

CHARGE OF DISCRIMINATION

This form is affected by the Privacy Act of 1974. See enclosed Privacy Act Statement and other information before completing this form.

Charge Presented To: Agency(ies) Charge No(s):

FEPA
 EEOC

Washington State Human Rights Commission

and EEOC

State or local Agency, if any

Name (Indicate Mr., Ms., Mrs.)

Home Phone (Incl. Area Code)

Date of Birth

Street Address

City, State and ZIP Code

Named is the Employer, Labor Organization, Employment Agency, Apprenticeship Committee, or State or Local Government Agency That I Believe Discriminated Against Me or Others. (If more than two, list under PARTICULARS below.)

Name

No. Employees, Members

Phone No. (Include Area Code)

Pacific Maritime Association

15+

562-495-7600

Street Address

City, State and ZIP Code

300 Oceangate, 12th Floor, Long Beach, CA 90802

Name

No. Employees, Members

Phone No. (Include Area Code)

Street Address

City, State and ZIP Code

DISCRIMINATION BASED ON (Check appropriate box(es).)

DATE(S) DISCRIMINATION TOOK PLACE

RACE COLOR SEX RELIGION NATIONAL ORIGIN
 RETALIATION AGE DISABILITY GENETIC INFORMATION
 OTHER (Specify)

Earliest Latest
[Redacted] present

CONTINUING ACTION

THE PARTICULARS ARE (If additional paper is needed, attach extra sheet(s)):

Please see attached Statement of Harm.

I want this charge filed with both the EEOC and the State or local Agency, if any. I will advise the agencies if I change my address or phone number and I will cooperate fully with them in the processing of my charge in accordance with their procedures.

I declare under penalty of perjury that the above is true and correct.

NOTARY - When necessary for State and Local Agency Requirements

I swear or affirm that I have read the above charge and that it is true to the best of my knowledge, information and belief.

SIGNATURE OF COMPLAINANT

SUBSCRIBED AND SWORN TO BEFORE ME THIS DATE
(month, day, year)

12/04/2018

Date

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Name

No. Employees, Members

Phone No. (Include Area Code)

ILWU Local 19

15+

206-623-7461

Street Address

City, State and ZIP Code

3440 E Marginal Way S, Seattle, WA 98134

Name

No. Employees, Members

Phone No. (Include Area Code)

Street Address

City, State and ZIP Code

DISCRIMINATION BASED ON (Check appropriate box(es).)

DATE(S) DISCRIMINATION TOOK PLACE

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 OTHER (Specify)

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(month, day, year)

I declare under penalty of perjury that the above is true and correct.

12/04/2018

Date

9. Class “A” longshore workers are members of the ILWU, which at the Seattle Port is represented by Local 19. Class A workers are eligible to obtain additional certifications entitling them to greater income, and to be promoted into supervisory roles.

10. Class “B” workers, in contrast, are not yet members of ILWU, but are permitted to become members after 5 years in Class B status. Class B workers also are guaranteed a minimum weekly income, and enjoy some of the benefits of union membership. Class C workers are “identified casuals,” who are one step closer to becoming Class B workers. Class D workers are “unidentified casuals.”

11. Other worker categories, who are members of the ILWU but in different Locals at the Seattle Port, are Marine Clerks (Local 52), who are Class A or Class B workers who have obtained additional training, and Foremen (Local 98), who have supervisory responsibilities.

12. “Casuals” are the lowest rung on the hierarchy of workers at the Seattle Port, and comprise roughly 300-400 individuals. There are two categories of casuals: Class C/identified casual and Class D/unidentified casual. They are not members of ILWU.

13. Under the Contract, casuals do not know from day to day if they will work a shift, let alone a full week of shifts. They are assigned the jobs that remain available each day after the Class A workers, Class B workers, and Marine Clerks all have received their assignments.

14. Other than a clean disciplinary record, the criteria for being “elevated” from Class D/unidentified casual to Class C/identified casual is the accrual of work hours and completion of training to drive to semi-truck.

15. Other than a clean disciplinary record, the sole criterion for being “elevated” from Class C/identified casual to Class B worker is the accrual of work hours.

16. There is no single “hours-accrued” threshold for such elevation; nor does such elevation occur at regular intervals. Rather, casuals are elevated whenever Respondents decide that a sufficient number of workers have left the ranks and/or the docks are sufficiently busy to demand more.

