



Library Briefs

February 2012

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

Front Page

A New Service to Help You Keep Up On the News

In years past the Law and Legislative Reference Library circulated selected articles from its vast collection of news clippings to assist legislators and legislative staff in staying abreast of articles related to bills and other matters relevant to the legislative process. This month this service moves into the digital age with the inauguration of *Front Page*, a webpage of news links and an RSS feed subscription service.

Each day our librarians review online news sources for articles that are relevant to the Legislature's work, informative, and from a balanced point of view. The links are added daily to our webpage at www.state.me.us/legis/lawlib/frontpage.html. Furthermore, you can subscribe to our new RSS feed that will send the same articles to your e-mail or for browsing on your mobile device. To make connection even easier, you will find posters around the State House with a QR code (shown at right) that will take you directly to our web page on your mobile device. We hope that you enjoy this new service and check it daily.



New Staff

New Faces In the Law Library

Last October the Law and Legislative Reference Library welcomed three new librarians to replace retiring and departing staff members.

NICOLE DYSZLEWSKI, SENIOR LAW LIBRARIAN, comes from Rhode Island, where she was most recently at the Roger Williams School of Law. She is a graduate of Hofstra University, Boston University School of Law, and the library science program at the University of Rhode Island. She is a member of the bar in both Rhode Island and Massachusetts.

JULIE OLSON, ASSOCIATE LAW LIBRARIAN, is a graduate of Bard College and recently completed her library science degree at the University of Alabama. She first came to the Law and Legislative Reference Library in 2007 as a Library Assistant, was promoted to Library Associate, and now steps into her current role.



ALEX BURNETT, ASSOCIATE LAW LIBRARIAN, completed his undergraduate studies at the University of Wisconsin-Madison and received his library science degree from the University of Rhode Island. Until recently he coordinated digitization of rare law materials for the Rhode Island State Law Library.

In addition to other duties, these new librarians will be taking turns at the Reference Desk, where they will be pleased to assist you with your research questions.

Gov't Documents

Public Access Assessment

The Law and Legislative Reference Library successfully completed its latest Public Access Assessment, a review by the Federal Depository Library Program (FDLP). The Law Library is the only federal depository library currently in the state capital region and maintains a selective collection of Federal legal and other documents provided through the depository program.

During the assessment process, FDLP staff reviewed the accessibility of the Law Library's depository holdings. Topics ranged from how the collection is cataloged and inventoried to whether there are any physical barriers that would keep patrons from accessing the print materials to whether our patrons have access to online Federal resources through our computers. The reviewer found the Law Library "in full compliance" with depository library program requirements and commended the Law Library for maintaining exceptionally high standards for access and service to all of our patrons.