CALIFORNIA UNEMPLOYMENT INS. CODE, § 2072

§ 2072. Prohibited acts; rejection or termination of employment; physical and medical examinations; promotions

It is unlawful for an employer to refuse to hire or employ; or to discharge, dismiss, reduce, suspend, or demote any individual between the ages of 40 and 64 solely on the ground of age, except in cases where the law compels or provides for such action. This section shall not be construed to make unlawful the rejection or termination of employment where the individual applicant or employee failed to meet bona fide requirements for the job or position sought or held, or to affect bona fide retirement or pension programs; nor shall this section preclude such physical and medical examinations of applicants and employees as an employer may make or have made to determine fitness for the job or position sought or held.

Promotions within the existing staff, hiring or promotion on the basis of experience and training, rehiring on the basis of seniority and prior service with the employer, or hiring under an established recruiting program from high schools, colleges, universities and trade schools shall not, in and of themselves, constitute a violation of this chapter.

This section shall not limit the right of an employer, employment agency, or labor union to select or refer the better qualified person from among all applicants for a job. The burden of proving a violation of this section shall be upon the person or persons claiming that the violation occurred. Added Stats. 1961, c. 1623, p. 3518, § 1.)

CONNECTICUT GENERAL STATUTES, § 31-126

CHAPTER 563, FAIR EMPLOYMENT PRACTICES

Sec. 31-126. Unfair employment practices. It shall be an unfair employment practice (a) for an employer, by himself or his agent, except in the case of a bona fide occupational qualification or need, because of race, color, religious creed, age, national origin or ancestry of any individual, to refuse to hire or employ or to bar or to discharge from employment such individual or to discriminate against him in compensation or in terms, conditions or privileges of employment; (b) for any employment agency, except in the case of a bona fide occupational qualification or need, to fail or refuse to classify properly or refer for employment, or otherwise to discriminate against, any individual because of his race, color, religious creed, age, national origin or ancestry; (c) for a labor organization, because of the race, color, religious creed, age, national origin or ancestry of any individual to exclude from full membership rights or to expel from its membership such individual or to discriminate in any way against any of its members or against any employer or any individual employed by an employer, unless such action is based on a bona fide occupational qualification; (d) for any person, employer, labor organization or employment agency to discharge, expel or otherwise discriminate against any person because he has opposed any unfair employment practice or because he has filed a complaint or testified or assisted in any proceeding under section 31–127; (e) for any person, whether an employer or an employee or not, to aid, abet, incite, compel or coerce the doing of any of the acts herein declared to be unfair employment practices or to attempt to do so; (f) for any employer, employment agency, labor organization or person, except in the case of a bona fide occupational qualification or need, to advertise employment opportunities in such a manner as to restrict such employment so as to discriminate against individuals because of their race, color, religious creed, age, national origin or ancestry. The provisions of this section as to age shall not apply to (1) termination of employment where the employee is thereupon entitled to benefits under the terms or conditions of any bona fide retirement or pension plan or collective bargaining agreement between the employer and a bona fide labor organization, (2) operation of the terms or conditions of any bona fide retirement or pension plan, (3) operation of the terms or conditions of any bona fide group or employee insurance plan or (4) operation of any bona fide apprenticeship system or plan. (1963, P.A. 261.)