

## THE SECRETARY OF TRANSPORTATION WASHINGTON, DC 20590

March 2, 2017

## **Equal Employment Opportunity Policy Statement**

The U.S. Department of Transportation will maintain a model Federal work environment that is free of discrimination. We will ensure equal employment opportunity for employees, contractors, and applicants for employment, regardless of race, color, sex (gender, pregnancy, sexual harassment, sexual orientation, gender identity, or transgender status), national origin, religion, age (40 and over), disability (mental or physical), equal pay/compensation, genetic information, or retaliation.

I am committed to fostering, through effective outreach, recruitment, hiring, and employee development, an inclusive workforce that reflects America's diversity. We will continue to identify and eliminate barriers to equal employment opportunities for individuals with disabilities and groups with a low participation rate of employment in the workforce. Equal opportunity, exclusive of unlawful bias or prejudice, to work and advance based upon merit, is the law and is not an option. I also expect all managers and supervisors to ensure that our employees are given equal opportunity for training and career development programs, promotions, awards and recognitions, and other applicable benefits and privileges of employment.

The Department will enforce zero tolerance of discrimination in the workplace. Violations of the law prohibiting unlawful discrimination practices will result in appropriate disciplinary actions against offenders, up to and including dismissal. Employees who believe they have been subjected to unlawful discrimination, subjected to retaliation for opposing discrimination in the agency, or hindered from participating in the employment discrimination complaint process are encouraged to contact their Office of Civil Rights or the Departmental Office of Civil Rights.

Let us maintain our commitment to fostering an excellent work environment free of unlawful discrimination. All employees must comply with equal employment opportunity principles as we perform the Department's mission.

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Elaine L. Chao