

100 Domestic Workers Request Reclassification To Custodians

OSEA has asked the Personnel Division to reclassify 100 domestic workers to custodial workers.

The request was made by Field Representative John M. Schoonover. He turned over to the Personnel Division petitions bearing the signatures of 100 employees classified as domestic workers asking to be reclassified to custodial workers.

Most of the employees are women. They are employed at Oregon State University, University of Oregon, Oregon College of Education, Southern Oregon College, Oregon Technical Institute and Eastern Oregon College.

"No substantial degree of difference exists among the duties performed by domestic workers and custodial workers," Schoonover said in a

letter to William G. Hughes, administrator of the Personnel Division.

He said the Regional Office for Civil Rights of the U.S. Department of Health, Education and Welfare in a recent study at Oregon State University found no difference in the duties of the two classifications.

Schoonover also said a recent study of the state's domestic worker, custodial worker, institutional worker and housekeeper job classifications "indicates beyond any reasonable doubt that domestic workers perform all the tasks custodial workers perform to about the same extent."

If the positions are not reclassified, existing laws which specifically prohibit discrimination because of sex "will continue to be flagrantly violated," he said.

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