

THE
NATIONAL LAW REVIEW

New Maine Law Requires Time Off From Work For Appointments at VA Medical Facilities

Tuesday, June 25, 2019

State and local leave laws are changing weekly and sometimes even daily! For the second time this month, Maine is adjusting its leave laws. Employers in Maine will soon be required to provide veterans with time away from work to attend scheduled appointments at Department of Veterans Affairs medical facilities. If paid leave is available to the veteran, he or she must be permitted to use paid leave for the absence. If a veteran has no available paid leave, then the employer must allow the veteran to take unpaid leave. Veterans are required to give their employer notice of the appointment **“as soon as reasonably possible.”** The law goes into effect on September 19, 2019.

While this new law does not mandate that employers provide paid leave, Maine recently enacted a paid leave law that, as of January 2021, will require most private employers to provide employees with up to 40 hours of paid leave annually that the employee can use for any reason. Additional information about Maine’s Act Authorizing Earned Employee Leave is available in our June 13, 2019 [Legal Update](#).

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The logo for Jackson Lewis, featuring the name "jackson lewis." in a bold, lowercase, sans-serif font. The "j" and "l" are significantly larger than the other letters, and the "s" is also larger than the "n" and "e". The period at the end is a small dot.

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