



ILLINOIS DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

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Governor

Michael D. Kleinik
Acting Director

CHILD LABOR LAW

820 ILCS 205/18.2

2019 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 (the Department) 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 of 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 public. The hotline number is prominently displayed on our Labor Law Poster, which must be posted in all businesses throughout the state.

In FY 2019, 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 FY19, 21,052 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, the Department then reviews and files the certificate electronically.

Throughout FY19, the Department received requests for waiver of hour restrictions for children working in motion picture or related entertainment productions. The Department received and approved 2,227 requests from motion picture and entertainment production companies, including the television programs “Shameless,” “Empire,” and “Chicago Med,” and the Steppenwolf Theatre Company.

III. ENFORCEMENT

One informal settlement conference relating to possible violations of the Child Labor Law was held during FY 2019. Penalties assessed through the conference totaled \$2,425.00, and 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

The Department’s continued outreach and educational efforts have helped ensure compliance by providing information and instruction to a variety of individuals and organizations. In FY 2019, the Department presented to groups of educators, businesses, employer associations and employees. The Department also continues to work with the State Board of Education to ensure that work-study programs comply with State and federal Child Labor Laws.

Marina Faz-Huppert, Director