Act, 5 U.S.C. 552b(c)(10), exempts the discussion of these matters from the open meeting requirements of the Act.

(2) Thus, the Commission has determined that a majority of its meetings or portions thereof may properly be closed to the public under the tenth exemption of the Sunshine Act, and that paragraph (d)(4) of the Sunshine Act is properly relied upon in promulgating the Commission's regulation in paragraph (a) of this section.

§ 1612.14 Judicial review.

Any person may bring an action in a United States District Court to challenge or enforce the provisions of this part. Such action may be brought prior to or within sixty (60) calendar days after the meeting in question, except that if proper public announcement of the meeting is not made, the action may be instituted at any time within sixty (60) days after such announcement is made. An action may be brought where the agency meeting was held or in the District of Columbia.

PART 1614—FEDERAL SECTOR **EQUAL EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY**

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AUTHORITY: 29 U.S.C. 206(d), 633a, 791 and 794a; 42 U.S.C. 2000e-16; E.O. 10577, 3 CFR, 1954-1958 Comp., p.218; E.O. 11222, 3 CFR, 1964-1965 Comp., p.306; E.O. 11478, 3 CFR, 1969 Comp., p.133; E.O. 12106, 3 CFR, 1978 Comp., p.263; Reorg. Plan No. 1 of 1978, 3 CFR, 1978 Comp., p.321.

SOURCE: 57 FR 12646, Apr. 10, 1992, unless otherwise noted.

Subpart A—Agency Program To Promote Equal Employment Opportunity

§ 1614.101 General policy.

(a) It is the policy of the Government of the United States to provide equal

§ 1614.102

opportunity in employment for all persons, to prohibit discrimination in employment because of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, age or handicap and to promote the full realization of equal employment opportunity through a continuing affirmative program in each agency.

(b) No person shall be subject to retaliation for opposing any practice made unlawful by title VII of the Civil Rights Act (title VII) (42 U.S.C. 2000e et seq.), the Age Discrimination in Employment Act (ADEA) (29 U.S.C. 621 et seq.), the Equal Pay Act (29 U.S.C. 206(d)) or the Rehabilitation Act (29 U.S.C. 791 et seq.) or for participating in any stage of administrative or judicial proceedings under those statutes.

§1614.102 Agency program.

- (a) Each agency shall maintain a continuing affirmative program to promote equal opportunity and to identify and eliminate discriminatory practices and policies. In support of this program, the agency shall:
- (1) Provide sufficient resources to its equal employment opportunity program to ensure efficient and successful operation:
- (2) Provide for the prompt, fair and impartial processing of complaints in accordance with this part and the instructions contained in the Commission's Management Directives;
- (3) Conduct a continuing campaign to eradicate every form of prejudice or discrimination from the agency's personnel policies, practices and working conditions;
- (4) Communicate the agency's equal employment opportunity policy and program and its employment needs to all sources of job candidates without regard to race, color, religion, sex, national, origin, age or handicap, and solicit their recruitment assistance on a continuing basis;
- (5) Review, evaluate and control managerial and supervisory performance in such a manner as to insure a continuing affirmative application and vigorous enforcement of the policy of equal opportunity, and provide orientation, training and advice to managers and supervisors to assure their understanding and implementation of the

equal employment opportunity policy and program;

- (6) Take appropriate disciplinary action against employees who engage in discriminatory practices;
- (7) Make reasonable accommodation to the religious needs of applicants and employees when those accommodations can be made without undue hardship on the business of the agency;
- (8) Make reasonable accommodation to the known physical or mental limitations of qualified applicants and employees with handicaps unless the accommodation would impose an undue hardship on the operation of the agency's program;
- (9) Provide recognition to employees, supervisors, managers and units demonstrating superior accomplishment in equal employment opportunity;
- (10) Establish a system for periodically evaluating the effectiveness of the agency's overall equal employment opportunity effort;
- (11) Provide the maximum feasible opportunity to employees to enhance their skills through on-the-job training, work-study programs and other training measures so that they may perform at their highest potential and advance in accordance with their abilities:
- (12) Inform its employees and recognized labor organizations of the affirmative equal employment opportunity policy and program and enlist their cooperation; and
- (13) Participate at the community level with other employers, with schools and universities and with other public and private groups in cooperative action to improve employment opportunities and community conditions that affect employability.
- (b) In order to implement its program, each agency shall:
- (1) Develop the plans, procedures and regulations necessary to carry out its program:
- (2) Establish or make available an alternative dispute resolution program. Such program must be available for both the pre-complaint process and the formal complaint process.
- (3) Appraise its personnel operations at regular intervals to assure their conformity with its program, this part 1614 and the instructions contained in