

§ 1414. Settlement of complaints

Any settlement entered into by the parties to a process described in section 1331, 1341, 1351, or 1401 of this title shall be in writing and not become effective unless it is approved by the Executive Director. Nothing in this chapter shall affect the power of the Senate and the House of Representatives, respectively, to establish rules governing the process by which a settlement may be entered into by such House or by any employing office of such House.

(Pub. L. 104–1, title IV, §414, Jan. 23, 1995, 109 Stat. 38.)

REFERENCES IN TEXT

This chapter, referred to in text, was in the original “this Act”, meaning Pub. L. 104–1, Jan. 23, 1995, 109 Stat. 3, which is classified principally to this chapter. For complete classification of this Act to the Code, see Short Title note set out under section 1301 of this title and Tables.

§ 1415. Payments**(a) Awards and settlements**

Except as provided in subsection (c) of this section, only funds which are appropriated to an account of the Office in the Treasury of the United States for the payment of awards and settlements may be used for the payment of awards and settlements under this chapter. There are authorized to be appropriated for such account such sums as may be necessary to pay such awards and settlements. Funds in the account are not available for awards and settlements involving the Government Accountability Office, the Government Printing Office, or the Library of Congress.

(b) Compliance

Except as provided in subsection (c) of this section, there are authorized to be appropriated such sums as may be necessary for administrative, personnel, and similar expenses of employing offices which are needed to comply with this chapter.

(c) OSHA, accommodation, and access requirements

Funds to correct violations of section 1311(a)(3), 1331, or 1341 of this title may be paid only from funds appropriated to the employing office or entity responsible for correcting such violations. There are authorized to be appropriated such sums as may be necessary for such funds.

(Pub. L. 104–1, title IV, §415, Jan. 23, 1995, 109 Stat. 38; Pub. L. 108–271, §8(b), July 7, 2004, 118 Stat. 814.)

REFERENCES IN TEXT

This chapter, referred to in subsecs. (a) and (b), was in the original “this Act”, meaning Pub. L. 104–1, Jan. 23, 1995, 109 Stat. 3, which is classified principally to this chapter. For complete classification of this Act to the Code, see Short Title note set out under section 1301 of this title and Tables.

AMENDMENTS

2004—Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 108–271 substituted “Government Accountability Office” for “General Accounting Office”.

§ 1416. Confidentiality**(a) Counseling**

All counseling shall be strictly confidential, except that the Office and a covered employee may agree to notify the employing office of the allegations.

(b) Mediation

All mediation shall be strictly confidential.

(c) Hearings and deliberations

Except as provided in subsections (d), (e), and (f) of this section, all proceedings and deliberations of hearing officers and the Board, including any related records, shall be confidential. This subsection shall not apply to proceedings under section 1341 of this title, but shall apply to the deliberations of hearing officers and the Board under that section.

(d) Release of records for judicial action

The records of hearing officers and the Board may be made public if required for the purpose of judicial review under section 1407 of this title.

(e) Access by committees of Congress

At the discretion of the Executive Director, the Executive Director may provide to the Committee on Standards of Official Conduct of the House of Representatives and the Select Committee on Ethics of the Senate access to the records of the hearings and decisions of the hearing officers and the Board, including all written and oral testimony in the possession of the Office. The Executive Director shall not provide such access until the Executive Director has consulted with the individual filing the complaint at issue, and until a final decision has been entered under section 1405(g) or 1406(e) of this title.

(f) Final decisions

A final decision entered under section 1405(g) or 1406(e) of this title shall be made public if it is in favor of the complaining covered employee, or in favor of the charging party under section 1331 of this title, or if the decision reverses a decision of a hearing officer which had been in favor of the covered employee or charging party. The Board may make public any other decision at its discretion.

(Pub. L. 104–1, title IV, §416, Jan. 23, 1995, 109 Stat. 38.)

CHANGE OF NAME

Committee on Standards of Official Conduct of House of Representatives changed to Committee on Ethics of House of Representatives by House Resolution No. 5, One Hundred Twelfth Congress, Jan. 5, 2011.

SUBCHAPTER V—MISCELLANEOUS PROVISIONS

§ 1431. Exercise of rulemaking powers

The provisions of sections 1302(b)(3) and 1384(c) of this title are enacted—

(1) as an exercise of the rulemaking power of the House of Representatives and the Senate, respectively, and as such they shall be considered as part of the rules of such House, respectively, and such rules shall supersede other rules only to the extent that they are inconsistent therewith; and

(2) with full recognition of the constitutional right of either House to change such rules (so far as relating to such House) at any time, in the same manner, and to the same extent as in the case of any other rule of each House.

(Pub. L. 104-1, title V, § 501, Jan. 23, 1995, 109 Stat. 39.)

§ 1432. Political affiliation and place of residence

(a) In general

It shall not be a violation of any provision of section 1311 of this title to consider the—

- (1) party affiliation;
- (2) domicile; or
- (3) political compatibility with the employing office;

of an employee referred to in subsection (b) of this section with respect to employment decisions.