17. This policy results in a lengthy waiting period for casuals to achieve the full-time employment and benefits promised by Class B status.

18. There is another benefit to accruing seniority: according to a “Memorandum of Understanding” appended to the Contract, casuals are entitled to wage increases according to their aggregate hours, *i.e.*, “Work Experience Group,” dating from the third payroll quarter of 1984 through the present. As of July 1, 2017, those rates are:

1,000 hours = \$29.49/hour;

1,001 – 2,000 hours = \$30.49/hour;

2,001 – 4,000 hours = \$32.49/hour; and

4,001 hours or more = “Basic S/T,” *i.e.*, basic straight-time, \$40.93/hour

19. Accordingly, any occasion on which a casual is unable to accept an available shift means falling behind his or her peers in accumulating hours toward Class B elevation, and ultimate union membership, and toward a higher Work Experience Group wage.

Work conditions on the docks

20. Longshore work is extremely dangerous for everyone, but especially for pregnant and breastfeeding workers.

21. Due in large part to their reliance on diesel fuel for all of the trucks and other cargo equipment on the docks, the Seattle Port is a large source of air pollution in the Seattle area.

22. Workers routinely drive utility tractors, or UTRs. UTRs in use on the Seattle docks contain a warning: “ENGINE EXHAUST, SOME OF ITS CONSTITUENTS, AND CERTAIN VEHICLE COMPONENTS CONTAIN OR EMIT CHEMICALS KNOWN TO THE STATE OF CALIFORNIA¹ TO CAUSE CANCER AND BIRTH DEFECTS AND OTHER REPRODUCTIVE HARM. IN ADDITION, CERTAIN FLUIDS CONTAINED IN VEHICLES AND CERTAIN PRODUCTS OF COMPONENT WEAR CONTAIN OR EMIT CHEMICALS KNOWN TO THE STATE OF WASHINGTON TO CAUSE CANCER AND BIRTH DEFECTS AND OTHER REPRODUCTIVE HARM.” (Emphasis in original.)

23. Shipping containers weigh several tons and can be accidentally dropped by cranes, or can leak, spilling hazardous materials.

24. Workers also frequently engage in heavy labor, including lifting, bending, climbing, crawling, and “lashing” (the process of attaching shipping containers to vessels).

Respondents’ policies and procedures regarding pregnancy, childbirth, and related medical conditions

25. On information and belief, in acknowledgment of the importance of accruing work hours, Respondents have negotiated for credit to be awarded in at least two categories of absences experienced by casuals: when a casual is unable to work due to an on-the-job illness or injury, or due to military service.

¹ On information and belief, the UTRs used at the Port bear this warning because they are delivered from California.

26. Respondents further maintain a policy regarding accommodation of ADA-qualifying disabilities, but the policy is silent as to whether ADA-covered casuals who require a leave of absence as a reasonable accommodation will accrue seniority during that period.

27. In contrast, the Contract makes no provision for work hours credit when a female casual is absent due to pregnancy, childbirth, and related medical conditions. Nor does it provide any procedure for requesting accommodation of pregnancy or breastfeeding through job modifications.

