



**SLR Northeastern Regional Meeting
September 22, 2025
1:00 PM ET**

Zoom Meeting

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/89353190509?pwd=8N9Zho2zokE8GK1XKhliVK3qJ85uQt.1>

Meeting ID: 893 5319 0509

Passcode: 896425

MINUTES

Members in Attendance:

Brian Jordan, Co-Chair, RI

James Bass, ME

Warren Coleman, VT

Matty Lopes, RI

Michael Platner, DC

Tim Shea, CT

Charlie Soltan, ME

Barbara Zektick, MD

Hannah Webster, SLR

I. Call to Order

Brian Jordan called the meeting to order 1:03 pm ET.

II. Roll Call

III. Review of Minutes from May 16, 2025 **Attachment A**

A motion was made to approve the minutes from May 16 as written. The motion was seconded and approved unanimously.

IV. Discussion of 2026 In-Person Regional Meeting

Brian suggested that the committee table discussion of a future regional meeting to the next committee call early in 2026.

Charlie Soltan asked about the SLR budget for the Regional Meetings. Hannah Webster reported that SLR budgets for two regional meetings a year. The Northeastern region had not had a meeting since 2023, so it would be reasonable for them to be one of the two.

Brian mentioned that Beth Rosentel from PA had expressed interest in hosting a regional meeting. Barbara Zektick also offered to host a future regional.

V. Discussion of Regional Issues and Interests

Brian discussed vaccination schedules, and that RI was taking over recommendations following the appointment of new Secretary of the U.S. Department of Health & Human Services. The budget was also a big issue, along with concern about Medicaid fallout. The RI Attorney General is one of the lead plaintiffs in some Executive Orders.

Charlie reported similar responses to vaccination schedules Maine. They have mandated a continuation of COVID vaccinations and childhood vaccination schedules. The state has a desire to maintain a status quo. Tim Shea reported the same for Connecticut.

Barbara reported that Maryland is fused on budget and economy. Federal contracting is big in the state. Elections are happening in 2026, and the general sentiment is against a lot that's happening in DC. Republican candidates are leaning more moderate in their races. They are also seeing some issues surrounding offshore wind.

Charlie reported that the republican party in Maine is embracing Trump and the administration. The race next year will be interesting, particularly as Maine is a purple state. James added that longstanding Maine Senator, Susan Collins, has potential competition, so that will be an interesting race to follow.

Michael Platner discussed issues on the federal level he was seeing in DC. Of particular concern is the potential government shutdown. As a Virginia resident, Michael is closely tracking the Governor's race and expects to see a change in November.

Warren Coleman expressed that Vermont saw a large swing last year in the election, and the democratic supermajority was eliminated, though they still hold a majority. Their session went until June this year. The main issues were around education funding, property taxes, housing issues, reform of land use and regulatory requirements. The state is also revisiting its energy goals and debating a bill about small scale house solar "balcony solar." The Vermont governor, a republican, seems to be running for a fifth term next year and has a high approval rating in the state.

Tim reported seeing similar themes to those expressed by others in Connecticut. Their session ended in June, and housing was a main issue. The Governor vetoed the housing

bill, so they may have a special session to revisit that bill, and address Medicaid issues. There are also some issues surrounding energy with offshore wind.

VI. Other Business

There was no other business discussed.

VII. Date of Next Meeting

The committee agreed to meet early next year.

VIII. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 1:33 pm ET.