

**Coast Community College District**  
**BOARD POLICY**  
Chapter 3  
General Institution

---

**BP 3430 Prohibition of Harassment**

**Legal References:**

Education Code Sections 212.5, 66252, and 66281.5;  
Government Code Section 12950.1;  
Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964

Unlawful harassment is contrary to basic standards of conduct between individuals. It is prohibited by state and federal law, as well as this policy, and will not be tolerated. The District is committed to providing an academic and work environment that respects the dignity of individuals and groups. The District shall be free of sexual harassment and all forms of sexual intimidation and exploitation including acts of sexual violence. It shall also be free of other unlawful harassment, including that which is based on any of the following statuses: race, religious creed, color, national origin, ancestry, physical disability, mental disability, medical condition, genetic information, marital status, sex, gender, gender identity, gender expression, age, or sexual orientation, or because he/she is perceived to have one or more of the foregoing characteristics or based on association with a person or group with one or more of these actual or perceived characteristics.

The District seeks to foster an environment in which all employees and students feel free to report incidents of harassment without fear of retaliation or reprisal. Therefore, the District also strictly prohibits retaliation against any individual for filing a complaint of harassment or for participating in a harassment investigation. Such conduct is illegal and constitutes a violation of this policy. All allegations of retaliation will be swiftly and thoroughly investigated. If the District determines that retaliation has occurred, it will take all reasonable steps to stop such conduct. Individuals who engage in retaliatory conduct are subject to disciplinary action, up to and including termination or expulsion.

Any student or employee who believes that he/she has been harassed or retaliated against in violation of this policy should immediately report such incidents by following the procedures described in AP 3435 titled Discrimination and Harassment Investigations. Supervisors are mandated to report all incidents of harassment and retaliation that come to their attention to the District Human Resources Office.

This policy applies to all aspects of the academic and business environments, including but not limited to classroom conditions, grades, academic standing, employment

opportunities, scholarships, recommendations, disciplinary actions, and participation in any community college activity. In addition, this policy applies to all terms and conditions of employment, including but not limited to hiring, placement, promotion, disciplinary action, layoff, recall, transfer, leave of absence, training opportunities, and compensation.

To this end, the Chancellor shall ensure that the District undertakes education and training activities to counter discrimination and to prevent, minimize and/or eliminate any hostile environment that impairs access to equal education opportunity or impacts the terms and conditions of employment.

The Chancellor shall establish procedures that define harassment on campus. The Chancellor shall further establish procedures for employees, students, and other members of the campus community that provide for the investigation and resolution of complaints regarding harassment and discrimination, and procedures for students to resolve complaints of harassment and discrimination. All participants are protected from retaliatory acts by the District, its employees, students, and agents.

This policy and related administrative procedures (including the procedure for making complaints) shall be widely published and publicized to administrators, faculty, staff, and students, particularly when they are new to the institution. They shall be available throughout the District for students and employees.

Employees who violate the policy and procedures may be subject to disciplinary action up to and including termination. Students who violate this policy and related procedures may be subject to disciplinary measures up to and including expulsion.

***NOTE: The current Coast CCD Policy on Sexual Harassment is recommended for deletion as the newly recommended language in this policy and the related procedure is broader in scope as it addresses prohibition of all forms of harassment. The newly recommended language also includes all current protected categories.***

**❖ From the current Coast CCD BP 7803 titled Sexual Harassment Policy Statement**

**Legal References**

~~Section 703, Title VII of the United States Civil Rights Act as interpreted by the United States Equal Employment Opportunity Commission, 29 CFR 1604.11.~~

~~Section 7287.6, Sub-chapter 2, Chapter 2, Division 4, Title 5 of the California Code of Regulations.~~

~~Subsection 1 (commencing with Section 53000), Section 2, Chapter 1, Division 4, Title 5, Part VI of the California Administrative Code.~~

~~Sections 87105 and 87106 of the California Education Code.~~

~~Title IX of the 1972 Educational Amendments and Regulations (45 CFR Part 86).~~

~~Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and Regulations (45 CFR Part 84).~~

