LEGISLATIVE UPDATE – JANUARY 13 2025

The MEPCA Taxation Committee met with Maine Revenue Services representatives last week as part of an effort by both organizations to maintain periodic communication.

Key highlights of our meeting with MRS division heads in sales, income and property provided updates of 2024 law changes impacting their respective areas. Examples: blanket sales tax exemption for nonprofits, sales tax on lease payment streams, sales tax on software subscriptions, property tax changes for renewable energy equipment, and more.

for a complete list of 2024 tax law changes. Go Here.

MRS also reported:

- It has proactively worked with several key tax software vendors, like CCH, to avoid electronic filing issues like those that occurred during last year's filing season.
- The Maine Tax Portal is fully operational for all state tax types.
- MRS hosts a dedicated practitioner line, staffed 9 a.m. to noon weekdays. If you call outside of these hours, you're encouraged to leave a suggested call back time at (207) 626-8458.
- Send comments on the Draft Rule on Income Apportionment to Alex Weber by Friday (Jan. 17). Alexander.J.Weber@maine.gov

Bills we'll be monitoring on your behalf this legislative session:

- LD 48: To allow ongoing conformity with federal tax code for tax year 2024
- <u>LD 127:</u> Would allow OPEGA to receive records that are private and confidential (we have concerns related to taxpayer information privacy.)
- CPA Licensure: Bill number not yet assigned
- Childcare & Pass Through Entity Tax Credit: Bill number not yet assigned.

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Stay on top of local and regional happenings by attending the **New England Virtual Tax Conference** for two half-days – **Jan. 16 & 17** (8:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m. each day).

Details

Top-notch presenters, including Pierce Atwood's Elizabeth Frazier, will share

insights on Maine's political landscape and potential legislative initiatives around data privacy, housing and workforce development, the new Paid Family Medical Leave Act and more. Luke Tilley, senior economist for M&T Bank, will give perspectives on the economic outlook.

Perennial favorites Jon Block & Olga Goldberg of Pierce Atwood will highlight major tax law changes in Maine, including the Dirigo Business Incentives program and Maine Revenue Services' proposed income apportionment rule.**

Register today to access an additional \$100 discount off the member rate. Use discount code MECPA.

** Maine Revenue Services is seeking practitioner comments on a Draft Rule on Apportionment. Go here to read it. Comments are due Jan. 17 and should be sent to Alex Weber.

In other news ... BOI Reporting saga continues

No definitive word yet as back and forth in the courts continues. Our best advice is to continue to gather required information from clients, and be prepared to file the BOI report if the injunction is lifted again.