



Library Briefs

February 2017

From the Maine State Law and Legislative Reference Library, an office of the Maine Legislature

GREETINGS from the staff of the Law and Legislative Reference Library, a nonpartisan office of the Maine State Legislature. The Law Library exists to serve the legal informational needs of Maine's legislators and their constituents, as well as other branches and agencies of Maine state government. Among our many services, we can provide legislative history on bills offered in past sessions, help you discover what other states are doing on a given topic, or find reports or news on an issue relating to proposed legislation. If we don't have the answer, we will try to find out or put you in touch with the people who can answer your questions. The best ways to contact the Reference Desk are by phone at 287-1600 or via our reference intake form at <http://www.maine.gov/legis/lawlib/refemail.htm>. Please let us know how we can help you.

STAYING IN TOUCH WITH NEWS: Each day our librarians review news from around the state and the nation and select a limited number of articles to share via our news feed, *Front Page*. These articles are chosen for their pertinence to developments in the State House. The feed is updated each business day. Legislators automatically receive an email reminder each day when the feed is updated. If you wish to learn more about the *Front Page* alert service go to <http://www.maine.gov/legis/lawlib/frontpage.html>

The Law Library also subscribes to many daily and weekly newspapers from around the state. The most recent issues are available for reading on the stands just beyond the Reference Desk. Stay in touch with happenings in your community by browsing these resources!

DIGITAL COLLECTION: The Law Library's development of digital resources began in 2007 with the scanning and indexing of our news clipping collection. At the end of 2009, we began to scan and store committee master files. Now the collection exceeds 2.5 million pages and items and includes all the early Laws of Maine, decades of LDs and amendments, the entire Legislative Record back to 1897, and thousands of reports to and from the Legislature that are linked to records in the [URSUS](http://www.maine.gov/legis/lawlib/ursus) catalog. Our collection now includes legislative histories for all LDs from the 115th through the 127th Legislatures, as well as a statutory history from 1965 through the most recent Laws of Maine volume. Recently we have begun converting our widely-used topical legislative histories. You can find all of our digital collection portals at <http://www.maine.gov/legis/lawlib/ldl/ldlhome.htm>.





PATRON SATISFACTION SURVEY--PLEASE RESPOND: The Law Library is conducting a patron satisfaction survey through January 31. Thanks to those who have already responded. If you haven't yet responded, please go to <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/G9KYLHK> to send us your feedback. We are eager to read your comments and suggestions on areas in which we can expand our resources and services. We will be reviewing and prioritizing these results for action in the coming months.

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We look forward to serving you



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