

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Makin, Pender](#)
Subject: FW: DRAFT Priority Notice pertaining to new federal executive orders
Date: Tuesday, January 21, 2025 12:41:59 PM
Attachments: [image001.png](#)

Thoughts? If you're okay with what Sarah sent, I can go with that...

[REDACTED]
Director of Communications

Maine Department of Education
23 State House Station
Augusta, Maine 04333-0023

Email: [REDACTED]
Phone: [REDACTED]

[Maine DOE](#) | [Facebook](#) | [Twitter](#) | [Instagram](#) | [Maine DOE Newsroom](#)



From: Forster, Sarah <Sarah.Forster@maine.gov>
Sent: Tuesday, January 21, 2025 12:40 PM
To: [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: DRAFT Priority Notice pertaining to new federal executive orders

I would be a bit narrower. I would be specific to this one Executive Order and I would speak only to who is covered and not go into school board policies. Ultimately, it is the Department's decision what to provide as guidance, but the below is an accurate statement of the law.

PRIORITY NOTICE: Guidance for SAUs Pertaining to New Federal Executive Order

Dear Champions of Education,

In light of a new Executive Order issued yesterday, the Maine Department of Education (DOE) is providing the following clarifications for school administrative units.

The Executive Order "Defending Women From Gender Ideology Extremism and Restoring Biological

Truth to the Federal Government” applies to the Federal government/Federal government agencies only.


Maine SAUs are expected to abide by the Maine Human Rights Act (MHRA), which prohibits discrimination on the basis of protected class in employment, housing, places of public accommodation, education, and extension of credit. Protected classes include: race, color, ancestry, national origin, sex, sexual orientation (which includes gender identity and expression), physical or mental disability, religion, age, and other categories in certain contexts. The MHRA also prohibits retaliation for asserting MHRA-protected rights.

Thank you.

January 21, 2025

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, January 21, 2025 11:50 AM
To: Forster, Sarah <Sarah.Forster@maine.gov>
Subject: FW: DRAFT Priority Notice pertaining to new federal executive orders

Hi Sarah,

Please see the thread below and the attached link. I am hoping to send this message to educational leaders before the end of the day. Does everything look alright to you from a legal perspective?  [PRIORITY NOTICE- Guidance Pertaining to New Federal Executive Orders.docx](#)

Thank you,

[REDACTED]
Director of Communications
Maine Department of Education
23 State House Station
Augusta, Maine 04333-0023

Email: [REDACTED]

Phone: [REDACTED]

[Maine DOE](#) | [Facebook](#) | [Twitter](#) | [Instagram](#) | [Maine DOE Newsroom](#)



From: [REDACTED]

Sent: Tuesday, January 21, 2025 11:46 AM

To: [REDACTED]

Cc: Makin, Pender <Pender.Makin@maine.gov>; [REDACTED]
[REDACTED]

Subject: Re: DRAFT Priority Notice pertaining to new federal executive orders

Yes. I think that makes sense.

From: [REDACTED]

Sent: Tuesday, January 21, 2025 11:39:25 AM

To: [REDACTED]

Cc: Makin, Pender <Pender.Makin@maine.gov>; [REDACTED]

Subject: RE: DRAFT Priority Notice pertaining to new federal executive orders

Thank you, [REDACTED]—I appreciate that.

Should this go to the AG's office (Sarah Forster) for review, too, before I send it out to education leaders?

[REDACTED]

Director of Communications

Maine Department of Education

23 State House Station

Augusta, Maine 04333-0023

Email: [REDACTED]

Phone: [REDACTED]

[Maine DOE](#) | [Facebook](#) | [Twitter](#) | [Instagram](#) | [Maine DOE Newsroom](#)



From: [REDACTED]

Sent: Tuesday, January 21, 2025 10:32 AM

To: [REDACTED]
Cc: Makin, Pender <Pender.Makin@maine.gov>; [REDACTED]
Subject: RE: DRAFT Priority Notice pertaining to new federal executive orders

I made some revisions to reflect a more fact-based approach here.

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, January 21, 2025 10:07 AM
To: [REDACTED]
Cc: Makin, Pender <Pender.Makin@maine.gov>; [REDACTED]
Subject: DRAFT Priority Notice pertaining to new federal executive orders

Good morning,

Below, please find the link to a Priority Notice that the Maine DOE would like to send out to SAUs today, with guidance pertaining to new federal executive orders issued yesterday by President Trump. We welcome any edits: [📄 PRIORITY NOTICE- Guidance Pertaining to New Federal Executive Orders.docx](#).

Please let me know if you have trouble accessing or editing that document.

Thank you,

[REDACTED]
Director of Communications
Maine Department of Education
23 State House Station
Augusta, Maine 04333-0023
Email: [REDACTED]
Phone: [REDACTED]

[Maine DOE](#) | [Facebook](#) | [Twitter](#) | [Instagram](#) | [Maine DOE Newsroom](#)