(b) “Employee” defined

For purposes of subsection (a) of this section, the term “employee” means—

- (1) an employee on the staff of the leadership of the House of Representatives or the leadership of the Senate;
- (2) an employee on the staff of a committee or subcommittee of—
 - (A) the House of Representatives;
 - (B) the Senate; or
 - (C) a joint committee of the Congress;
- (3) an employee on the staff of a Member of the House of Representatives or on the staff of a Senator;
- (4) an officer of the House of Representatives or the Senate or a congressional employee who is elected by the House of Representatives or Senate or is appointed by a Member of the House of Representatives or by a Senator (in addition an employee described in paragraph (1), (2), or (3)); or
- (5) an applicant for a position that is to be occupied by an individual described in any of paragraphs (1) through (4).

(Pub. L. 104-1, title V, § 502, Jan. 23, 1995, 109 Stat. 39.)

§ 1433. Nondiscrimination rules of House and Senate

The Select Committee on Ethics of the Senate and the Committee on Standards of Official Conduct of the House of Representatives retain full power, in accordance with the authority provided to them by the Senate and the House, with respect to the discipline of Members, officers, and employees for violating rules of the Senate and the House on nondiscrimination in employment.

(Pub. L. 104-1, title V, § 503, Jan. 23, 1995, 109 Stat. 40.)

CHANGE OF NAME

Committee on Standards of Official Conduct of House of Representatives changed to Committee on Ethics of House of Representatives by House Resolution No. 5, One Hundred Twelfth Congress, Jan. 5, 2011.

§ 1434. Judicial branch coverage study

The Judicial Conference of the United States shall prepare a report for submission by the

Chief Justice of the United States to the Congress on the application to the judicial branch of the Federal Government of—

- (1) the Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938 (29 U.S.C. 201 et seq.);
- (2) title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (42 U.S.C. 2000e et seq.);
- (3) the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990 (42 U.S.C. 12101 et seq.);
- (4) the Age Discrimination in Employment Act of 1967 (29 U.S.C. 621 et seq.);
- (5) the Family and Medical Leave Act of 1993 (29 U.S.C. 2611 et seq.);
- (6) the Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1970 (29 U.S.C. 651 et seq.);
- (7) chapter 71 (relating to Federal service labor-management relations) of title 5;
- (8) the Employee Polygraph Protection Act of 1988 (29 U.S.C. 2001 et seq.);
- (9) the Worker Adjustment and Retraining Notification Act (29 U.S.C. 2101 et seq.);
- (10) the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 (29 U.S.C. 701 et seq.); and
- (11) chapter 43 (relating to veterans’ employment and reemployment) of title 38.

The report shall be submitted to Congress not later than December 31, 1996, and shall include any recommendations the Judicial Conference may have for legislation to provide to employees of the judicial branch the rights, protections, and procedures under the listed laws, including administrative and judicial relief, that are comparable to those available to employees of the legislative branch under subchapters I through IV of this chapter.

(Pub. L. 104-1, title V, § 505, Jan. 23, 1995, 109 Stat. 41.)

REFERENCES IN TEXT

The Fair Labor Standards Act of 1938, referred to in par. (1), is act June 25, 1938, ch. 676, 52 Stat. 1060, as amended, which is classified generally to chapter 8 (§ 201 et seq.) of Title 29, Labor. For complete classification of this Act to the Code, see section 201 of Title 29 and Tables.

The Civil Rights Act of 1964, referred to in par. (2), is Pub. L. 88-352, July 2, 1964, 78 Stat. 252, as amended. Title VII of the Act is classified generally to subchapter VI (§ 2000e et seq.) of chapter 21 of Title 42, The Public Health and Welfare. For complete classification of this Act to the Code, see Short Title note set out under section 2000a of Title 42 and Tables.

The Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, referred to in par. (3), is Pub. L. 101-336, July 26, 1990, 104 Stat. 327, as amended, which is classified principally to chapter 126 (§ 12101 et seq.) of Title 42. For complete classification of this Act to the Code, see Short Title note set out under section 12101 of Title 42 and Tables.

The Age Discrimination in Employment Act of 1967, referred to in par. (4), is Pub. L. 90-202, Dec. 15, 1967, 81 Stat. 602, as amended, which is classified generally to chapter 14 (§ 621 et seq.) of Title 29, Labor. For complete classification of this Act to the Code, see Short Title note set out under section 621 of Title 29 and Tables.

The Family and Medical Leave Act of 1993, referred to in par. (5), is Pub. L. 103-3, Feb. 5, 1993, 107 Stat. 6, as amended, which enacted sections 60m and 60n of this title, sections 6381 to 6387 of Title 5, Government Organization and Employees, and chapter 28 (§ 2601 et seq.) of Title 29, Labor, amended section 2105 of Title 5, and enacted provisions set out as notes under section 2601 of Title 29. For complete classification of this Act to the Code, see Short Title note set out under section 2601 of Title 29 and Tables.