

# Collaborative Compliance: Working with Collective Bargaining Agreements

Wednesday, March 27, 2024 10:30 - 11:30 a.m.

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## **Panel Speakers**



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### Agenda

- **Definitions**
- Overview
- Historical Treatment of CBAs in Paid Leave



- Review and Analyze
- Best Practice Strategies
- Implementation Plan
- Vendor Partner Support
- Impact on Union Population
- Managing Represented & Non-Represented Populations Summary & Takeaway
- Questions & Answers







### **Definitions**

#### Focused primarily on PFML legislation within this presentation



**Labor Organization:** recognized under the National Labor Relations Act and exists for the purpose of dealing with employers related to wages, benefits, hours of employment, disputes and conditions of work.



**Union:** a national or international business whose purpose is to represent employees in the collective bargaining process with their employer (e.g. International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers, United Auto Workers, International Association of Machinists, etc.)



**Employee Association:** an organization formed by employees who collectively bargain with their employer without the assistance of a national/international union.



**Collective Bargaining Agreement (CBA)** – a written legal contract between an employer and a union/association representing the employees.



**Represented Employees** – those that are represented by a union/association and covered by the terms of the collective bargaining agreement.





## Overview: Unions in the U.S.



Of all wage and salary workers, 10% were represented by unions (14.4 million employees)



Union membership is split almost equally between public and private employment.



Protective Service



Education, training and library



Utilities



Transportation and warehousing





## Overview: About Lockheed Martin



116,000 domestic and international employees overall

over 450 different facilities operating in 33 countries and most US states

Each CBA has a term of 3 to 5 years

Approximately
24,000
employees
Represented by
approximately
60 different
bargaining units

Lockheed Martin has between

15-20

CBA negotiations per year



States that have the **highest** represented populations:

- Texas
- Connecticut
- New Jersey
- Georgia





## Historical Treatment of CBAs in PFML

#### **Delayed Compliance**

- Law states CBAs do not need to be reopened or comply with the law on the initial effective date
- CBAs need to comply when the existing agreement is reopened or renegotiated

**EXAMPLES:** 

WA, OR, ME

#### Public/Private Employer Distinctions

- Union members with private employers were covered by employer policy
- Union members with public employers are not covered unless negotiated by union

**EXAMPLES:** 

NY

### Included Initially or not mentioned

No mention of CBAs indicates that new law applies under existing agreement.

**EXAMPLES:** 

MA, CT, CO, MD, DE, MN





## A New Paid Leave Legislation has Passed...Now What?





## 01. Review & Analyze

### 1. Utilize Available Resources:

Law Firms, State
 Website, Vendors, etc.

5. Engage Key Stakeholders (Corporate Legal, Payroll, Labor Relations & Vendor Partners)



4. Compare to Existing Company Plans

#### 2. Determine Leave Requirements:

- Effective Date
- Duration
- Deductions/Contributions
- Benefits, amount of pay
- Coverages (definition of family member, etc.)
- Private plan option?

#### 3. Identify Impacted Population:

- Non-Represented (full time, part time, casual)
- Represented requirement to comply?





## 01. Key Items to Consider During Analysis....



### Private or State Plan?

- Is there a private plan offering?
- Analyze cost benefit of state plan vs. private plan
- Employee experience

### Represented Population:

- Review CBA for any conflicting language
- Determine if a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) will be required for the new law

### 3 Impact to Other Benefits:

Will there be offsets to any existing plans?

#### 4 Deductions:

Will the company cover employee contributions or will employees have payroll deductions?





### 03. Implementation Plan:



#### Create comprehensive project plan to include:

- Company and vendor tasks
- Communication plan



#### Prepare new law fact sheet to include deductions:

- Meet with Labor Relations and include the Benefits Labor Relations liaison
- Draft a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) if needed



#### Listen to challenges from Labor Relations:

- Concerns about opting out, especially for older individuals unlikely to use the benefits
- Aspects could diminish prior negotiated items and reduce leverage for next negotiation

- Impact of the length of leave and effect on productivity
- Complaints regarding additional costs
- Not a negotiated benefit





## 03. Implementation Plan: Communications

#### **Deductions**



Develop/ Key Messages:

- Contribution start date/calculation formula
- Explain "offsets" if applicable
- Explain no "opt-outs" as this is the law
- Determine resource for employee questions

### Benefit "go-live"

- Effective date, leave details
- Share additional resources if applicable (FAQs, process steps guide, etc.)
- Talking points for supervisors/HR Training decks
- Resource for employee questions

Involve Stakeholders:

- Finalize content with Corporate Legal
- Review with Labor Relations:
  - Labor Relations to share with union leaders for awareness of content and release date
  - Share copy with vendor partners

**Share Via:** 

Represented Employees - Mail via USPS to home address





## 03. Cont. Implementation Plan: Benefits "Go-Live"







- ✓ Communications (rep and non-rep)
- ✓ Call Script
- ✓ Process Maps
- ✓ Reports
- ✓ Training guides

**Set up Private Plan** (if applicable)

Work with Payroll department for offset process





## 04. Vendor Partner Support



**Ensure compliance** questions are being answered as much as possible



Partner with other vendors as needed to support client and make sure roles and responsibilities between vendors are clear





Assist with development of communications to both represented and non-represented populations as needed



Communicate changes as states finalize and tweak regulations up to golive and ensure changes are reflected in project plan and process maps



Support effective administration and ensure file feeds and/or reports are modified for any new information required





## Be Aware of Potential Pitfalls for the Represented Populations



Ensure legal review to gain a clear determination whether represented employee have to comply and when



Manage Leave Equity Concerns between different rep and non-rep

 Separate Rep and Non-Rep communications



Ensure Labor Relations is fully informed and have obtained buy-in from union leadership to avoid surprises



Communications must be mailed to home address on record



Review employee communications with Labor Relations before being sent out to represented employees





## Negotiations and Working with Unions



## Strategic Approach to Negotiations:

- Be proactive when negotiating your bargaining agreements overall (try to include language to comply with future legislation)
- New Paid Leave legislation is not usually a 'takeaway'



## Managing Expectations in Negotiations:

- How to manage unions asking for more than law requires
- Introduction of new law might mean a takeaway of something else from the agreement
- Managing expectations of when law is effective (deductions/benefits)
- Vendor implications during negotiations





## Summary & Takeaways















- Analyze the new law extra critical when working with represented populations
- Communicate early and often with Labor Relations to ensure no surprises
- Be proactive with Union leaders and get buy-in to assist with CBA negotiations
- Develop a project plan for implementation and rollout with clear ownership identified
- Collaborate
  with vendor
  partners
  throughout the
  analysis and
  implementation
  stages for their
  assistance and
  expertise
- Develop clear communications

   which may vary between the rep and non-rep populations





### **Questions & Answers**



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