

## **REQUIREMENTS OF THE NON-DISCRIMINATION IN EMPLOYEE BENEFITS CODE**

### **INTRODUCTION**

The Sacramento Non-Discrimination In Employee Benefits Code (the "Ordinance"), codified as Sacramento City Code Chapter 3.54, prohibits City contractors from discriminating in the provision of employee benefits between employees with spouses and employees with domestic partners, and between the spouses and domestic partners of employees.

### **APPLICATION**

The provisions of the Ordinance apply to any contract or agreement (as defined below), between a Contractor and the City of Sacramento, in an amount exceeding \$250,000.00. The Ordinance applies to that portion of a contractor's operations that occur: (i) within the City of Sacramento; (ii) on real property outside the City of Sacramento if the property is owned by the City or if the City has a right to occupy the property; or (iii) at any location where a significant amount of work related to a City contract is being performed.

The Ordinance does not apply: to subcontractors or subcontracts of any Contractor or contractors; to transactions entered into pursuant to cooperative purchasing agreements approved by the Sacramento City Council; to legal contracts of other governmental jurisdictions or public agencies without separate competitive bidding by the City; where the requirements of the ordinance will violate or are inconsistent with the terms or conditions of a grant, subvention or agreement with a public agency or the instructions of an authorized representative of any such agency with respect to any such grant, subvention or agreement; to permits for excavation or street construction; or to agreements for the use of City right-of-way where a contracting utility has the power of eminent domain.

### **DEFINITIONS**

As set forth in the Ordinance, the following definitions apply:

"Contract" means an agreement for public works or improvements to be performed, or for goods or services to be purchased or grants to be provided, at the expense of the City or to be paid out of moneys deposited in the treasury or out of the trust money under the control or collected by the City. "Contract" also means a written agreement for the exclusive use ("exclusive use" means the right to use or occupy real property to the exclusion of others, other than the right reserved by the fee owner) or occupancy of real property for a term exceeding 29 days in any calendar year, whether by singular or cumulative instrument, (i) for the operation or use by others of real property owned or controlled by the City for the operation of a business, social, or other establishment or organization, including leases, concessions, franchises and easements, or (ii) for the City's use or occupancy of real property owned by others, including leases, concessions, franchises and easements.

"Contract" shall not include: a revocable at-will use or encroachment permit for the use of or encroachment on City property regardless of the ultimate duration of such permit; excavation, street construction or street use permits; agreements for the use of City right-of-way where a contracting utility has the power of eminent domain; or agreements governing the use of City property that

constitute a public forum for activities that are primarily for the purpose of espousing or advocating causes or ideas and that are generally protected by the First Amendment to the United States Constitution or that are primarily recreational in nature.

“Contractor” means any person or persons, firm, partnership, corporation, company, or combination thereof, that enters into a Contract with the City. “Contractor” does not include a public entity.

“Domestic Partner” means any person who has a currently registered domestic partnership with a governmental entity pursuant to state or local law authorizing the registration.

“Employee Benefits” means bereavement leave; disability, life, and other types of insurance; family medical leave; health benefits; membership or membership discounts; moving expenses; pension and retirement benefits; vacation; travel benefits; and any other benefit given to employees. “Employee benefits” shall not include benefits to the extent that the application of the requirements of this chapter to such benefits may be preempted by federal or state.

### **CONTRACTOR’S OBLIGATION TO PROVIDE THE CITY WITH DOCUMENTATION AND INFORMATION**

Contractor shall provide the City with documentation and information verifying its compliance with the requirements of the Ordinance within ten (10) days of receipt of a request from the City. Contractors shall keep accurate payroll records, showing, for each City Contract, the employee’s name, address, Social Security number, work classification, straight time pay rate, overtime pay rate, overtime hours worked, status and exemptions, and benefits for each day and pay period that the employee works on the City Contract. Each request for payroll records shall be accompanied by an affidavit to be completed and returned by the Contractor, as stated, attesting that the information contained in the payroll records is true and correct, and that the Contractor has complied with the requirements of the Ordinance. A violation of the Ordinance or noncompliance with the requirements of the Ordinance shall constitute a breach of contract.

