Equal Employment Opportunity Commission

29 CFR Part 1614

RIN 3046–AA94

Affirmative Action for Individuals With Disabilities in Federal Employment


ACTION: Final rule; delay of effective date.

SUMMARY: In accordance with the Presidential directive in the memorandum from the Assistant to the President and Chief of Staff, dated January 20, 2017, and entitled “Regulatory Freeze Pending Review,” the U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission (“EEOC”) is delaying the effective date of a final rule published in the Federal Register on January 3, 2017.


FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Christopher Kuczynski, Assistant Legal Counsel, (202) 663–4665, or Aaron Konopasky, Senior Attorney-Advisor, (202) 663–4127 (voice), or (202) 663–7026 (TTY), Office of Legal Counsel, U.S. Equal Employment Opportunity Commission. (These are not toll free numbers.) Requests for this document in an alternative format should be made to the Office of Communications and Legislative Affairs at (202) 663–4191 (voice) or (202) 663–4494 (TTY). (These are not toll free numbers.)

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: On January 3, 2017, the EEOC published a final rule amending 29 CFR 1614.203 to clarify the affirmative action obligations that Section 501 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, 29 U.S.C. 791, imposes on federal agencies as employers. As clarified in a correction published on January 11, 2017, at 83 FR 3170, the rule was to become effective on March 6, 2017. On January 20, 2017, the White House issued a memorandum instructing Federal agencies to postpone until 60 days after January 20, 2017, the effective dates of any regulations that had been published in the Federal Register but had not yet taken effect, for the purpose of “reviewing questions of fact, law, and policy they raise.” The EEOC is, therefore, delaying the effective date of its final rule published on January 3, 2017, at 82 FR 654, until March 21, 2017.

For the Commission.


Victoria A. Lipnic,
Acting Chair.

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

Office of the Secretary

42 CFR Part 2

[SAMHSA–4162–20]

RIN 0930–AA21

Confidentiality of Substance Use Disorder Patient Records; Delay of Effective Date

AGENCY: Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, HHS.

ACTION: Final rule; delay of effective date.

SUMMARY: On January 18, 2017, the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration (SAMHSA) published a final rule on Confidentiality of Substance Use Disorder Patient Records. That rule is scheduled to take effect on February 17, 2017. In accordance with the memorandum of January 20, 2017, from the Assistant to the President and Chief of Staff, entitled “Regulatory Freeze Pending Review,” published in the Federal Register on January 24, 2017 (82 FR 8346), this action delays for 60 days from the date of the memorandum the effective date of the rule entitled “Confidentiality of Substance Use Disorder Patient Records” published in the Federal Register on January 18, 2017 (82 FR 6052).