~~It is the policy of the Coast Community College District to provide an educational, employment, and business environment free of unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors, and other verbal or physical conduct or communications constituting sexual harassment as defined and otherwise prohibited by state and federal statutes.~~

~~It shall be a violation of this policy for anyone who is authorized to recommend or take personal or academic action affecting an employee or student or who is otherwise authorized to transact business or perform other acts or services on behalf of or for the Coast Community College District to engage in sexual harassment as defined below.~~

~~Within the Coast Community College District, sexual harassment is prohibited regardless of the status and/or relationships the affected parties may have.~~

### **Definition**

#### **Definition of Sexual Harassment**

~~Sexual harassment occurs when unwelcome sexual advances are made, sexual favors are requested, or other verbal/physical conduct of a sexual nature is made, either explicitly or implicitly, a term or condition of an individual's educational or employment status and has the purpose of having negative impact or effect of unreasonably interfering with an individual's educational or work performance or creating an intimidating, hostile, or offensive educational or working environment.~~

### **Specific Examples**

~~For the purpose of further clarification, legal experts say the following behavior, if unwelcome, can be construed as sexual harassment:~~

- ~~1. Making unsolicited written, verbal, physical, and/or visual contact with sexual overtones.
  - ~~A. **Written.** Includes but is not limited to suggestive or obscene letters, notes, or invitations.~~
  - ~~B. **Verbal.** Includes but is not limited to derogatory comments, slurs, jokes, epithets.~~
  - ~~C. **Physical.** Includes but is not limited to assault, touching, impeding, or blocking movement.~~
  - ~~D. **Visual.** Includes but is not limited to leering, gestures, or display of sexually suggestive objects, pictures, cartoons, or posters.~~~~
- ~~2. Continuing to express sexual interest after being informed that the interest is unwelcome.~~

3. ~~Making reprisals, threats of reprisals, or implied threats of reprisals following rejection of sexual harassment. The following are examples of such reprisals:~~

a) ~~**Within the Work Environment.** Either implying or actually withholding support for an appointment, promotion, or change of assignment. Included as part of a reprisal would be recommending a poor performance evaluation or that the employee will not be kept beyond an employment probationary period.~~

b) ~~**Within the Educational Environment.** Either implying or actually withholding grades earned or deserved, suggesting a poor performance evaluation will be prepared, or suggesting a scholarship recommendation or college application will be denied.~~

### **Guidelines**

~~The Coast Community College District will appoint sexual harassment and affirmative action officers at each of the district units within the district for the purpose of handling all sexual harassment complaints through the established informal and formal complaint procedures.~~

~~All complaints of sexual harassment and discrimination will be investigated in compliance with district complaint procedures. Throughout the investigative process, the confidentiality of all parties concerned will be protected within the limits and requirements of the law. All employees will report incidents of sexual harassment brought to their attention in accordance with approved district procedures. Retaliation against any person filing a complaint is prohibited and shall result in disciplinary action.~~

### **Sanctions**

~~**Employee Sanctions**—If sexual harassment charges against an employee are deemed valid, in accordance with district policies and procedures, and/or bargaining agreement, and/or Educational Code, the district may impose sanctions such as verbal reprimands, enrollment in training programs pertaining to sexual harassment issues, written reprimands, reassignments, demotions, suspensions without pay, and dismissal from employment, depending upon the findings of the investigative process and/or hearing(s). In addition, cases involving alleged criminal misconduct will be referred to the county district attorney for possible criminal prosecution. All personnel are entitled to due process and the district will endeavor to ensure that the rights of the alleged accuser be protected.~~

~~**Student Sanctions**—If sexual harassment charges against a student are deemed valid, in accordance with the District Student Code of Conduct, the district may subject the student to disciplinary action including verbal reprimands, written reprimands, dismissal from class and/or other college activities, suspension or expulsion from the district. In~~

addition, cases involving serious misconduct may be referred to the county district attorney for possible criminal prosecution.

### **Notification**

The district will provide annual notice of the Sexual Harassment Policy to students, employees, and others who may be affected while conducting business with the district. Posters which contain the basic legal requirements shall be posted in places readily accessible to students, job applicants, existing employees, the general public, and vendors.

