

ARIZONA BUILDERS' ALLIANCE THE PREGNANT WORKERS FAIRNESS ACT

60 YEARS SERVING OUR CLIENTS AND OUR COMMUNITY

ARIZONA BUILDERS' ALLIANCE September 13, 2023 Presented by Thom K Cope Partner, Mesch Clark Rothschild law firm Author: "How Not to be a Stupid Manager" tcope@mcrazlaw.com 520-624-8886

The Pregnant Workers Fairness Act

- Employers covered: same as Title VII: 15 or more
- Employees and applicants covered as under Title VII
- "Qualified employee:" one who with or without reasonable accommodation, can perform the essential functions of the job, except:

The Pregnant Workers Fairness Act

- Employee or applicant is considered qualified if"
 - Any inability to perform the essential function is for a temporary period;
 - The essential function could be performed in the near future; and
 - The inability to perform the essential function can be reasonably accommodated
 - "reasonable accommodation" and "undue hardship" mean the same as under the ADA

The Pregnant Workers Fairness Act

- Unlawful to fail to make a reasonable accommodation for:
 - Pregnancy
 - Childbirth, or
 - Related medical conditions
 - **1.Unless** undue hardship on the operation of the business
 - 2. Need to use the inter-active process

3. Illegal to require employee to take unpaid leave if there are other reasonable accommodations

4. Illegal to take adverse actions against employee requesting an accommodation

Remedies are the same as under the ADA and Title VII

- BACK PAY
- FRONT PAY
- REINSTATEMENT
- COMPENSATORY and/or PUNITIVE DAMGES from \$50,000 to \$300,000 depending on size of employer
- ATTORNEYS' FEES

OUESTIONS? THANK YOU FOR ATTENDING <u>A</u>ction <u>C</u>hanges <u>T</u>hings



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