



ILLINOIS DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

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CHILD LABOR LAW

820 ILCS 205/1-22

2016 Annual Report

Administration and Enforcement Activities

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I. INTRODUCTION

The Illinois Child Labor Law regulates the employment of workers under the age of 16 and prohibits most work by children under the age of 14. The Illinois Department of Labor through its Fair Labor Standards Division administers and enforces the Child Labor Law. In accordance with 820 ILCS 205/18.2, the Department is required to file a report with the General Assembly by January 1 each year summarizing its activities regarding administration and enforcement of this law for the preceding fiscal year.

II. ADMINISTRATION

The Department maintains a toll-free hotline (1-800-645-5784) which is used primarily by the Issuing Officers in schools to obtain assistance when issuing certificates, as well as to receive complaints and provide information to the general public. The hotline number is prominently displayed on our Labor Law Poster, which is to be posted in all businesses throughout the state.

In FY 2016 the Department continued to administer a paperless permitting process. The Department maintained an email address exclusively for child labor permits and for any questions related to the Child Labor Law (DOL.ChildLaborLaw@illinois.gov). In FY16, 13,839 employment certificates were issued by schools and their duly authorized agents. Issuing officers are required to send copies of these certificates to the Department by email. Once the Department receives the certificates, we review and file them electronically.

Throughout FY16, the Department received requests for waiver of hour restrictions for children working in motion picture or related entertainment productions. The Department received and approved 443 requests from motion picture and entertainment production companies, including the television programs “Shameless,” “Empire,” and “Chicago Med,” and the Steppenwolf Theatre Company.

III. ENFORCEMENT

Three informal settlement conferences relating to possible violations of the Child Labor Law were held during FY 2016. Penalties assessed through these conferences totaled \$9,875.00, and as collected were deposited into the Child Labor and Day and Temporary Labor Enforcement Fund to fund enforcement activities. Settlement amounts are determined by the size of the business and the gravity of the violation.

IV. OUTREACH EFFORTS

Our continuing outreach and educational efforts have helped ensure compliance by providing information and instruction to a variety of individuals and organizations. In FY 2016, presentations were given to groups of educators, business people, employer associations and employees. We continue to work with the State Board of Education to ensure that work-study programs are in compliance with State and federal Child Labor Laws.

Beatriz Martorello, Division Manager

December 14, 2016