Also see AP 3430 titled Prohibition of Harassment as well as AP 3435 titled Discrimination and Harassment Investigations

---

**NOTE:** The underlined language in **red ink** is **legally required** language recommended by the League's Policy and Procedure Service to comply with the applicable legal references. The language recommended for deletion (struck through) in **black ink** is from current Coast CCD BP 7803 titled Sexual Harassment Policy Statement adopted on November 16, 1983 and revised on January 8, 1986; June 1, 1988; November 28, 1990; and April 21, 1993 (replaces CCCD Policy 050-1-6, Spring 2011). The language in **green ink** was added during the review with James Andrews and Jane Wright on December 3, 2012. Jack Lipton's November 24, 2012 recommended revisions (via email) were incorporated in this version.

---

### **Date Adopted:**

(Formerly BP 7803 (050-1-6, Spring 2011))

## Legal Citations for BP 3430

### Education Code Sections 212.5, and 66281.5; Title IX Education Amendments of 1972; Title 5 Sections 59320 et seq.; Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964

#### EDUCATION CODE SECTION 212.5

**212.5.** "Sexual harassment" means unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors, and other verbal, visual, or physical conduct of a sexual nature, made by someone from or in the work or educational setting, under any of the following conditions:

(a) Submission to the conduct is explicitly or implicitly made a term or a condition of an individual's employment, academic status, or progress.

(b) Submission to, or rejection of, the conduct by the individual is used as the basis of employment or academic decisions affecting the individual.

(c) The conduct has the purpose or effect of having a negative impact upon the individual's work or academic performance, or of creating an intimidating, hostile, or offensive work or educational environment.

(d) Submission to, or rejection of, the conduct by the individual is used as the basis for any decision affecting the individual regarding benefits and services, honors, programs, or activities available at or through the educational institution.

#### Education Code Section 66281.5

**66281.5.** (a) It is the policy of the State of California, pursuant to Section 66251, that all persons, regardless of their sex, should enjoy freedom from discrimination of any kind in the postsecondary educational institution of the state. The purpose of this section is to provide notification of the prohibition against sexual harassment as a form of sexual discrimination and to provide notification of available remedies.

(b) Each postsecondary educational institution in the State of California shall have a written policy on sexual harassment. It is the intent of the Legislature that each educational institution in this state include this policy in its regular policy statement rather than distribute an additional written document.

(c) The postsecondary educational institution's written policy on sexual harassment shall include information on where to obtain the specific rules and procedures for reporting charges of sexual harassment and for pursuing available remedies.

(d) A copy of the postsecondary educational institution's written policy on sexual harassment shall be displayed in a prominent location in the main administrative building or other area of the campus or school site. "Prominent location" means that location, or those locations, in the main administrative building or other area where notices regarding the institution's rules, regulations, procedures, and standards of conduct are posted.

(e) A copy of the postsecondary educational institution's written policy on sexual harassment, as it pertains to students, shall be provided as part

of any orientation program conducted for new students at the beginning of each quarter, semester, or summer session, as applicable.

(f) A copy of the postsecondary educational institution's written policy on sexual harassment shall be provided for each faculty member, all members of the administrative staff, and all members of the support staff at the beginning of the first quarter or semester of the school year, or at the time that there is a new employee hired.

(g) A copy of the postsecondary educational institution's written policy on sexual harassment shall appear in any publication of the institution that sets forth the comprehensive rules, regulations, procedures, and standards of conduct for the institution.

## Title IX, Education Amendments of 1972

**(Title 20 U.S.C. Sections 1681-1688)**

### **Section 1681. Sex**

**(a) Prohibition against discrimination; exceptions.** No person in the United States shall, on the basis of sex, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any education program or activity receiving Federal financial assistance, except that:

#### **(1) Classes of educational institutions subject to prohibition**

in regard to admissions to educational institutions, this section shall apply only to institutions of vocational education, professional education, and graduate higher education, and to public institutions of undergraduate higher education;

