

## **MAINE**

### **NEW LAW: Maine Provides Protected Leave For Veterans' VA Appointments**

On June 6, 2019, [HB 1654 \(An Act To Create Veteran-Friendly Workplaces\)](#) was passed into law. This new law, which goes into effect on September 19, 2019, requires all Maine employers allow a veteran to take time away from work to attend a scheduled appointment at a VA medical facility – provided that the veteran gives the employer notice of the appointment as soon as reasonably possible.

If the employer provides paid leave, the veteran must be allowed to use paid leave to attend the appointment. If the veteran does not have any paid leave available, then the employer must give the veteran unpaid time off to attend the appointment.

If the employer does not provide any type of paid time off, then the time off is unpaid.