



For Immediate Release

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**BOLI's 32nd Annual Employment Law Conference will help employers navigate workplace rules**  
*Compliance experts will join top employment law attorneys to focus on new protections, requirements*

Portland, OR—The Bureau of Labor and Industries will hold its 32nd Annual Employment Law Conference on **November 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup>** at the **Oregon Convention Center** in Portland, the agency announced today.

The state's premier employer training event will feature 25 sessions on frequently requested topics such as workplace harassment, rightful discharge, recent U.S. Department of Labor overtime changes, Oregon's sick time law and mental health accommodations in the workplace.

"The conference combines BOLI compliance experts with Oregon's top employment law attorneys to provide the latest and most effective tools to keep employers in compliance," said Jennifer Germundson, manager of the agency's Technical Assistance Program. "Each year we field more than 25,000 calls from employers looking to keep up-to-date on changing workplace requirements. This conference will feature what employers need to know about questions we hear the most."

The conference agenda and registration information can be found on [BOLI's website](#). Registration is nearing capacity, so organizers encourage potential attendees to [make reservations](#) soon.

The full conference is available for \$499 per attendee, with one-day conference passes also available for \$369 per person. Interested employers can also email the agency at [bolita@boli.state.or.us](mailto:bolita@boli.state.or.us) or call (971) 673-0824.

"Technical assistance supports employers so that they can focus on creating jobs and contributing to local economies around the state," said Labor Commissioner Brad Avakian. "I'm excited about this year's conference and the fact that the program has extended its reach to help more businesses succeed."

In the past five years, BOLI has nearly tripled the number of public and on-site compliance seminars, with more than 250 now held each year. In addition, the number of employers calling the employer hotline has increased by 65 percent. Attendance at the Employment Law Conference has seen a forty percent increase since 2013.

This year's conference will answer questions such as:

- How long am I required to keep employment records like applications, I-9 forms or payroll records?
- How do I handle a request for workplace accommodation?

- What are the most common employer mistakes that lead to employment claims and how can I avoid them?
- What does my business need to know about the new I-9 form and immigration law compliance?

In addition to training sessions, the conference will host representatives from the Workers' Compensation Division, Secretary of State's Small Business Ombudsman, Division of Child Support, Department of Revenue, Oregon Retirement Savings Plan, Oregon Employment Department's Labor Market Research and the Oregon Insurance Division.

For more information about BOLI's efforts to support Oregon employers and protect Oregon's workforce, visit <http://www.oregon.gov/BOLI>.

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