#### **(2) Educational institutions commencing planned change in admissions**

in regard to admissions to educational institutions, this section shall not apply (A) for one year from June 23, 1972, nor for six years after June 23, 1972, in the case of an educational institution which has begun the process of changing from being an institution which admits only students of one sex to being an institution which admits students of both sexes, but only if it is carrying out a plan for such a change which is approved by the Secretary of Education or (B) for seven years from the date an educational institution begins the process of changing from being an institution which admits only students of one sex to being an institution which admits students of both sexes, but only if it is carrying out a plan for such a change which is approved by the Secretary of Education, whichever is the later;

#### **(3) Educational institutions of religious organizations with contrary religious tenets**

this section shall not apply to any educational institution which is controlled by a religious organization if the application of this subsection would not be consistent with the religious tenets of such organization;

#### **(4) Educational institutions training individuals for military services or merchant**

**marine** this section shall not apply to an educational institution whose primary purpose is the training of individuals for the military services of the United States, or the merchant marine;

**(5) Public educational institutions with traditional and continuing admissions policy** in regard to admissions this section shall not apply to any public institution of undergraduate higher education which is an institution that traditionally and continually from its establishment has had a policy of admitting only students of one sex;

**(6) Social fraternities or sororities; voluntary youth service organizations** this section shall not apply to membership practices --

(A) of a social fraternity or social sorority which is exempt from taxation under section 501(a) of Title 26, the active membership of which consists primarily of students in attendance at an institution of higher education, or

(B) of the Young Men's Christian Association, Young Women's Christian Association; Girl Scouts, Boy Scouts, Camp Fire Girls, and voluntary youth service organizations which are so exempt, the membership of which has traditionally been limited to persons of one sex and principally to persons of less than nineteen years of age;

**(7) Boy or Girl conferences**

this section shall not apply to--

(A) any program or activity of the American Legion undertaken in connection with the organization or operation of any Boys State conference, Boys Nation conference, Girls State conference, or Girls Nation conference; or

(B) any program or activity of any secondary school or educational institution specifically for--

(i) the promotion of any Boys State conference, Boys Nation conference, Girls State conference, or Girls Nation conference; or

(ii) the selection of students to attend any such conference;

**(8) Father-son or mother-daughter activities at educational institutions** this section shall not preclude father-son or mother-daughter activities at an educational institution, but if such activities are provided for students of one sex, opportunities for reasonably comparable activities shall be provided for students of the other sex; and

**(9) Institutions of higher education scholarship awards in "beauty" pageants** this section shall not apply with respect to any scholarship or other financial assistance awarded by an institution of higher education to any individual because such individual has received such award in any pageant in which the attainment of such award is based upon a combination of factors related to the personal appearance, poise, and talent of such individual and in which participation is limited to individuals of one sex only, so long as such pageant is in compliance with other nondiscrimination provisions of Federal law.

**(b) Preferential or disparate treatment because of imbalance in participation or receipt of Federal benefits; statistical evidence of imbalance.** Nothing contained in subsection (a) of this section shall be interpreted to require any educational institution to grant preferential or disparate treatment to the members of one sex on account of an imbalance which may exist with respect to the total number or percentage of persons of that sex participating in or receiving the benefits of any federally supported program or activity, in comparison with the total number or percentage of persons of that sex in any community, State, section, or other area: *Provided*, that this subsection shall not be construed to prevent the consideration in any hearing or proceeding

under this chapter of statistical evidence tending to show that such an imbalance exists with respect to the participation in, or receipt of the benefits of, any such program or activity by the members of one sex.

**(c) Educational institution defined.** For the purposes of this chapter an educational institution means any public or private preschool, elementary, or secondary school, or any institution of vocational, professional, or higher education, except that in the case of an educational institution composed of more than one school, college, or department which are administratively separate units, such term means each such school, college or department.

