

EMPLOYER'S REINSTATEMENT LIABILITY

NOTICE Worker's Compensation Reinstatement Rights

VERMONT LAW REQUIRES POSTING OF THIS NOTICE

21 VSA §643b Reinstatement; seniority and benefits protected

This law provides that an employer who regularly employs **ten or more** people (at least 10 of whom work more than 15 hours a week), has an obligation to rehire a worker who has suffered a work related injury **provided** that the following conditions are met:

1. The worker recovers from the injury within two (2) years of the onset of disability; and
2. The worker keeps the employer informed of his or her interest in reinstatement and his or her current mailing address; and
3. The worker had an expectation of continuing work had the injury not occurred; and
4. The worker is physically capable of performing either his or her prior job, if available, or an alternative suitable position.

Reinstatement must be with all benefits earned up to the date of injury, including both seniority and accrued leave time. Obviously, such benefits need not accrue during the period of actual disability.

Please note that the right to reinstatement applies only to the first available suitable job. Thus, the employer is not obligated either to create an "extra" position for a returning worker or to layoff a current employee in order to comply with this law.

Should you have questions regarding the above, please contact the Vermont Department of Labor, Workers' Compensation and Safety Division at 802-828-2286 or our website: www.labor.vermont.gov.

www.labor.vermont.gov

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:

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