



# Library Briefs

January 2016

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

**WELCOME BACK** to the Second Regular Session of the 127<sup>th</sup> Legislature. The staff of the Law and Legislative Reference Library stands ready to assist you in finding information that will help you navigate through the legislative session. Remember that the best ways to contact the Reference Desk are by phone at 287-1600 or via our reference intake form at [www.maine.gov/legis/lawlib/refemail.htm](http://www.maine.gov/legis/lawlib/refemail.htm). Please let us know how we can help you.



**MEET OUR NEWEST REFERENCE LIBRARIAN.** This past April we welcomed Jessica Lundgren as our new Senior Law Librarian. Prior to coming to us, Jessica was a research librarian for an Am Law 100 law firm in New Jersey. She holds a history degree from American University and her master's degree in library science from Rutgers University. She is no stranger in Maine, having worked in several museum-related positions in the Portland area, as well as in New Jersey, before entering law librarianship.

**SURVEY.** The Law and Legislative Reference Library is inviting all legislators and legislative staff to participate in a short survey to help us improve the quality of service that we provide to our primary patrons and the types of resources you are interested in seeing us develop or expand. Please take a few minutes to participate in this survey. An email containing a link to the survey went out to all legislators and legislative staff on December 22. If you missed that message, please look for a reminder email that will go out the week of January 11. The survey will close on January 18.

**WHAT YOU DIDN'T KNOW!** The Law Library reading room in the State House contains only about half of the library collection. The other half, which is in storage at an off-site facility in Hallowell, includes boxed committee files, superseded materials, Law Court briefs, government documents, old Federal and state reporters and digests, and long runs of legislative publications such as *The Laws of Maine* and the *Legislative Record*. While this collection is in the dark most of the time except for retrieval of needed materials, several times a year we have staff work days to sort incoming materials and to dig through the dwindling backlog of old publications, occasionally unearthing treasures that are added to our digital collections.



Staff member working at the warehouse

**FRONT PAGE.** The number of people following our *Front Page* news feed continues to grow. Each day our librarians review news from around the state and the nation and select a limited number of articles chosen for their pertinence to developments in the State House. The feed is updated each business day. If you want to receive an email reminder each day when the feed is updated, go to [www.maine.gov/legis/lawlib/frontpage.html](http://www.maine.gov/legis/lawlib/frontpage.html) and click on *Sign up for updates via email* in the upper left corner.



**FACEBOOK.** Last spring the Law and Legislative Reference Library launched a *Facebook* page as another means of connecting with our patrons around the state. The response has been highly positive. Postings include announcements about new or expanded resources and services, as well as interesting facts about the Law Library and its collections. If you want to follow us on *Facebook*, please look for *Maine State Law and Legislative Reference Library*.



**DIGITAL COLLECTIONS.** Last summer the Law and Legislative Reference Library received the *Innovations in Technology Award* from the American Association of Law Libraries for its *Law and Legislative Digital Library*, a collection of more than 2 million pages of digitized Maine legislative materials. Recent developments in our digitization efforts include scanning of more than 2,500 legislative and state agency reports that are available through the URSUS catalog ([ursus.maine.edu](http://ursus.maine.edu)), as well as expanded offerings in legislative and statutory history. More portals will be added in the coming months. You can find all of our digital collection portals at [www.maine.gov/legis/lawlib/lldl/lldlhome.htm](http://www.maine.gov/legis/lawlib/lldl/lldlhome.htm).

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*We look forward to serving you*

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