

---

## **Governor Cuomo has signed into law a New Year's gift for employers**

For several years, employers have had to obtain wage rate acknowledgments annually from all employees by February 1st of each year. On December 29, 2014, Governor Cuomo signed a bill into law repealing this requirement. Employers will not have to obtain new wage rate acknowledgments for existing employees in February, 2015, since the law takes effect immediately. The reformed Wage Theft Prevention Act still includes provisions such as wage notification at the time of employee hires, stronger protections for whistleblowers, and increased penalties for employers that skim wages. Ch. 530 Laws of N.Y. 2014.