### **Section 1682. Federal administrative enforcement; report to Congressional committees**

Each Federal department and agency which is empowered to extend Federal financial assistance to any education program or activity, by way of grant, loan, or contract other than a contract of insurance or guaranty, is authorized and directed to effectuate the provisions of section 1681 of this title with respect to such program or activity by issuing rules, regulations, or orders of general applicability which shall be consistent with achievement of the objectives of the statute authorizing the financial assistance in connection with which the action is taken. No such rule, regulation, or order shall become effective unless and until approved by the President. Compliance with any requirement adopted pursuant to this section may be effected (1) by the termination of or refusal to grant or to continue assistance under such program or activity to any recipient as to whom there has been an express finding on the record, after opportunity for hearing, of a failure to comply with such requirement, but such termination or refusal shall be limited to the particular political entity, or part thereof, or other recipient as to whom such a finding has been made, and shall be limited in its effect to the particular program, or part thereof, in which such noncompliance has been so found, or (2) by any other means authorized by law: *Provided, however,* that no such action shall be taken until the department or agency concerned has advised the appropriate person or persons of the failure to comply with the requirement and has determined that compliance cannot be secured by voluntary means. In the case of any action terminating, or refusing to grant or continue, assistance because of failure to comply with a requirement imposed pursuant to this section, the head of the Federal department or agency shall file with the committees of the House and Senate having legislative jurisdiction over the program or activity involved a full written report of the circumstances and the grounds for such action. No such action shall become effective until thirty days have elapsed after the filing of such report.

### **Section 1683. Judicial Review**

Any department or agency action taken pursuant to section 1682 of this title shall be subject to such judicial review as may otherwise be provided by law for similar action taken by such department or agency on other grounds. In the case of action, not otherwise subject to judicial review, terminating or refusing to grant or to continue financial assistance upon a finding of failure to comply with any requirement imposed pursuant to section 1682 of this title, any person aggrieved (including any State or political subdivision thereof and any agency of either) may obtain judicial review of such action in accordance with chapter 7 of title 5, United States Code, and such action shall not be deemed committed to unreviewable agency discretion within the meaning of section 701 of that title.

### **Section 1684. Blindness or visual impairment; prohibition against discrimination**

No person in the United States shall, on the ground of blindness or severely impaired vision, be denied admission in any course of study by a recipient of Federal financial assistance for any education program or activity; but nothing herein shall be construed to require any such

institution to provide any special services to such person because of his blindness or visual impairment.

### **Section 1685. Authority under other laws unaffected**

Nothing in this chapter shall add to or detract from any existing authority with respect to any program or activity under which Federal financial assistance is extended by way of a contract of insurance or guaranty.

### **Section 1686. Interpretation with respect to living facilities**

Notwithstanding anything to the contrary contained in this chapter, nothing contained herein shall be construed to prohibit any educational institution receiving funds under this Act, from maintaining separate living facilities for the different sexes.

### **Section 1687. Interpretation of "program or activity"**

For the purposes of this title, the term "program or activity" and "program" mean all of the operations of --

(1)(A) a department, agency, special purpose district, or other instrumentality of a State or of a local government; or

(B) the entity of such State or local government that distributed such assistance and each such department or agency (and each other State or local government entity) to which the assistance is extended, in the case of assistance to a State or local government;

(2)(A) a college, university, or other postsecondary institution, or a public system of higher education; or

(B) a local educational agency (as defined in section 2854(a)(10) of this title, system of vocational education, or other school system;

(3)(A) an entire corporation, partnership, or other private organization, or an entire sole proprietorship --

(i) if assistance is extended to such corporation, partnership, private organization, or sole proprietorship as a whole; or

(ii) which is principally engaged in the business of providing education, health care, housing, social services, or parks and recreation; or

(B) the entire plant or other comparable, geographically separate facility to which Federal financial assistance is extended, in the case of any other corporation, partnership, private organization, or sole proprietorship; or

(4) any other entity which is established by two or more of the entities described in paragraph (1), (2) or (3);

any part of which is extended Federal financial assistance, except that such term does not include any operation of an entity which is controlled by a religious organization if the application

of section 1681 if this title to such operation would not be consistent with the religious tenets of such organization.

**Section 1688. Neutrality with respect to abortion** Nothing in this chapter shall be construed to require or prohibit any person, or public or private entity, to provide or pay for any benefit or service, including the use of facilities, related to an abortion. Nothing in this section shall be construed to permit a penalty to be imposed on any person or individual because such person or individual is seeking or has received any benefit or service related to a legal abortion.