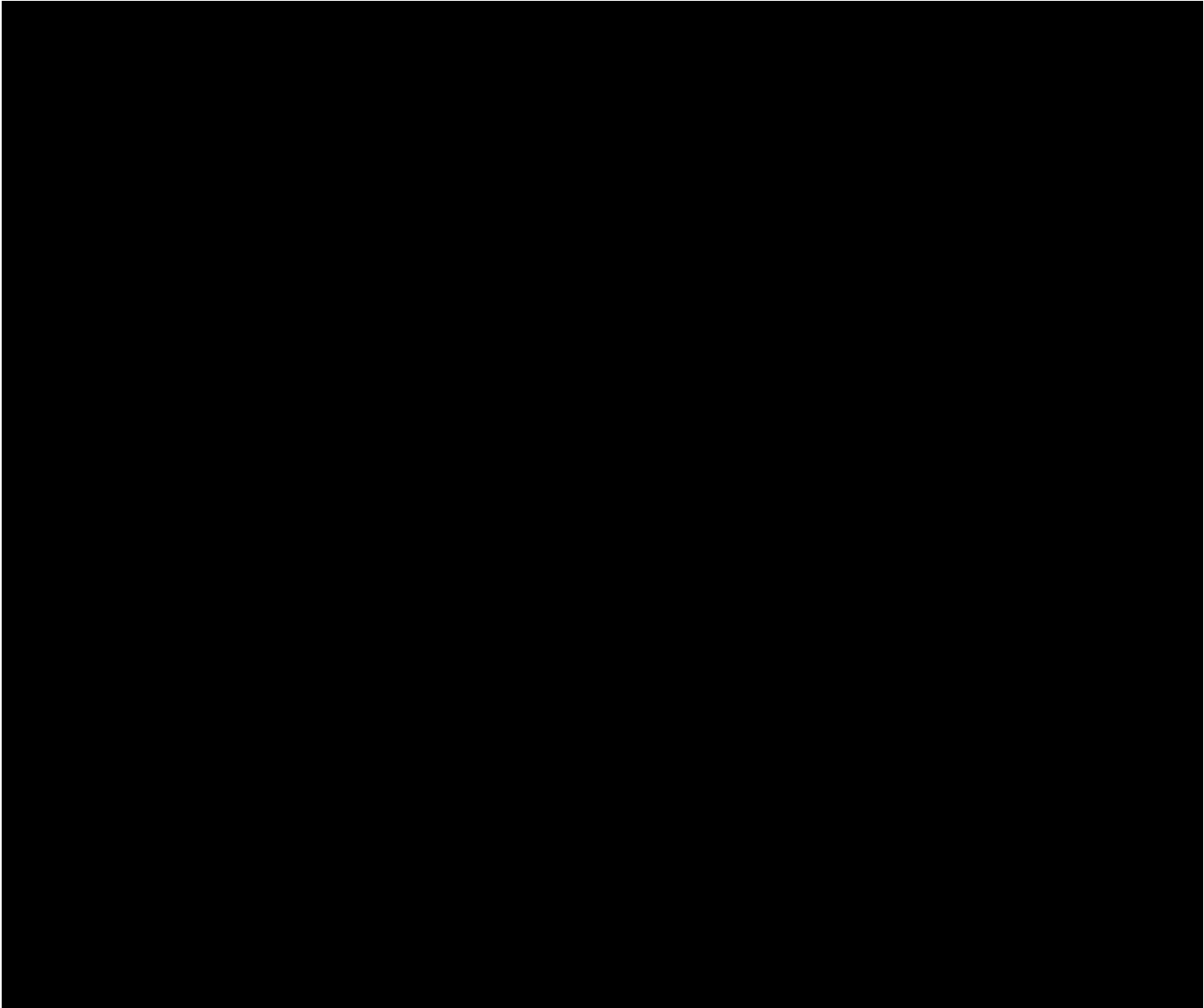
28. Accordingly, Respondents' policies assure that female casuals affected by pregnancy, childbirth, and related medical conditions lose accrued hours under three circumstances:

