

Keeping Current on Compliance

TIPS FROM A LAW LIBRARIAN

Presentation Outline

- Leveraging the resources of organizations that are already tracking legislation
- DIY: Bill and news tracking platforms
- Services and resources provided by the Maine State Law & Legislative Reference Library

Disclaimers

- Tracking legislation can be complex and time consuming, so expect to invest time, money, or both
- I do not endorse or recommend the organizations or companies that I discuss in this presentation. I am identifying them as available resources.
- Check the terms and conditions of these platforms before accessing them for commercial use.
- I am not an attorney. I cannot provide legal advice or interpret the law.

Established
Sources of
Legislation
Tracking

Member Organizations

Maine State Chamber of Commerce

Impact

- The Newsletter of Legislative and Regulatory Issues Facing Maine Business
- “Published weekly when the Maine State Legislature is in session and monthly during the off-session, Impact is Maine’s most comprehensive newsletter covering the latest legislative and regulatory issues impacting Maine’s business community and economy.”
- Issues are available free on their website

Daily Business Headline

- “Delivers top business news articles by email to thousands of member subscribers every workday morning”

Membership (lowest tier)

- \$35 per employee (minimum of \$500)

Maine Municipal Association

Legislative Bulletin

- Published every Friday when the Maine Legislature is in session
- Issues are available free on their website

Legal Notes

- “Concise legal analysis and updates on hundreds of common issues facing municipal officials, **new laws**, court decisions, and frequently asked questions”

Information Packets

- Covers numerous employment-related topics

Supporting Membership

- \$75-600

National Conference of State Legislatures (NCSL)

Policy-focused Newsletters

- Employment and Economic Development Update (Monthly)
- Disability Employment Update (Quarterly)

Research & Policy Content

- Including Labor & Employment
- 50-State Searchable Bill Tracking Databases

Membership

- Limited to legislators and legislative staff
- Many of their resources are accessible to the public online

Established
Sources of
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Tracking

Law Firms

Maine Law Firm E-mail Alerts

BERNSTEIN SHUR

- Subscribe to News, Publications & Events filtered by practice or industry served, including **labor and employment**

VERRILL

- “We keep current on changes in the legal and business landscape, and offer timely guidance on what you need to know. Select the areas you'd like to be kept informed about by subscribing to one of our topic areas.” Topic areas include “**employers**”
- Blogs – subscribe by email
 - E.g. Taking Care of HR Business – Updates for Employers
 - Benefits Law Update – Updates on Employee Benefits & Executive Compensation

Established
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State of Maine

Maine Legislature

- Interested Parties Mailing Lists
- Joint standing committees, including the Labor and Housing Committee
- Legislative activity
 - Weekly Legislative Report
 - House and Senate Advance Calendars
- Task forces and working groups, e.g. Commission to Study Long-term Care Workforce Issues

Maine Agency Resources

DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

- Labor Laws Updates by year
- Sign up for notices about changes to employment laws and rules

SECRETARY OF STATE

- Weekly Rulemaking Notices
- “Notices are published each Wednesday to alert the public regarding state agency rulemaking. You may obtain a copy of any rule by notifying the agency contact person...”

DIY: Tracking Legislation



Free (Limited) Bill Tracking



DIY:
Tracking
Legislation

ProQuest

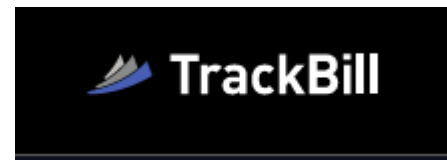
News Alerts

digital**maine**library

DIY: Tracking Legislation



Paid Bill Tracking Services



Maine State
Law &
Legislative
Reference
Library

Reference Services

Examples of Legal Questions

- How do I comply with HIPAA laws when setting up security cameras in my medical practice?
- Can an employer restrict firearms in the workplace?
- What training is required by law to be provided by employers?
- Do my employees have a right to review their personnel file?
- What is Maine's law on employers asking about a job applicant's criminal history?
- Does an employer have to provide workers compensation to independent contractors?
- Can employers discriminate against employees or applicants based on marijuana use?

Examples of Legislative Questions

- What is the status of the new law requiring employers to provide a retirement account for employees?
- I'm looking for legislation over the past 10 years that has proposed increasing Maine's minimum wage.
- When did Maine enact its noncompete agreements statute? Why was that law enacted?

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Maine State
Law & Legislative
Reference Library



Front Page Headlines
January 25, 2024

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please respond to the email or [Ask a Reference Librarian!](#)*

Maine capitol complex targeted with another fake threat
centralmaine.com
The discovery of a suspicious white powder in an envelope at the Burton M. Cross Building in Augusta prompted police to evacuate state workers. Tests confirmed the powder was not dangerous, police said.

Maine eyes rule change to make it easier to grow food in urban areas
Sun Journal
Lawmakers consider greenlighting more low-cost hoop houses to cultivate food.

Maine's highest court rejects secretary of state's appeal of Donald Trump primary ballot decision
Maine Public
The Maine Supreme Judicial Court on Wednesday dismissed an appeal by Secretary of State Shenna Bellows to review her decision to bar Donald Trump from the Republican primary ballot.

Applications for heating aid are up this winter
Maine Public
Community action agencies in Maine are reporting more applicants for heating aid this winter — and many are struggling to keep up with the increased need.

- A daily selection of news articles about developments in and around Maine's State House
- Can be read on your computer or mobile device



Questions?

Maine State Law & Legislative Reference Library | (207) 287-1600 | lawlib.reference@legislature.maine.gov