## **Cal. Admin. Code tit. 5, s 59320**

TITLE 5. EDUCATION

DIVISION 6. CALIFORNIA COMMUNITY COLLEGES

CHAPTER 10. COMMUNITY COLLEGE ADMINISTRATION

SUBCHAPTER 5. NONDISCRIMINATION IN PROGRAMS RECEIVING STATE FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE  
THROUGH THE CHANCELLOR OR BOARD OF GOVERNORS OF THE CALIFORNIA COMMUNITY COLLEGES

ARTICLE 3. DISTRICT COMPLIANCE AND ENFORCEMENT

s 59320. District Responsibility.

Each community college district has primary responsibility to insure that its programs and activities are available to all persons without regard to ethnic group identification, national origin, religion, age, race, sex, color, sexual orientation, ancestry, or physical or mental disability. Therefore, each community college district shall investigate complaints of unlawful discrimination in its programs or activities, and seek to resolve those complaints in accordance with the provisions of this subchapter.

*The U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission*

---

# Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964

*EDITOR'S NOTE: The following is the text of Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (Pub. L. 88-352) (Title VII), as amended, as it appears in volume 42 of the United States Code, beginning at section 2000e. Title VII prohibits employment discrimination based on race, color, religion, sex and national origin. The Civil Rights Act of 1991 (Pub. L. 102-166) (CRA) amends several sections of Title VII. These amendments appear in boldface type. In addition, section 102 of the CRA (which is printed elsewhere in this publication) amends the Revised Statutes by adding a new section following section 1977 (42 U.S.C. 1981), to provide for the recovery of compensatory and punitive damages in cases of intentional violations of Title VII, the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, and section 501 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973. Cross references to Title VII as enacted appear in italics following each section heading. Editor's notes also appear in italics.*

---

An Act

To enforce the constitutional right to vote, to confer jurisdiction upon the district courts of the United States to provide injunctive relief against discrimination in public accommodations, to authorize the attorney General to institute suits to protect constitutional rights in public facilities and public education, to extend the Commission on Civil Rights, to prevent discrimination in federally assisted programs, to establish a Commission on Equal Employment Opportunity, and for other purposes.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled, That this Act may be cited as the "Civil Rights Act of 1964".

## DEFINITIONS

SEC. 2000e. *[Section 701]*

For the purposes of this subchapter-(a) The term ``person'' includes one or more individuals, governments, governmental agencies, political subdivisions, labor unions, partnerships, associations, corporations, legal representatives, mutual companies, joint-stock companies, trusts, unincorporated organizations, trustees, trustees in cases under title 11 *[bankruptcy]*, or receivers.

(b) The term ``employer'' means a person engaged in an industry affecting commerce who has fifteen or more employees for each working day in each of twenty or more calendar weeks in the current or preceding calendar year, and any agent of such a person, but such term does not include (1) the United States, a corporation wholly owned by the Government of the United States, an Indian tribe, or any department or agency of the District of Columbia subject by statute to procedures of the competitive service (as defined in section 2102 of title 5 *[of the United States Code]*), or (2) a bona fide private membership club (other than a labor organization) which is exempt from taxation under section 501(c) of title 26 *[the Internal Revenue Code of 1954]*, except that during the first year after March 24, 1972 *[the date of enactment of the Equal Employment Opportunity Act of 1972]*, persons having

fewer than twenty-five employees (and their agents) shall not be considered employers.

(c) The term ``employment agency'' means any person regularly undertaking with or without compensation to procure employees for an employer or to procure for employees opportunities to work for an employer and includes an agent of such a person.

(d) The term ``labor organization'' means a labor organization engaged in an industry affecting commerce, and any agent of such an organization, and includes any organization of any kind, any agency, or employee representation committee, group, association, or plan so engaged in which employees participate and which exists for the purpose, in whole or in part, of dealing with employers concerning grievances, labor disputes, wages, rates of pay, hours, or other terms or conditions of employment, and any conference, general committee, joint or system board, or joint council so engaged which is subordinate to a national or international labor organization.

