

August 5, 2022

**Re: Pennsylvania Human Relations Proposed Regulation #52-13 (IRRC #3339) –**

**Protected Classes Under the PHRA and the PFEOA**

Dear Residents and Businesses of Pennsylvania:

This correspondence is a request for input from you and your constituents regarding the Pennsylvania Human Relations Commission’s (“PHRC”) proposed Regulation #52-13 (IRRC #3339), 16 Pa. Code, Chapter 41, subchapter D, §§41.201 – 41.207 (“Proposed Regulation”) – Protected Classes Under the PHRA and the PFEOA. A copy of the Proposed Regulation is enclosed. The Proposed Regulation can also be found on IRRC’s website at

<http://www.irrc.state.pa.us/regulations/RegSrchRslts.cfm?ID=3350>.

The PHRC enforces the Pennsylvania Human Relations Act (“PHRA”) and the Pennsylvania Fair Educational Opportunities Act (“PFEOA”). The PHRA prohibits discrimination in employment, housing, commercial property, public accommodations, and educational institutions on the basis of race, color, religious creed, ancestry, age (40 and over), sex, national origin, familial status (only in housing), disability, the use, handling, or training of support or guide animals for disability, and retaliation. The PFEOA prohibits discriminations in certain educational institutions on the basis of race, color, religious creed, ancestry, sex, national origin, disability, the use, handling, or training of support or guide animals for disability, and retaliation. The PHRC has the power and duty to receive, investigate, and adjudicate complaints of discrimination. The PHRC also has the power and duty to adopt, promulgate, amend, and rescind rules and regulations to effectuate the policies and provisions of the PHRA. The PHRC also formulates policies to effectuate the purposes of the PHRA.

The PHRC published the Proposed Regulation in the PA Bulletin on April 9, 2022 with a public comment period from April 9, 2022 until May 9, 2022. Based upon the comments the PHRC received during the public comment period, the PHRC is seeking feedback from the regulated community regarding the Proposed Regulation. To facilitate receipt of this feedback, the PHRC is hosting six listening sessions. The PHRC welcomes additional insight from you and your constituents regarding the potential impact the Proposed Regulation may have on you and your constituents.

The scheduled sessions are as follows:

1. **Pittsburgh** –

**Location**: Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh – Homewood

7101 Hamilton Avenue, Pittsburgh, PA 15208

**Date**: August 24, 2022

**Times**: 12:00 p.m. – 2:30 p.m. and 4:30 p.m. – 6:30 p.m.

1. **Harrisburg** –

**Location**: Hilton Harrisburg

 One North Second Street, Harrisburg, PA 17101

**Date**: August 30, 2022

**Times**: 12:00 p.m. – 2:30 p.m. and 5:00 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.

1. **Philadelphia** –

**Location**: DoubleTree by Hilton Philadelphia Center City

 237 South Broad Street

 Philadelphia, PA 19107

**Date**: September 8, 2022

**Times**: 12:00 p.m. – 2:30 p.m. and 5:00 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.

Please feel free to share this information with your constituents and other residents. Residents, businesses, and organizations are encouraged to attend any forum that is convenient for them. We look forward to seeing you at one of these sessions and to receiving your input.

If you have any questions or need further assistance, please contact Lisa Knight, Esquire, at liknight@pa.gov or (215) 965-7702. Thank you for your time and attention to this matter.

Sincerely,

Samuel Rivera, Esquire

Chief Counsel

Enclosure