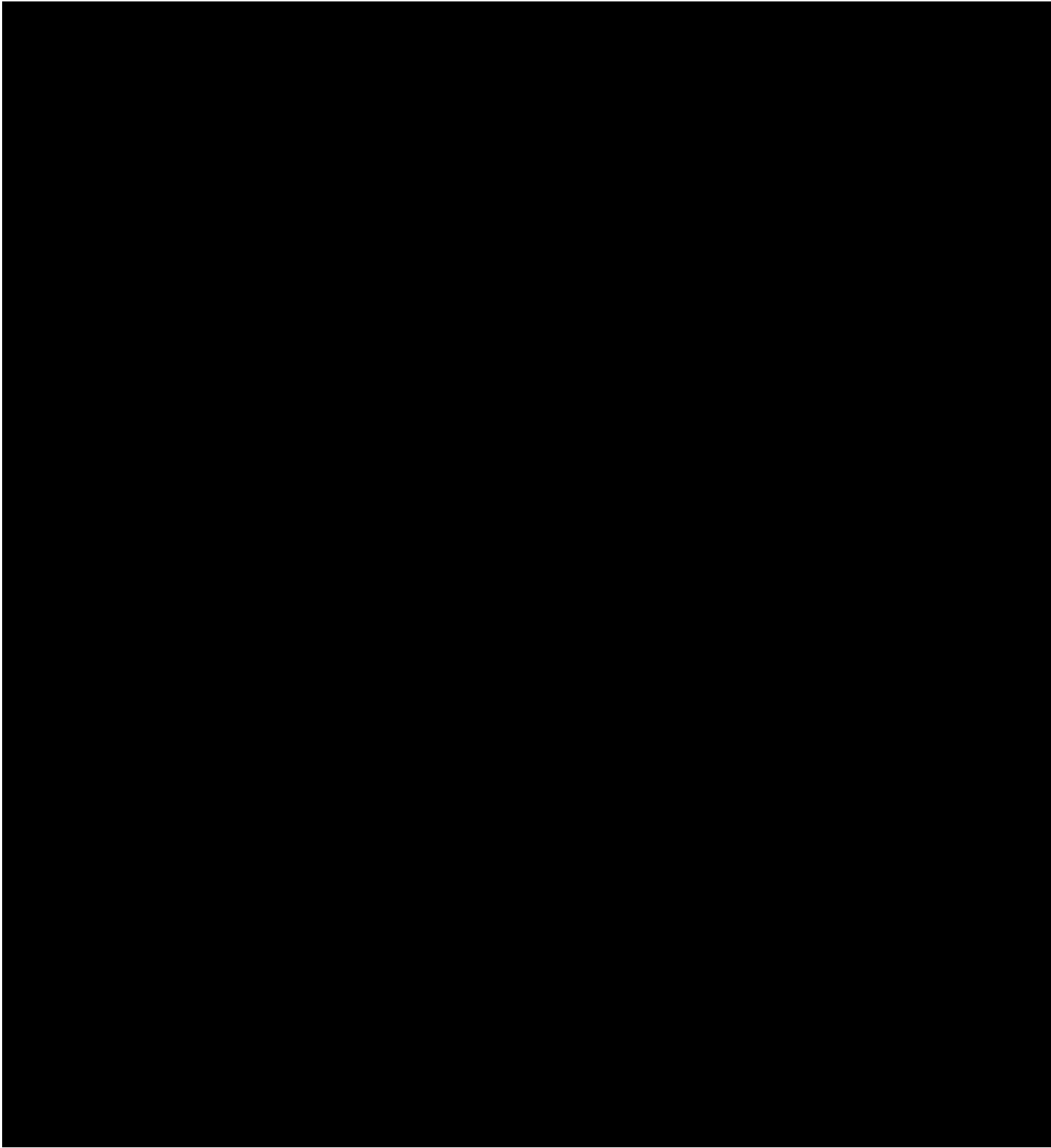
- When a pregnant casual requests some accommodation or "modified duty" for an assigned shift as a result of physical limitations due to pregnancy, but is denied, necessitating that she decline the shift, she does not receive any work hours credit;
- During the period of incapacity that follows childbirth, she does not receive any work hours credit; and
- When a female casual is ready to return to work after recovering from childbirth but still is breastfeeding, she is denied access to a sanitary, private space in which to pump breastmilk during her shift – prompting her either to stop breastfeeding long before she may want to or her baby may have received all of the potential health benefits of breast milk, or to forgo working altogether, during which time she does not receive any work hours credit.

