

Eye on Washington

Publication 2.01.10

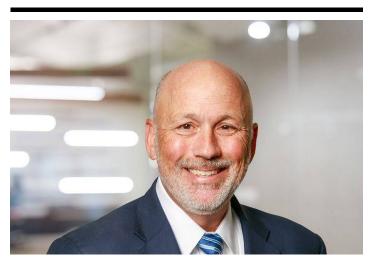
Labor and employment bills being considered in the U.S. Congress may quickly silence employers' celebration of a fresh New Year. A wave of legislation proposed in 2009—all of which favors employees over business owners—could become law in 2010. Below are several developments that, in the year ahead, may open workplace doors to litigation, increased unionization efforts and other potential changes.

- Health Care
- Taking Leave
- OSHA Enforcement
- Unionization
- Government Contracts

After several years of slow growth, employment-related lawsuits accelerated in 2009. That trend will continue in 2010, supported by new labor and employment legislation and by unemployed individuals who are motivated to pursue litigation as a means of income. In 2010, employers should closely watch federal employment-related legislation and seek advice from a qualified employment law attorney who can help them reduce their risks in the coming onslaught.

This article appeared in the February 2010 issue of Kansas City Small Business Monthly.

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