

(B) Nothing in this subtitle shall abridge any action for defamation or invasion of privacy.

12G.

(a) (1) Unless a disclosure is specifically prohibited by law, an appointing authority may not take or refuse to take a personnel action with respect to an employee or applicant for employment as a reprisal for any disclosure of information, or for seeking of any remedy provided by this subtitle, by the employee or applicant for classified employment which disclosure the employee or applicant reasonably believes evidences:

(i) A violation of any law, rule, or regulation;

~~-(ii) Gross mismanagement, gross waste of funds, or abuse of authority; or-~~

~~{III}--MISMANAGEMENT;-A-PATTERN-OF-MISMANAGEMENT;-OR-GROSS-MISMANAGEMENT;-~~

~~{III}--GROSS--WASTE--OF--FUNDS---OR---ABUSE---OF AUTHORITY;-OR~~

~~{iii}~~~~-(IV)~~ (III) A substantial and specific danger to public health or safety.

(2) This subtitle provides remedies which are supplemental to ordinary State employee grievance procedures prescribed by this article and rules and regulations promulgated thereto.

(3) This section does not prohibit any personnel action which otherwise would have been taken regardless of any disclosure of information.

(b) An employee or applicant for employment shall have the same protections provided in subsection (a) of this section regarding any disclosure which is specifically prohibited by law if the disclosure is made exclusively to the Attorney General as provided in § 12J of this subtitle.

12H.

(a) The Secretary of Personnel shall develop rules and procedures for the handling and resolution of allegations of violations of this subtitle.

(b) ~~{1}~~ An employee or applicant for employment may charge an appointing authority with a violation of § 12G of this subtitle in a complaint filed--:-