#### 1 WORKER RIGHTS AND PROTECTIONS

- Fair Employment Practices
- Government Protection
- Worker Safety and Health
- Strikes
- Child Labor

### **2** Fair Employment Practices

- employment practices
  - ■the manners and methods by which employers deal with their employees

## **3** Government Involvement in Employment

- The government tries to see that all job applicants are evaluated solely on their ability to do the job at hand and without any improper discrimination
- The government oversees the bargaining that leads to major employment contracts around the country
- The government seeks to insure proper working conditions and treatment of those who are injured on the job

#### 4 Fair Labor

### **Standards Act (FLSA)**

- Sets hour and wage guidelines for any person who works in or produces goods for interstate commerce
- Requires time-and-a-half for overtime (more than 40 hours a week)
- Sets the minimum wage

# 5 Equal Pay Act of 1963

- Makes it illegal to use gender as a basis for paying one worker less than another who is performing similar work
- Outlaws different wage scales for equal work

# 6 Wages and Hours

- minimum wage
  - ■the lowest hourly wage the law permits employers to pay workers
- youth minimum wage
  - ■also called a sub-minimum wage
  - is set at 75% of the minimum wage for student-learners and 50% for handicapped students

# 7 Wages and Hours

■by law, the completion of 40 hours of work during a seven-day period

### 8 Protection from Discrimination

- discrimination
  - Favoring one person as compared to another
  - ■Discrimination in employment is defined as hiring, promoting, or discharging on the basis of race, color, sex, religion, gender preference, or national origin.

# 9 Equal Employment Opportunity

- equal employment opportunity
  - paved the way so that unions and employment agencies cannot discriminate against people because of race, color, religion, sex, or national origin
- Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (EEOC)
  - ■Established by the Civil Rights Act of 1964

## 10 Equal Employment Opportunity Commission

- Title VII of the Civil Rights Act makes discrimination in employment illegal.
- Age Discrimination Act of 1967
  - Makes it illegal for private employers to discriminate against persons because they are age 40 or over

## 11 Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA)

■Requires employers to provide "reasonable accommodations" for a qualified worker who happens to have a substantial physical or mental impairment

#### 12 Rehabilitation Act 1973

■ Requires the hiring and promotion of disabled individuals by employers who do more than \$2,500 worth of government business in a year

## 13 Equal Employment Opportunity Commission

- Family and Medical Leave Act (FMLA)
  - *August 1993*
  - Requires employers with 50 or more employees to provide up to 12 weeks of unpaid leave a year.
  - Gives workers time off to help care for a new baby or ill family member

# 14 Equal Employment Opportunity Commission

- Pregnancy Discrimination Act
  - ■Requires employer to treat pregnancy, giving birth, and recovery from delivery as it would other physical problems producing an inability to work

# 15 Federal Regulation 29

■Requires the elimination of harassing sexual advances, requests for sexual favors, and other verbal or physical abuse of a sexual nature

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#### **WORKER SAFETY AND HEALTH**

- Explain the roles of employers and workers regarding safety and health in the workplace
- Identify agencies that deal with workers' complaints

# 17 Safe Working Conditions

- Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA)
  - ■Created 1970
  - ■Government agency that sets and enforces standards for safe and healthful working conditions
  - ■OSHA employee will come to your business to inspect at least once a year

- ■Inspections are voluntary
- ■If inspections are refused the inspector can get a search warrant

## 18 Safe Working Conditions

- ■radiation levels
- ■tool storage
- ■protection from hot liquids
- ■safety shoe standards
- ■workplace cleanliness

### 19 Protect New Workers

- New workers often do not know enough to protect themselves.
- 724 hurt workers
  - ■27 percent said they had received no information on scaffolding safety requirements
- 868 workers who suffered head injuries
  - ■71 percent said they had no instruction about hard hats
- Of 554 workers hurt while servicing equipment

### 20 What Workers Can Do

- Don't use tools or equipment that do not have working safety guards.
- Use all personal protective devices that are provided such as earplugs, gloves, or aprons.
- Do not joke around at the workplace.

#### 21 What Workers Can Do

- Find out what any dangerous substance is before you handle it.
- Take responsibility for your own safety.

# 22 Workers' Compensation

- ■State statutes require employers to buy insurance to pay injured employees benefits if an employee is injured on the job
- ■If you are hurt on the job you will be paid for your time out of work no matter who was responsible for the injury
- ■Covers medical expenses and a percentage of your lost wages
- ■The injury must be worked related

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### Unions

# 24 National Labor Relations Act (NLRA)

- 1935 aka Wagner Act
- Created a system of regulation that assures fairness and order in the process of negotiating employment contracts
- Made unfair labor practices illegal
- Established the National Labor Relations Board (NLRB)

## 25 NLRA (continued)

- Allowed the creation of labor unions
- Collective bargaining by labor unions includes:
  - Negotiations over conditions and terms of employment between management and workers.

## 26 NLRA (continued)

- You cannot be fired for refusing to join a union
- Employers cannot hinder employee's right to organize a union
- Employers cannot interfere with or control the running of the union
- The union cannot force anyone to hold a boycott

# 27 Boycott

- Refusal to do business with a particular person or firm
- Secondary boycott
  - ■Involves getting a secondary party to boycott a business that the union is in a dispute with

### 28 Strikes

- Unions must give notice of intent to strike
- Strike is a collective work stoppage by employees to pressure the employer to give in to union demands

## 29 Picketing

■ Picketing occurs when union workers are on strike and form an organized, public protest against the company for which they work.

# 30 Taft-Hartley Act - 1947

- Provides a 60 day cooling off period
- The President of the United States could postpone a strike for up to 60 days if the strike would endanger the nation's health or safety
- During the 60 days federal mediators (referees) meet with management and labor to try to end the dispute.
- Example: Ronald Regan and the air traffic controllers in 1980s

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#### **Child Labor**

## 32 Child Labor

- The FLSA includes laws covering workers under the age of 18.
  - ■People 15 years old and younger cannot work in factories or during school hours.
  - ■People under age 18 cannot work in dangerous occupations.
- Each state has its own child-labor laws.
- Work permits can be given to students between 14 and 17 years of age.

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# 34 Work Schedule Posted by Employer

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# 36 History of Child Labor

http://www.historyplace.com/unitedstates/childlabor/index.html