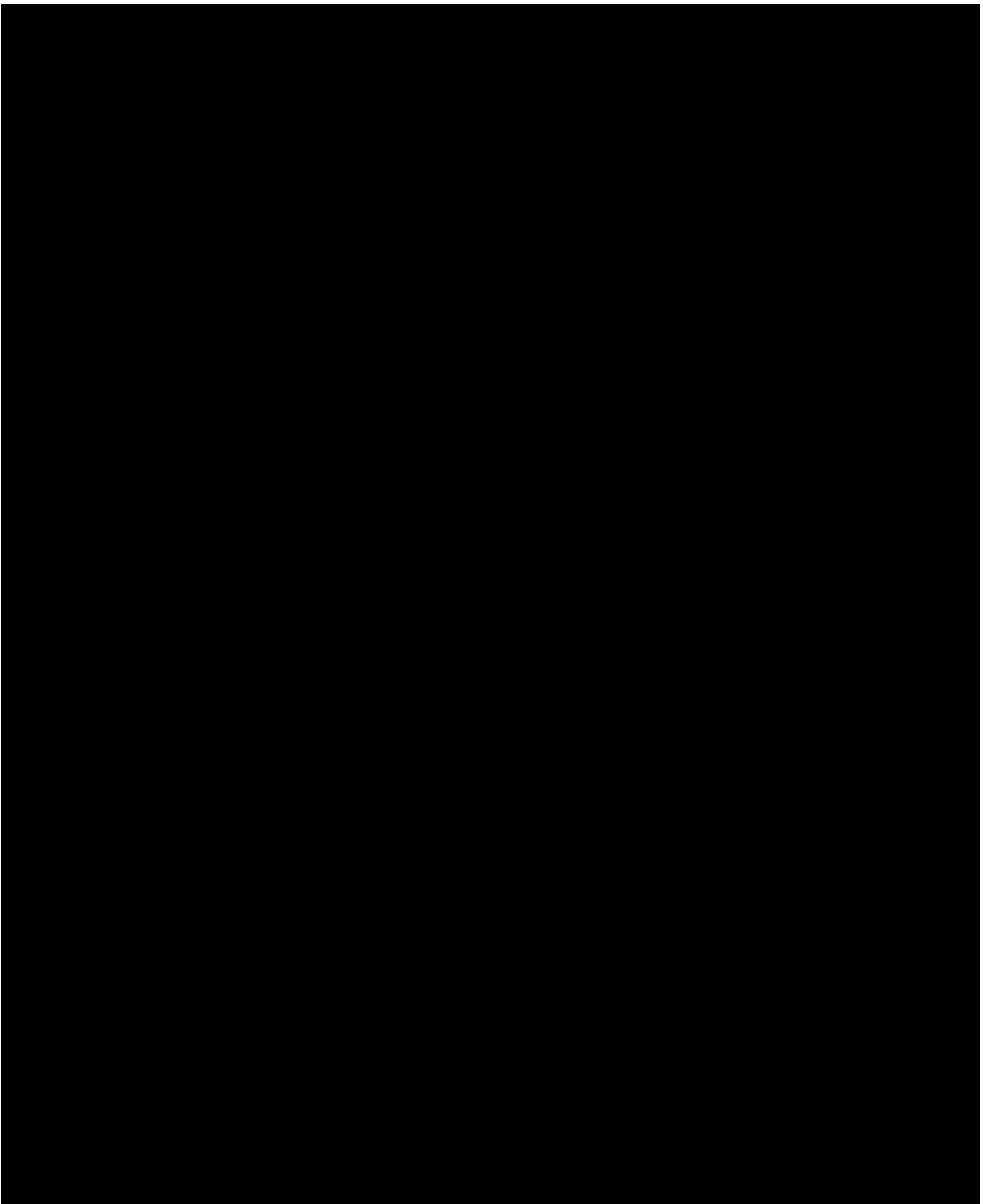
29. Thus, female casual longshore workers affected by pregnancy, childbirth, and related medical conditions face barriers to achieving Class B status, and by extension, union membership, that their colleagues not so affected but similar in their ability or inability to work do not.

