

retary of Labor or Civil Service Commission transferred to Equal Employment Opportunity Commission by Reorg. Plan No. 1 of 1978, §2, 43 F.R. 19807, 92 Stat. 3781, set out in the Appendix to Title 5, Government Organization and Employees, effective Jan. 1, 1979, as provided by section 1-101 of Ex. Ord. No. 12106, Dec. 28, 1978, 44 F.R. 1053.

#### CHAPTER 15—OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY AND HEALTH

|       |  |
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| Sec.  |  |
| 651.  | Congressional statement of findings and declaration of purpose and policy.   |
| 652.  | Definitions.   |
| 653.  | Geographic applicability; judicial enforcement; applicability to existing standards; report to Congress on duplication and coordination of Federal laws; workmen's compensation law or common law or statutory rights, duties, or liabilities of employers and employees unaffected. |
| 654.  | Duties of employers and employees.   |
| 655.  | Standards.   |
| 656.  | Administration.  |
| 657.  | Inspections, investigations, and record-keeping.   |
| 658.  | Citations.   |
| 659.  | Enforcement procedures.  |
| 660.  | Judicial review.   |
| 661.  | Occupational Safety and Health Review Commission.  |
| 662.  | Injunction proceedings.  |
| 663.  | Representation in civil litigation.  |
| 664.  | Disclosure of trade secrets; protective orders.  |
| 665.  | Variations, tolerances, and exemptions from required provisions; procedure; duration.  |
| 666.  | Civil and criminal penalties.  |
| 667.  | State jurisdiction and plans.  |
| 668.  | Programs of Federal agencies.  |
| 669.  | Research and related activities.   |
| 669a. | Expanded research on worker health and safety.   |
| 670.  | Training and employee education.   |
| 671.  | National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health.   |
| 671a. | Workers' family protection.  |
| 672.  | Grants to States.  |
| 673.  | Statistics.  |
| 674.  | Audit of grant recipient; maintenance of records; contents of records; access to books, etc.   |
| 675.  | Annual reports by Secretary of Labor and Secretary of Health and Human Services; contents.   |
| 676.  | Omitted.   |
| 677.  | Separability.  |
| 678.  | Authorization of appropriations.   |

#### § 651. Congressional statement of findings and declaration of purpose and policy

(a) The Congress finds that personal injuries and illnesses arising out of work situations impose a substantial burden upon, and are a hindrance to, interstate commerce in terms of lost production, wage loss, medical expenses, and disability compensation payments.

(b) The Congress declares it to be its purpose and policy, through the exercise of its powers to regulate commerce among the several States and with foreign nations and to provide for the general welfare, to assure so far as possible every working man and woman in the Nation safe and healthful working conditions and to preserve our human resources—

(1) by encouraging employers and employees in their efforts to reduce the number of occu-

pational safety and health hazards at their places of employment, and to stimulate employers and employees to institute new and to perfect existing programs for providing safe and healthful working conditions;

(2) by providing that employers and employees have separate but dependent responsibilities and rights with respect to achieving safe and healthful working conditions;

(3) by authorizing the Secretary of Labor to set mandatory occupational safety and health standards applicable to businesses affecting interstate commerce, and by creating an Occupational Safety and Health Review Commission for carrying out adjudicatory functions under this chapter;

(4) by building upon advances already made through employer and employee initiative for providing safe and healthful working conditions;

(5) by providing for research in the field of occupational safety and health, including the psychological factors involved, and by developing innovative methods, techniques, and approaches for dealing with occupational safety and health problems;

(6) by exploring ways to discover latent diseases, establishing causal connections between diseases and work in environmental conditions, and conducting other research relating to health problems, in recognition of the fact that occupational health standards present problems often different from those involved in occupational safety;

(7) by providing medical criteria which will assure insofar as practicable that no employee will suffer diminished health, functional capacity, or life expectancy as a result of his work experience;

(8) by providing for training programs to increase the number and competence of personnel engaged in the field of occupational safety and health;

(9) by providing for the development and promulgation of occupational safety and health standards;

(10) by providing an effective enforcement program which shall include a prohibition against giving advance notice of any inspection and sanctions for any individual violating this prohibition;

(11) by encouraging the States to assume the fullest responsibility for the administration and enforcement of their occupational safety and health laws by providing grants to the States to assist in identifying their needs and responsibilities in the area of occupational safety and health, to develop plans in accordance with the provisions of this chapter, to improve the administration and enforcement of State occupational safety and health laws, and to conduct experimental and demonstration projects in connection therewith;

(12) by providing for appropriate reporting procedures with respect to occupational safety and health which procedures will help achieve the objectives of this chapter and accurately describe the nature of the occupational safety and health problem;

(13) by encouraging joint labor-management efforts to reduce injuries and disease arising out of employment.