DATES: The effective date of the Confidentiality of Substance Use Disorder Patient Records final rule, published in the Federal Register on January 18, 2017 (82 FR 6052), is delayed from February 17, 2017, to a new effective date of March 21, 2017.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Danielle Tarino, Telephone number: (240) 276–2857, Email address: PrivacyRegulations@samhsa.hhs.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: The Confidentiality of Substance Use Disorder Patient Records Final Rule updates and modernizes the Confidentiality of Alcohol and Drug Abuse Patient Records regulations (42 CFR part 2) to facilitate integration of care and new health care delivery models while protecting the privacy of patients diagnosed, treated, or referred for treatment for a substance use disorder. To the extent that 5 U.S.C. 553 applies to this action to delay the rule’s effective date, it is exempt from notice and comment because it constitutes a rule of procedure under 5 U.S.C. 553(b)(A). Alternatively, the Department’s implementation of this rule without opportunity for public comment, effective immediately upon publication today in the Federal Register, is based on the good cause exception in 5 U.S.C. 553(b)(B) in that seeking public comment is impracticable, unnecessary and contrary to the public interest. The 60-day delay in effective date is necessary to give Department officials the opportunity for further review and consideration of new regulations, consistent with the Assistant to the President’s memorandum of January 20, 2017. This memorandum instructed federal agencies to delay the effective date of rules published in the Federal Register, but which have not yet taken effect, for a period of 60 days from the date of the memorandum. Given the imminence of the effective date, seeking prior public comment before the date of the memorandum is impracticable, unnecessary and contrary to the public interest.
SUMMARY: The effective date for the final rule published January 19, 2017, at 82 FR 6278, is delayed until March 21, 2017.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Dr. Samuel S. Edwin, Director, Division of Select Agents and Toxins, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, 1600 Clifton Road NE., MS A–46, Atlanta, Georgia, 30329. Telephone: 404–718–2000.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: On January 19, 2017, HHS/CDC published a final rule titled “Possession, Use, and Transfer of Select Agents and Toxins; Biennial Review and Enhanced Biosafety Requirements” (82 FR 6278) with an effective date of February 21, 2017. With this document, HHS/CDC announces a new effective date of March 21, 2017 for this final rule. In a companion document published in this issue of the Federal Register, the U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) is making a parallel change in the effective date of their final rule. HHS/CDC bases this action on the memorandum directed the heads of Executive Departments and Agencies to temporarily postpone for sixty days from the date of the memorandum the effective dates of all regulations that had been published in the Federal Register but had not yet taken effect.


Norris Cochran,
Acting Secretary, Department of Health and Human Services.

[FR Doc. 2017–03044 Filed 2–15–17; 8:45 am]

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DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

Office of the Secretary of the Interior

43 CFR Part 10

[NGP—WASO—NAGPRA—22726; GPO Deposit Acct. 4311H2]

RIN 1024–AE37

Civil Penalties Inflation Adjustments

AGENCY: Office of the Secretary, Interior.

ACTION: Final rule.

SUMMARY: This rule revises U.S. Department of the Interior regulations implementing the Native American Graves Protection and Repatriation Act to provide for annual adjustments of civil penalties to account for inflation under the Federal Civil Penalties Inflation Adjustment Act Improvements Act of 2015 and Office of Management and Budget guidance. The purpose of these adjustments is to maintain the deterrent effect of civil penalties and to further the policy goals of the underlying statutes.

DATES: This rule is effective on February 16, 2017.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT: Melanie O’Brien, Manager, National NAGPRA Program, National Park Service, 1849 C Street NW., Washington, DC 20240.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:

I. Background

On November 2, 2015, the President signed into law the Federal Civil Penalties Inflation Adjustment Act Improvements Act of 2015 (Sec. 701 of Pub. L. 114–74) (“the Act”). The Act requires Federal agencies to adjust the level of civil monetary penalties with an initial “catch-up” adjustment through rulemaking and then make subsequent annual adjustments for inflation no later than January 15 of each year.

The Office of Management and Budget (OMB) issued guidance for Federal agencies on calculating the catch-up adjustment. See February 24, 2016, Memorandum for the Heads of Executive Departments and Agencies, from Shaun Donovan, Director, Office of Management and Budget, re: Implementation of the Federal Civil Penalties Inflation Adjustment Act Improvements Act of 2015 (M–16–06). Under the guidance, the U.S. Department of the Interior (Department) identified applicable civil monetary penalties and calculated the catch-up adjustment. A civil monetary penalty is any assessment with a dollar amount that is levied for a violation of a Federal civil statute or regulation, and is assessed or enforceable through a civil action in Federal court or an administrative proceeding. A civil monetary penalty does not include a penalty levied for violation of a criminal statute, or fees for services, licenses, permits, or other regulatory review. The calculated catch-up adjustment was based on the percent change between the Consumer Price Index for all Urban Consumers (CPI–U) for the month of October in the year of the previous adjustment (or in the year of establishment, if no adjustment has been made) and the October 2015 CPI–U.

The Department issued an interim final rule providing for calculated catch-up adjustments to civil monetary penalties contained in regulations.