

Employment and Labor Impacts from 2020 Elections- How Your Business May Be Affected

November 17, 2020

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- Marc Freedman, Vice President, Employment Policy, U.S. Chamber of Commerce
- Paul Kehoe, Vice President and Senior Assistant General Counsel, Leidos



2020 Election Results

Senate:

- 48 Democrats; 50 Republicans
 - Georgia (x2)

House:

• 218 Democrats; 201 Republicans













Ogletree Deakins

Remainder of 2020 - Lame Duck

- Transition begins
- Leadership elections
- Government funding, NDAA
- •Stimulus package?





Stimulus Package (Potential) Details

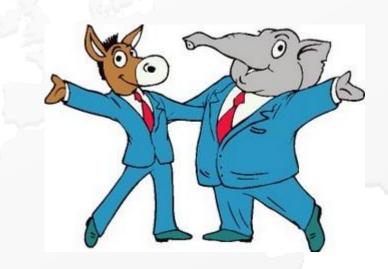
- Health specific funding (e.g., testing, vaccine development, etc.)
- Money for schools/daycare
- Unemployment insurance
- Extension of FFCRA leave provisions?
- Liability reform? OSHA ETS?



Remainder of 2020 - Lame Duck

Any chance of bipartisan agreement on:

- Pregnant Workers Fairness Act
- Equality Act
- Multiemployer pension fix
- Country cap bill
- >>>>>





Remainder of 2020 – Regulatory Arena

- Fall Regulatory Agenda coming soon?
- Accelerated timetable for regulatory actions
- Legal challenges
- Congressional Review Act





White House 2021



Executive Actions

- Immigration
 - Rescind Trump EOs
 - Issue EOs on DACA/TPS
- Civil service protections
- •No D&I EO
- Blacklisting?
- •COVID-19



Congress 2021



Congress 2021

- Filibuster?
- Legislation
 - No: PRO Act, Worker Flexibility Act, Paycheck Fairness Act, POWADA, etc.
 - *Maybe*: Pension reform? Pregnancy Accommodation? Per Country Bill? Paid leave?
- No Congressional Review Act (probably)
- Nominations (impact of Republican majority)
- 50-50 Senate?



Congress 2021- Paid Leave

- FFCRA momentum
- Fed employee momentum
- Impact of patchwork paid sick leave, paid family leave



Department of Labor in 2021





Department of Labor – OSHA

- A (new) Assistant Secretary of Labor for OSHA
- Workplace safety OSHA ETS
- Restore complete 2016 injury and illness reg?
- Enforcement
- Regulation by Shaming
- Heat standard
- Workplace violence standard



Department of Labor – Wage and Hour

- "Repeal and Replace" joint employer, overtime, independent contractor
- Enforcement
- Compliance bye-bye Opinion Letters and PAID Program?



Department of Labor – OFCCP

- Rollback D&I EO initiatives
- Continued focus on enforcement
- Analogic and Oracle case impact
- Comp data collection tool?



National Labor Relations Board



Lauren McFerran (D) (December 16, 2024)



Chair John Ring (R) December 16, 2022



Marvin Kaplan (R) August 27, 2025



William Emanuel (R) August 27, 2021



Peter Robb, General Counsel (R) November 2021

National Labor Relations Board Priorities

- Republican control through summer 2021
- Reverse:
 - Joint employer, election procedures
 - Employer property rights, independent contractor, employee discipline, fractured bargaining units



EEOC Commissioner Appointments





EEOC Priorities

- EEO-1/pay report
- Joint employer/Independent contractor?
- Conciliation
- Wellness
- COVID-19
 - National origin discrimination
 - Employee testing/screening
 - Accommodating employees with high-risk family members
 - Safeguarding against harassment
 - Remote work and the ADA



U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services

- Family reunification at border, expand humanitarian relief, protect Dreamers, divert wall funding to improving screening infrastructure at ports of entry
- Expand visas for highly skilled workers and modernize employment-based system to be more flexible to macroeconomic conditions – BUT BEWARE
- Fiscal matters
- Reaffirm H-4 EAD



