EXECUTIVE ORDER 08-18

AMENDING EXECUTIVE ORDER 05-01 RELATING TO AFFIRMATIVE ACTION

On January 26, 2005, I issued Executive Order 05-01, relating to affirmative action. That Executive Order directs Agency Directors and Administrators to review and discuss their affirmative action plans, to initiate training on affirmative action issues, to include affirmative action responsibilities in key job descriptions and to conduct Cultural Competency Assessment and Training.

Since the issuance of Executive Order 05-01, many state agencies have met with the Governor’s Affirmative Action Office (GAAO) to review and discuss their affirmative action plans. The Department of Administrative Services (DAS) has concluded an audit of position descriptions for the inclusion of affirmative action duties and has shared audit results with GAAO. In addition, a number of state agencies have completed Cultural Competency Assessment and Training.

Despite these gains, much more can be accomplished. The State of Oregon remains committed to the right of all persons to work and advance on the basis of merit, ability and potential. In order to clarify the provisions of Executive Order No. 05-01, I amend that order as follows.

NOW THEREFORE, IT IS HEREBY DIRECTED AND ORDERED:

1. The GAAO and each Agency Director and Administrator shall review and discuss each agency’s affirmative action plan and affirmative action goals to identify resources for improving the hiring and developmental opportunities of underrepresented persons.

2. To continue the State of Oregon’s progress in the elimination of the effects of past and present discrimination, intended or unintended, Agency Directors and Administrators shall:

   a. Provide ongoing leadership in implementing agency’s affirmative action plan;

   b. Include affirmative action and diversity responsibilities in executive and/or management job descriptions, as appropriate, on or before January 31, 2009;

   c. Ensure that Affirmative Action Representatives attend GAAO’s informational trainings to assist Representatives in fulfilling their affirmative action responsibilities;
EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 08-18
PAGE TWO

d. Post each agency's affirmative action policy statement in a visible area. The policy statement shall include contact information for the agency's Affirmative Action Representative;

e. Communicate to all employees about the Affirmative Action resources available within each agency and the important role of Affirmative Action Representatives in responding to employees' concerns of discrimination in the areas of hiring, retention, promotion and career development;

f. Evaluate and assess any trends showing an increase or decrease in discrimination and/or harassment claims; and

g. Work to improve implementation of the agency's affirmative action plan through the use of performance assessments and/or performance evaluations.

3. Under ORS 659A.012, state agencies are "required to include in the evaluation of all management personnel the manager's or supervisor's effectiveness in achieving affirmative action objectives as a key consideration of the manager's or supervisor's performance." Periodically, DAS shall conduct audits of agencies to determine whether management personnel are being evaluated based on effectiveness in achieving affirmative action objectives. Results of this audit shall be provided to GAAO.

4. GAAO will continue to coordinate with DAS in the development and presentation of training designed to improve employees' skills and competency in managing affirmative action and diversity issues.

5. GAAO will continue to monitor agencies' implementation of Cultural Competency Assessment and Implementation Services. Agency Directors and Administrators are strongly encouraged to utilize Cultural Competency Assessment and Implementation Services within their agencies if, in the opinion of GAAO and the Agency Director or Administrator, it is beneficial and appropriate for the agencies to do so.

6. DAS, in conjunction with GAAO and the Oregon Department of Justice, has developed a confidential web-based exit interview survey tool. Agency Directors and Administrators shall allow employees to utilize state equipment to access the Exit Interview survey and shall encourage all employees to complete the survey prior to their transfer or departure.
EXECUTIVE ORDER NO. 08-18
PAGE THREE

7. This Executive Order and Executive Order 05-01 expire on December 31, 2014.

Done at Salem, Oregon, this 19th day of August, 2008.

Theodore R. Kulongoski
GOVERNOR

ATTEST:

Bill Bradbury
SECRETARY OF STATE