, as added Pub. L. 111-148, title I, §1511, Mar. 23, 2010, 124 Stat. 252.)

**§ 218b. Notice to employees**

**(a) In general**

In accordance with regulations promulgated by the Secretary, an employer to which this chapter applies, shall provide to each employee at the time of hiring (or with respect to current employees, not later than March 1, 2013), written notice—

(1) informing the employee of the existence of an Exchange, including a description of the services provided by such Exchange, and the manner in which the employee may contact the Exchange to request assistance;

(2) if the employer plan's share of the total allowed costs of benefits provided under the plan is less than 60 percent of such costs, that the employee may be eligible for a premium tax credit under section 36B of title 26 and a cost sharing reduction under section 18071 of title 42 if the employee purchases a qualified health plan through the Exchange; and

(3) if the employee purchases a qualified health plan through the Exchange, the employee may lose the employer contribution (if any) to any health benefits plan offered by the employer and that all or a portion of such contribution may be excludable from income for Federal income tax purposes.

**(b) Effective date**

Subsection (a) shall take effect with respect to employers in a State beginning on March 1, 2013. (June 25, 1938, ch. 676, §18B, as added and amended Pub. L. 111-148, title I, §1512, title X, §10108(i)(2), Mar. 23, 2010, 124 Stat. 252, 914; Pub. L. 112-10, div. B, title VIII, §1858(c), Apr. 15, 2011, 125 Stat. 169.)

AMENDMENTS

2011—Subsec. (a)(3). Pub. L. 112-10 struck out “and the employer does not offer a free choice voucher” after “Exchange”.

2010—Subsec. (a)(3). Pub. L. 111-148, §10108(i)(2), inserted “and the employer does not offer a free choice voucher” after “Exchange” and substituted “may lose” for “will lose”.

EFFECTIVE DATE OF 2011 AMENDMENT

Amendment by Pub. L. 112-10 effective as if included in the provisions of, and the amendments made by, the provisions of Pub. L. 111-148 to which it relates, see section 1858(d) of Pub. L. 112-10, set out as a note under section 36B of Title 26, Internal Revenue Code.

**§ 218c. Protections for employees**

**(a) Prohibition**

No employer shall discharge or in any manner discriminate against any employee with respect to his or her compensation, terms, conditions, or other privileges of employment because the employee (or an individual acting at the request of the employee) has—

(1) received a credit under section 36B of title 26 or a subsidy under section 18071 of title 42;<sup>1</sup>

<sup>1</sup> See References in Text note below.

(2) provided, caused to be provided, or is about to provide or cause to be provided to the employer, the Federal Government, or the attorney general of a State information relating to any violation of, or any act or omission the employee reasonably believes to be a violation of, any provision of this title<sup>1</sup> (or an amendment made by this title);<sup>1</sup>

(3) testified or is about to testify in a proceeding concerning such violation;

(4) assisted or participated, or is about to assist or participate, in such a proceeding; or

(5) objected to, or refused to participate in, any activity, policy, practice, or assigned task that the employee (or other such person) reasonably believed to be in violation of any provision of this title<sup>1</sup> (or amendment), or any order, rule, regulation, standard, or ban under this title<sup>1</sup> (or amendment).

**(b) Complaint procedure**

**(1) In general**

An employee who believes that he or she has been discharged or otherwise discriminated against by any employer in violation of this section may seek relief in accordance with the procedures, notifications, burdens of proof, remedies, and statutes of limitation set forth in section 2087(b) of title 15.

**(2) No limitation on rights**

Nothing in this section shall be deemed to diminish the rights, privileges, or remedies of any employee under any Federal or State law or under any collective bargaining agreement. The rights and remedies in this section may not be waived by any agreement, policy, form, or condition of employment.

(June 25, 1938, ch. 676, §18C, as added Pub. L. 111-148, title I, §1558, Mar. 23, 2010, 124 Stat. 261.)

REFERENCES IN TEXT

Section 18071 of title 42, referred to in subsec. (a)(1), was in the original “section 1402 of this Act”, and was translated as meaning section 1402 of the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act, which is classified to section 18071 of title 42, to reflect the probable intent of Congress.

This title, referred to in subsec. (a)(2), (5), probably means title I of Pub. L. 111-148, Mar. 23, 2011, 124 Stat. 130. For complete classification of title I to the Code, see Tables.

Section 2087(b) of title 15, referred to in subsec. (b)(1), was in the original “section 2807(b) of title 15”, and probably should have read “section 40(b) of the Consumer Product Safety Act”, which is classified to section 2087(b) of Title 15, Commerce and Trade.

**§ 219. Separability**

If any provision of this chapter or the application of such provision to any person or circumstance is held invalid, the remainder of this chapter and the application of such provision to other persons or circumstances shall not be affected thereby.

(June 25, 1938, ch. 676, §19, 52 Stat. 1069.)

**CHAPTER 9—PORTAL-TO-PORTAL PAY**

Sec. 251. Congressional findings and declaration of policy.