Human Resources Legislative Update

Federal Gender Identity, Gender Expression Bill Passes Third Reading

Date: March 21, 2013

On March 20, 2013, Bill C-279, *An Act to amend the Canadian Human Rights Act and the Criminal Code (gender identity and gender expression)*, a Private Member's Bill, passed Third Reading in the House of Commons and proceeded to the Senate for debate.

If passed, Bill C-279 will add gender identity and gender expression as prohibited grounds of discrimination under the Canadian Human Rights Act. It will also make certain amendments to the Criminal Code, such as including gender identity and gender expression to the defined "identifiable group" for the purposes of hate propaganda.