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At Issue

Get Plugged in with NJBIA's New Online Issue Networks

Proposed Election Law Enforcement Commission regulations will require New Jersey businesses with State or local government contracts to disclose their political contributions to candidates for elective office.

Businesses that receive a bill for Subchapter 8 air permit fees in excess of \$25,000 should contact the NJ Department of Environmental Protection (DEP) before paying it. The fees are capped at \$25,000 per business and many invoices were sent out in error.

If you operate in an Urban Enterprise Zone, be advised that the NJ Division of Taxation has new procedures and forms for tax refunds and has directed businesses to its Web site to obtain refunds.

What do these three things have in common? They were all messages sent through one of NJBIA's new online Issue Networks to advise employers about new government regulations that could affect them. For many of these businesses, our Issue Network message was the only information they received about it.

NJBIA kicked off its Issue Networks last fall to keep members better informed about the issues that impact them the most. It is free of charge. All you have to do is sign up by visiting our Web site, www.njbja.org/issuenetworksjoin.asp, or contact Sandy Lavery at 609-393-7707, ext. 221, or sandylavery@njbja.org.

The Issue Networks are designed to meet the needs of the modern workplace. Messages are sent by e-mail so busy executives can review them at their leisure and quickly forward them to the people who need to see them. The messages contain a short summary of the topics at the beginning so recipients don't have to scroll through a bunch of lengthy documents to get to the material they need. And messages include the

links to the Web sites and e-mail addresses for other online resources.

The Networks cover everything from information about new grants, loans or other programs that can help business to proposed legislation and timely news articles. By soliciting the views of our members, the Networks also help NJBIA lobby state government on behalf of our members.

The Issue Networks available now are:

- Economic Development, which has breaking news on job creation, business retention and economic development issues;
- Education and Workforce Development, which provides the latest on workforce training programs and the quality and cost of education;
- Energy, which offers offering timely updates on electricity and natural gas pricing;
- Environment, which covers environmental regulations, regulatory compliance issues, and environmental legislation;
- Government Affairs, which offers timely updates on the important issues impacting your business that the Legislature is working on;
- Health Affairs, which informs recipients of legislation and regulations that impact the cost of providing health benefits to employees;
- Human Resources, which provides news about payroll taxes, paid leave and other workplace issues;
- Manufacturing, which offers information on loans, grants and other State resources available to the State's producers;
- New Jersey Policy Research Organization Foundation, which offers issue analysis and policy papers from NJBIA's research affiliate;
- Taxation, which gives employers breaking news on State tax policies and regulations; and
- Women Business Leadership, which provides opportunities for women executives and business owners to share their ideas on issues affecting women in business.

You can sign up for as few or as many Issue Networks you like; there are no restrictions. 