(e) A labor organization shall be deemed to be engaged in an industry affecting commerce if (1) it maintains or operates a hiring hall or hiring office which procures employees for an employer or procures for employees opportunities to work for an employer, or (2) the number of its members (or, where it is a labor organization composed of other labor organizations or their representatives, if the aggregate number of the members of such other labor organization) is (A) twenty-five or more during the first year after March 24, 1972 [*the date of enactment of the Equal Employment Opportunity Act of 1972*], or (B) fifteen or more thereafter, and such labor organization-

(1) is the certified representative of employees under the provisions of the National Labor Relations Act, as amended [*29 U.S.C. 151 et seq.*], or the Railway Labor Act, as amended [*45 U.S.C. 151 et seq.*];

(2) although not certified, is a national or international labor organization or a local labor organization recognized or acting as the representative of employees of an employer or employers engaged in an industry affecting commerce; or

(3) has chartered a local labor organization or subsidiary body which is representing or actively seeking to represent employees of employers within the meaning of paragraph (1) or (2); or

(4) has been chartered by a labor organization representing or actively seeking to represent employees within the meaning of paragraph (1) or (2) as the local or subordinate body through which such employees may enjoy membership or become affiliated with such labor organization; or

(5) is a conference, general committee, joint or system board, or joint council subordinate to a national or international labor organization, which includes a labor organization engaged in an industry affecting commerce within the meaning of any of the preceding paragraphs of this subsection.

(f) The term ``employee'' means an individual employed by an employer, except that the term ``employee'' shall not include any person elected to public office in any State or political subdivision of any State by the qualified voters thereof, or any person chosen by such officer to be on such officer's personal staff, or an appointee on the policy making level or an immediate adviser with respect to the exercise of the constitutional or legal powers of

the office. The exemption set forth in the preceding sentence shall not include employees subject to the civil service laws of a State government, governmental agency or political subdivision. With respect to employment in a foreign country, such term includes an individual who is a citizen of the United States.

(g) The term ``commerce'' means trade, traffic, commerce, transportation, transmission, or communication among the several States; or between a State and any place outside thereof; or within the District of Columbia, or a possession of the United States; or between points in the same State but through a point outside thereof.

(h) The term ``industry affecting commerce'' means any activity, business, or industry in commerce or in which a labor dispute would hinder or obstruct commerce or the free flow of commerce and includes any activity or industry ``affecting commerce'' within the meaning of the Labor-Management Reporting and Disclosure Act of 1959 [29 U.S.C. 401 et seq.], and further includes any governmental industry, business, or activity.

(i) The term ``State'' includes a State of the United States, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico, the Virgin Islands, American Samoa, Guam, Wake Island, the Canal Zone, and Outer Continental Shelf lands defined in the Outer Continental Shelf Lands Act [43 U.S.C. 1331 et seq.].

(j) The term ``religion'' includes all aspects of religious observance and practice, as well as belief, unless an employer demonstrates that he is unable to reasonably accommodate to an employee's or prospective employee's religious observance or practice without undue hardship on the conduct of the employer's business.

(k) The terms ``because of sex'' or ``on the basis of sex'' include, but are not limited to, because of or on the basis of pregnancy, childbirth, or related medical conditions; and women affected by pregnancy, childbirth, or related medical conditions shall be treated the same for all employment-related purposes, including receipt of benefits under fringe benefit programs, as other persons not so affected but similar in their ability or inability to work, and nothing in section 2000e-2(h) of this title [section 703(h)] shall be interpreted to permit otherwise. This subsection shall not require an employer to pay for health insurance benefits for abortion, except where the life of the mother would be endangered if the fetus were carried to term, or except where medical complications have arisen from an abortion: Provided, That nothing herein shall preclude an employer from providing abortion benefits or otherwise affect bargaining agreements in regard to abortion.

(l) The term ``complaining party'' means the Commission, the Attorney General, or a person who may bring an action or proceeding under this subchapter.

(m) The term ``demonstrates'' means meets the burdens of production and persuasion.

(n) The term ``respondent'' means an employer, employment agency, labor organization, joint labor-management committee controlling apprenticeship or other training or retraining program, including an on-the-job training program, or Federal entity subject to section 2000e-16 of this title .