

STATE OF NEW YORK

8092--B

2021-2022 Regular Sessions

IN ASSEMBLY

June 11, 2021

Introduced by M. of A. REYES, JACOBSON -- read once and referred to the Committee on Labor -- committee discharged, bill amended, ordered reprinted as amended and recommitted to said committee -- recommitted to the Committee on Labor in accordance with Assembly Rule 3, sec. 2 -- committee discharged, bill amended, ordered reprinted as amended and recommitted to said committee

AN ACT to amend the labor law, in relation to clarifying that workers shall not be punished or subjected to discipline by employers for lawful absences

The People of the State of New York, represented in Senate and Assembly, do enact as follows:

1 Section 1. Paragraph (a) of subdivision 1 of section 215 of the labor
2 law, as amended by chapter 564 of the laws of 2010, the closing para-
3 graph as added by chapter 126 of the laws of 2019, is amended as
4 follows:
5 (a) No employer or his or her agent, or the officer or agent of any
6 corporation, partnership, or limited liability company, or any other
7 person, shall discharge, threaten, penalize, or in any other manner
8 discriminate or retaliate against any employee (i) because such employee
9 has made a complaint to his or her employer, or to the commissioner or
10 his or her authorized representative, or to the attorney general or any
11 other person, that the employer has engaged in conduct that the employ-
12 ee, reasonably and in good faith, believes violates any provision of
13 this chapter, or any order issued by the commissioner (ii) because such
14 employer or person believes that such employee has made a complaint to
15 his or her employer, or to the commissioner or his or her authorized
16 representative, or to the attorney general, or to any other person that
17 the employer has violated any provision of this chapter, or any order
18 issued by the commissioner (iii) because such employee has caused to be
19 instituted or is about to institute a proceeding under or related to
20 this chapter, or (iv) because such employee has provided information to

EXPLANATION--Matter in italics (underscored) is new; matter in brackets [-] is old law to be omitted.

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1 the commissioner or his or her authorized representative or the attorney
2 general, or (v) because such employee has testified or is about to
3 testify in an investigation or proceeding under this chapter, or (vi)
4 because such employee has otherwise exercised rights protected under
5 this chapter, or (vii) because the employer has received an adverse
6 determination from the commissioner involving the employee, or (viii)
7 because such employee has used any legally protected absence pursuant to
8 federal, local, or state law.

9 An employee complaint or other communication need not make explicit
10 reference to any section or provision of this chapter to trigger the
11 protections of this section.

12 As used in this section, to threaten, penalize, or in any other manner
13 discriminate or retaliate against any employee includes; threatening to
14 contact or contacting United States immigration authorities or otherwise
15 reporting or threatening to report an employee's suspected citizenship
16 or immigration status or the suspected citizenship or immigration status
17 of an employee's family or household member, as defined in subdivision
18 two of section four hundred fifty-nine-a of the social services law, to
19 a federal, state or local agency; or assessing any demerit, occurrence,
20 any other point, or deductions from an allotted bank of time, which
21 subjects or could subject an employee to disciplinary action, which may
22 include but not be limited to failure to receive a promotion or loss of
23 pay.

24 § 2. This act shall take effect on the ninetieth day after it shall
25 have become a law. Effective immediately, the addition, amendment and/or
26 repeal of any rule or regulation necessary for the implementation of
27 this act on its effective date are authorized to be made and completed
28 on or before such date.