HB3418 Engrossed

1 AN ACT concerning employment.

## 2 Be it enacted by the People of the State of Illinois, 3 represented in the General Assembly:

- 4 Section 5. The Workplace Transparency Act is amended by 5 changing Section 1-30 as follows:
- 6 (820 ILCS 96/1-30)

7 Sec. 1-30. Settlement or termination agreements.

8 (a) <u>An employer may not, as a term of employment, require</u> 9 <u>an employee to sign a nondisclosure provision of a settlement</u> 10 <u>agreement relating to a claim of sexual harassment or sexual</u> 11 <u>assault in the workplace brought by the employee or prevent</u> 12 <u>the employee from disclosing a claim of sexual harassment or</u> 13 <u>sexual assault occurring in the workplace or at a work-related</u> 14 event coordinated by or through the employer.

15 <u>(a-5) This Section does not prohibit a settlement</u> 16 agreement relating to a claim alleging sexual harassment or 17 <u>sexual assault in the workplace between an employer and an</u> 18 <u>employee or former employee from containing confidentiality</u> 19 <u>provisions as provided in this subsection. A confidentiality</u> 20 <u>provision is permitted when:</u>

- 21 (1) it relates to the monetary amount of a settlement; 22 <u>or</u>
- 23 (2) at the employee's request, it prohibits disclosure

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1of facts that could lead to the identification of the2employee. An employee, prospective employee, or former3employee and an employer may enter into a valid and4enforceable settlement or termination agreement that5includes promises of confidentiality related to alleged6unlawful employment practices, so long as:

7 (1) confidentiality is the documented preference of 8 the employee, prospective employee, or former employee and 9 is mutually beneficial to both parties;

10 (2) the employer notifies the employee, prospective 11 employee, or former employee, in writing, of his or her 12 right to have an attorney or representative of his or her 13 choice review the settlement or termination agreement 14 before it is executed;

15 (3) there is valid, bargained for consideration in 16 exchange for the confidentiality;

17 (4) the settlement or termination agreement does not 18 waive any claims of unlawful employment practices that 19 accrue after the date of execution of the settlement or 20 termination agreement;

21 (5) the settlement or termination agreement is
22 provided, in writing, to the parties to the prospective
23 agreement and the employee, prospective employee, or
24 former employee is given a period of 21 calendar days to
25 consider the agreement before execution, during which the
26 employee, prospective employee, or former employee may

1 2 sign the agreement at any time, knowingly and voluntarily waiving any further time for consideration; and

3 (6) unless knowingly and voluntarily waived by the 4 employee, prospective employee, or former employee, he or 5 she has 7 calendar days following the execution of the 6 agreement to revoke the agreement and the agreement is not 7 effective or enforceable until the revocation period has 8 expired.

9 (b) An employer may not unilaterally include any clause in 10 a settlement or termination agreement that prohibits the 11 employee, prospective employee, or former employee from making 12 truthful statements or disclosures regarding unlawful 13 employment practices.

14 (c) Failure to comply with the provisions of this Section 15 shall render any promise of confidentiality related to alleged 16 unlawful employment practices against public policy void and 17 severable from an otherwise valid and enforceable agreement.

(d) Nothing in this Section shall be construed to prevent a mutually agreed upon settlement or termination agreement from waiving or releasing the employee, prospective employee, or former employee's right to seek or obtain any remedies relating to an unlawful employment practice claim that occurred before the date on which the agreement is executed.

(e) The provisions of this amendatory Act of the 102nd
 General Assembly apply to agreements entered into on or after
 the effective date of this amendatory Act of the 102nd General

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- 1 Assembly.
- 2 (Source: P.A. 101-221, eff. 1-1-20.)