95TH GENERAL ASSEMBLY

State of Illinois

2007 and 2008

HB1941

Introduced 2/23/2007, by Rep. Harry Osterman

SYNOPSIS AS INTRODUCED:

820 ILCS 112/20 820 ILCS 112/30

Amends the Equal Pay Act of 2003. Provides that an employer subject to the Act shall preserve specified records for not less than 5 (rather than 3) years. Provides that an action to collect a wage claim under the Act shall be brought within 5 years from the date of the underpayment (rather than within 3 years from the date the employee learned of the underpayment). Effective immediately.

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AN ACT concerning employment.

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

Section 5. The Equal Pay Act of 2003 is amended by changing
Sections 20 and 30 as follows:

6 (820 ILCS 112/20)

7 Sec. 20. Recordkeeping requirements. An employer subject to any provision of this Act shall make and preserve records 8 9 that document the name, address, and occupation of each employee, the wages paid to each employee, and any other 10 information the Director may by rule deem necessary and 11 appropriate for enforcement of this Act. An employer subject to 12 13 any provision of this Act shall preserve those records for a 14 period of not less than 5 - 3 years and shall make reports from the records as prescribed by rule or order of the Director. 15

16 (Source: P.A. 93-6, eff. 1-1-04.)

17 (820 ILCS 112/30)

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Sec. 30. Violations; fines and penalties.

(a) If an employee is paid by his or her employer less than
the wage to which he or she is entitled in violation of Section
10 of this Act, the employee may recover in a civil action the
entire amount of any underpayment together with interest and

the costs and reasonable attorney's fees as may be allowed by 1 2 the court and as necessary to make the employee whole. At the request of the employee or on a motion of the Director, the 3 Department may make an assignment of the wage claim in trust 4 5 for the assigning employee and may bring any legal action necessary to collect the claim, and the employer shall be 6 required to pay the costs incurred in collecting the claim. 7 8 Every such action shall be brought within 5 $\frac{2}{3}$ years from the 9 date the employee learned of the underpayment.

10 (b) The Director is authorized to supervise the payment of 11 the unpaid wages owing to any employee or employees under this 12 Act and may bring any legal action necessary to recover the 13 amount of unpaid wages and penalties and the employer shall be 14 required to pay the costs. Any sums recovered by the Director 15 on behalf of an employee under this Section shall be paid to 16 the employee or employees affected.

17 (c) Any employer who violates any provision of this Act or any rule adopted under the Act is subject to a civil penalty 18 not to exceed \$2,500 for each violation for each employee 19 20 affected. In determining the amount of the penalty, the appropriateness of the penalty to the size of the business of 21 22 the employer charged and the gravity of the violation shall be 23 considered. The penalty may be recovered in a civil action brought by the Director in any circuit court. 24

25 (Source: P.A. 93-6, eff. 1-1-04.)

26 Section 99. Effective date. This Act takes effect upon

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1 becoming law.