

MEMORANDUM

TO: Maine Summer Camp (MSC) Members
FROM: Jack Erler
DATE: June 10, 2016
RE: Status of Governmental Affairs Work by MYCA

New laws:

I have little new to report on new Maine laws since my April 2nd Report.

The following two bills I reported on in April died in the twilight hours of the end of this Legislative Session:

LD 1661 An Act To Raise the Minimum Wage

LD 1691 An Act To Improve the Maine Tree Growth Tax Law Program

The two most significant new laws I reported on in April that will directly impact camps are:

PL 2016 Chapter 407 An Act To Require Training of Mandated Reporters under the Child Abuse Laws. This bill has been passed into law and will become effective on July 29th. The law requires all mandated reporters (Camp administrator and counselor 18 years of age or older) of suspected child abuse or neglect to complete training approved by the department at least once every 4 years. Although most camps already train, it appears that additional training will be required.

Starting on July 29 Maine law will require camps to train all their mandated reporters. For now there are two ways to do this.

First, there is an online course that can be taken. There is no charge for this course. It takes about 20 or so minutes. At the end is a test which each student has two chances to pass. A score of 80% right answers is necessary to pass. Once the student has passed, her/his name will be in the DHHS database and she/he will get a printed certificate (if the computer is linked to a printer). This course is available now at <http://www.maine.gov/dhhs/ocfs/cps/>. At the bottom of the webpage, click on Mandated Reporter Training.

Second, there are Mandated Report Trainers around the State that will come to your camp and give the course to your staff. There is no charge for this training. The course is about 2 and half hours long. You can find a list of trainers at <http://www.maine.gov/dhhs/ocfs/cps/trainer-contact.html>.

We are working with the Department to establish a program to train your in-camp persons to give the course.

PL2015 Chapter 117 An Act To Improve the Reporting of Child Abuse. This law passed last year applies to camps this year for the first time. There are significant changes for reporting child abuse as the result of this law. MSC has published information about these changes on its website.

Citizen Initiative:

On November 8, in addition to voting on who will be the next president of the United States, please vote on the following five Citizen Initiatives. They are:

"An Act To Establish Ranked-choice Voting"

"Do you want to change Maine election law to allow voters to rank their choices of candidates for U.S. Senate, Congress, Governor, State Senate and State Representative?"

"An Act To Legalize Marijuana"

"Do you want to legalize the possession and use of marijuana by persons who are at least 21 years of age, allow state and local regulation of retail sales of marijuana, and allow state regulation of the cultivation, manufacture, testing and distribution of marijuana?"

"An Act To Raise the Minimum Wage"

"Do you want to raise the minimum hourly wage of \$7.50 to \$9.00 in 2017, and in \$1.00 increments up to \$12 in 2020; and to raise it for service workers who receive tips from the current rate of \$3.75 to \$5 in 2017, in \$1.00 increments up to \$12 in 2024?"

"An Act To Require Background Checks for Gun Sale"

"Do you want to change Maine law to require background checks prior to the transfer of firearms between individuals, with some exceptions for certain circumstances?"

"An Act To Establish The Fund to Advance Public Kindergarten to Grade 12 Education"

"Do you want to establish a Fund to support kindergarten through 12th grade public education by adding a 3% surcharge on Maine taxable income above \$200,000?"

Motor Carrier Regulations:

The latest information on Motor Carrier Regulations has been sent to members. These include:

- Maine camps that transport interstate are required to register with State UCR and pay Unified Carrier Registration fees.
- Specific information about updating USDOT registration every two years.

- Camp with USDOT numbers must have those numbers put on their individual vehicle registrations.
- Confirmation that commercial motor vehicles (CMVs) operated by camps must stop at open weigh stations