### **EMPLOYER NOTICE REQUIREMENTS**

(a) The Contractor shall give each existing employee working directing on a City Contract, and (at the time of hire), each new employee, a copy of the notification provided as Attachment “A.”

(b) Contractor shall post, in a place visible to all employees, a copy of the notice provided as Attachment “B.”

## Attachment A



### **YOUR RIGHTS UNDER THE CITY OF SACRAMENTO'S NON-DISCRIMINATION IN EMPLOYEE BENEFITS CODE**

On ..... (date), your employer (the "Employer") entered into a contract with the City of Sacramento (the "City") for ..... (contract details), and as a condition of that contract, agreed to abide by the requirements of the City's Non-Discrimination In Employee Benefits Code (Sacramento City Code Section 3.54).

The Ordinance does not require the Employer to provide employee benefits. The Ordinance does require that if certain employee benefits are provided by the Employer, that those benefits be provided without discrimination between employees with spouses and employees with domestic partners, and without discrimination between the spouse or domestic partner of employees.

The Ordinance covers any employee working on the specific contract referenced above, but only for the period of time while those employees are actually working on this specific contract.

The included employee benefits are:

- Bereavement leave
- Disability, life and other types of insurance
- Family medical leave
- Health benefits
- Membership or membership discounts
- Moving expenses
- Pension and retirement benefits
- Vacation
- Travel benefits
- Any other benefits given to employees

(Employee Benefits does not include benefits that may be preempted by federal or state law.)

If you feel you have been discriminated or retaliated against by your employer in the terms and conditions of your application for employment, or in your employment, or in the application of these employee benefits, because of your status as an applicant or as an employee protected by the Ordinance, or because you reported a violation of the Ordinance, and after having exhausted all remedies with your employer,

**You May . . .**

- Submit a written complaint to the City of Sacramento, Contract Services Unit, containing the details of the alleged violation. The address is:

City of Sacramento  
Procurement Services Division  
915 I Street, Second Floor  
Sacramento, CA 95814

- Bring an action in the appropriate division of the Superior Court of the State of California against the Employer and obtain the following remedies:
  - Reinstatement, injunctive relief, compensatory damages and punitive damages
  - Reasonable attorney's fees and costs

## Attachment B



### **YOUR RIGHTS UNDER THE CITY OF SACRAMENTO'S NON-DISCRIMINATION IN EMPLOYEE BENEFITS CODE**

If your employer provides employee benefits, they must be provided to those employees working on a City of Sacramento contract without discriminating between employees with spouses and employees with domestic partners.

The included employee benefits are:

- Bereavement leave
- Disability, life and other types of insurance
- Family medical leave
- Health benefits
- Membership or membership discounts
- Moving expenses
- Pension and retirement benefits
- Vacation
- Travel benefits
- Any other benefits given to Employees

If you feel you have been discriminated against by your employer . . .

#### **You May . . .**

- Submit a written complaint to the City of Sacramento, Contract Services Unit, containing the details of the alleged violation. The address is:

City of Sacramento  
Procurement Services Division  
915 I Street, Second Floor  
Sacramento, CA 95814

- Bring an action in the appropriate division of the Superior Court of the State of California against the employer and obtain reinstatement, injunctive relief, compensatory damages, punitive damages and reasonable attorney's fees and costs.

#### **Discrimination and Retaliation Prohibited.**

If you feel you have been discriminated or retaliated against by your employer in the terms and conditions of your application for employment, or in your employment, because of your status as an applicant or as an employee protected by the Ordinance, or because you reported a violation of this Ordinance . . .

#### **You May Also . . .**

Submit a written complaint to the City of Sacramento, Contract Services Unit, at the same address, containing the details of the alleged violation.