

West's Annotated California Codes

Labor Code (Refs & Annos)

Division 2. Employment Regulation and Supervision (Refs & Annos)

Part 1. Compensation (Refs & Annos)

Chapter 1. Payment of Wages

Article 1. General Occupations (Refs & Annos)

West's Ann.Cal.Labor Code § 203

§ 203. Failure to make payment within required time;
penalty; employee avoiding payment; limitation of actions

Effective: January 1, 2009

[Currentness](#)

(a) If an employer willfully fails to pay, without abatement or reduction, in accordance with [Sections 201, 201.3, 201.5, 202, and 205.5](#), any wages of an employee who is discharged or who quits, the wages of the employee shall continue as a penalty from the due date thereof at the same rate until paid or until an action therefor is commenced; but the wages shall not continue for more than 30 days. An employee who secretes or absents himself or herself to avoid payment to him or her, or who refuses to receive the payment when fully tendered to him or her, including any penalty then accrued under this section, is not entitled to any benefit under this section for the time during which he or she so avoids payment.

(b) Suit may be filed for these penalties at any time before the expiration of the statute of limitations on an action for the wages from which the penalties arise.

Credits

(Stats.1937, c. 90, p. 197, § 203. Amended by Stats.1939, c. 1096, p. 3026, § 1; Stats.1975, c. 43, p. 75, § 1; [Stats.1997, c. 92 \(S.B.1071\), § 1](#); [Stats.2008, c. 169 \(S.B.940\), § 2.](#))

[Notes of Decisions \(163\)](#)

West's Ann. Cal. Labor Code § 203, CA LABOR § 203

Current with urgency legislation through Ch. 185 of 2014 Reg.Sess., Res. Ch. 1 of 2013-2014 2nd Ex.Sess., and all propositions on the 6/3/2014 ballot

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