

Classroom Law Project Current Event

**The Hatch Act – Essential Questions**

**Directions:** In pairs or small groups, discuss your thoughts about the following questions. Your responses can then be used in a broader discussion.

Why do you think it might be important to separate a government employee from political participation or activities?

Could the Hatch Act be seen as a violation of First Amendment Free Speech rights? In other words, is it ever appropriate to limit people’s political speech? Why or why not?

What might happen without the rules of the Hatch Act?

Should employees of the White House have special freedoms that other federal employees do not? Why or why not?