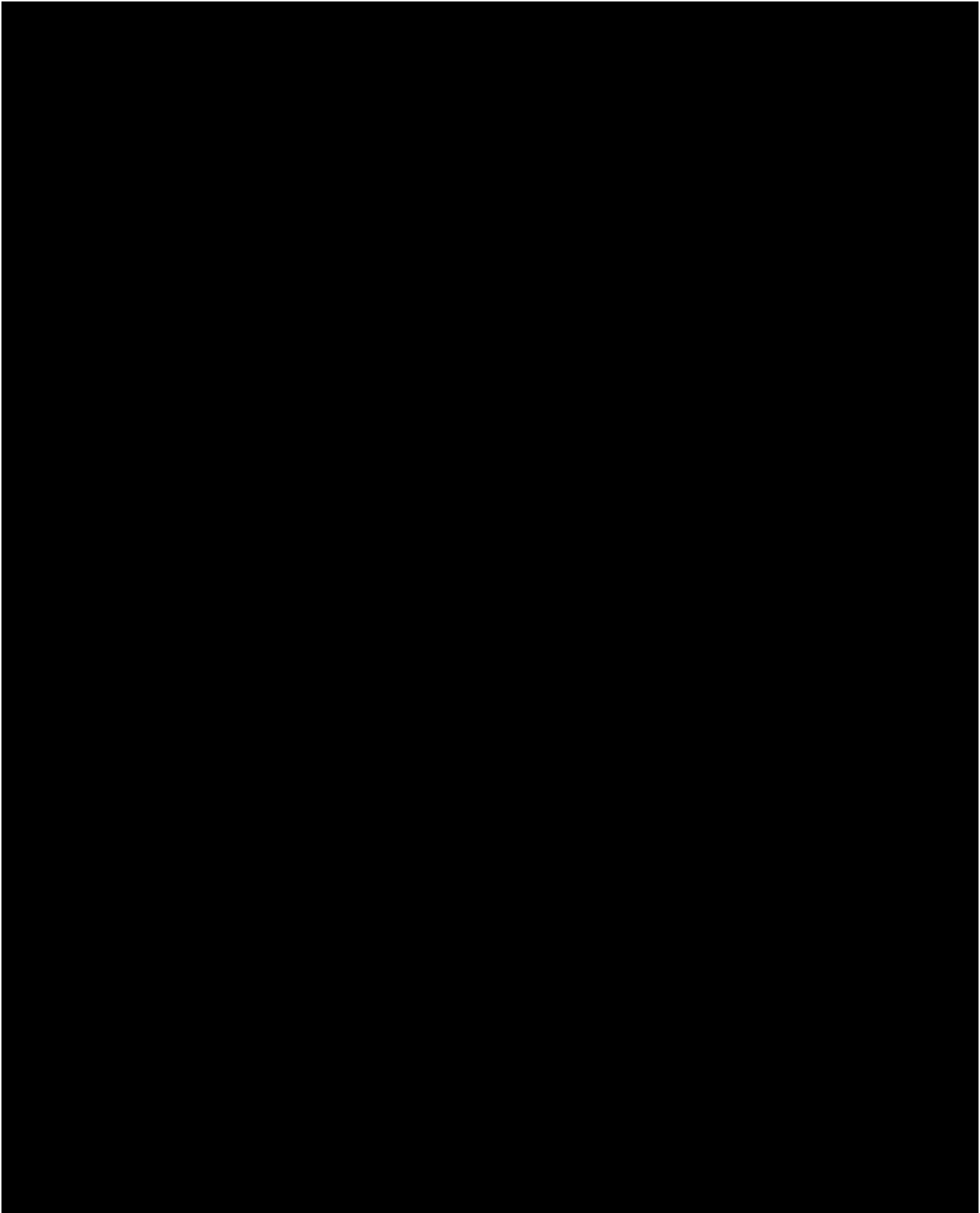
30. Female casual longshore workers affected by pregnancy, childbirth, and related medical conditions also face barriers to higher wages that their colleagues not so affected but similar in their ability or inability to work do not, in that they are delayed in reaching the hours threshold for the next “Work Experience Group.”

My employment on the Seattle docks









Allegations of discrimination on behalf of me and the class of similarly-situated women

54. Respondents engaged and continue to engage in a pattern or practice of discrimination against me, and a class of employees similarly affected by pregnancy, childbirth, and related medical conditions employed at any time by Respondents as casual longshore workers since June 23, 1984 and continuing through the present (the “Class”), on the basis of sex in violation of Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, as amended by the Civil Rights Act of 1991 and the Pregnancy Discrimination Act (“Title VII”), by refusing to extend the same seniority accrual policy to me and other workers absent due to pregnancy, childbirth, and related medical conditions as Respondents do to other, non-pregnant workers similar in their ability or inability to work.

55. Respondents engaged and continue to engage in a pattern or practice of discrimination against me and the Class on the basis of sex in violation of Title VII by refusing to accommodate my pregnancy, and that of other women in the Class, by either temporarily reassigning or modifying job duties to duties consistent with needs due to pregnancy or breastfeeding or, if such accommodation poses an undue burden, then by allowing us to go on leave with the same

seniority accrual policy as is applied to other, non-pregnant workers similar in their ability or inability to work.

56. Respondents engaged and continue to engage in a pattern or practice of discrimination against me and the Class on the basis of sex in violation of Title VII by refusing to accommodate my pregnancy-related condition of lactation and my consequent need to pump breast milk at work, and that of other women in the Class, by either providing reasonable breaks and a hygienic, private space in which to pump or, if such accommodation poses an undue burden, then by allowing us to go on leave with the same seniority accrual benefits as is applied to other, non-pregnant workers similar in their ability or inability to work.

57. Respondents have not articulated a sufficiently strong reason to justify the significant burden posed by its failure to provide workplace accommodations and by its refusal to extend the same seniority accrual benefits as it provides to other, non-pregnant workers similar in their ability or inability to work.

58. On information and belief, Respondents' policy or practice of limiting seniority accrual to workers absent due to on-the-job injuries and military service had and continues to have a disparate impact on me and the Class as compared to seniority accrued by other, non-pregnant workers similar in their ability or inability to work. Such disparate impact cannot be justified by business necessity.