

LEGAL UPDATE
HUMAN RESOURCES ASSOCIATION OF THE MIDLANDS
GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS COMMITTEE

February 2017

1. Puzder Withdraws as Labor Secretary

On February 15, 2017, Andrew Puzder withdrew as President Donald Trump's choice for labor secretary. Puzder, the CEO of the company that owns the Hardee's and Carl's Jr. fast food chains, faced fierce opposition mostly from Democrats in part related to his position on labor issues.

<http://www.cnn.com/2017/02/15/politics/top-senate-republicans-urge-white-house-to-withdraw-puzder-nomination/>

2. What to Expect under Secretary of Education Betsy DeVos

After an unusually contentious Senate confirmation process, Betsy DeVos was confirmed as U.S. Secretary of Education on February 7, 2017. DeVos has a record of promoting charter schools and school vouchers at the K-12 level, but little is known about her priorities for higher education.

<http://www.jacksonlewis.com/publication/what-expect-under-secretary-education-betsy-devos>

3. Missouri Enacts Right to Work Law

Missouri has become 28th state to adopt a right-to-work law. Governor Eric Greitens campaigned on promises to sign “right-to-work” law if given the opportunity and the Missouri House of Representatives gave him that opportunity by passing Senate Bill 19 (SB 19) after hours of floor debates on February 2, 2017.

<http://www.jacksonlewis.com/publication/missouri-enacts-right-work-law>

4. Travel Ban Temporarily Enjoined

On Friday, February 3, and effective immediately, the travel restrictions for individuals from seven identified countries was halted by Judge James Robart of the Western District of Washington.

<http://www.jacksonlewis.com/publication/travel-ban-temporarily-enjoined>

5. Trump Administration Issues Temporary Regulatory Freeze

Shortly after President Donald Trump was inaugurated into office, White House Chief of Staff Reince Priebus instructed federal agencies to temporarily freeze any pending regulations, a standard practice for incoming presidential administrations as they define their policy strategies.

<http://www.jacksonlewis.com/publication/trump-administration-issues-temporary-regulatory-freeze>

LABOR AND EMPLOYMENT LEGISLATION:

State Legislation:

See attached SHRM State Council Update