



## *What is legal technical assistance?*

Law can present both barriers and opportunities for public health initiatives. Local, state, federal, and Tribal laws can impact public health policy development in many ways – both expected and unexpected. The Public Health Law Center provides tailored legal technical assistance that can make the difference between success and failure in using law and policy to improve public health across a community. The Public Health Law Center is a nationally recognized legal technical assistance provider, specializing in tobacco control, healthy eating, and active living policy development, with a focus on promoting health equity.



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## LEGAL RESEARCH AND ANALYSIS

The attorneys at the Public Health Law Center specialize in researching, analyzing, and explaining complex public health legal issues in common sense terms. The Center receives requests for legal technical assistance every day on a multitude of public health issues including food marketing, nutrition policies, physical activity policies, healthy food access, promoting health equity, improving worker health, product regulation, land use planning, and incorporating health in all policies. In responding to these requests, the Center draws on years of experience researching and analyzing local, state, federal, and tribal laws to help communities identify, develop, enact, and implement public health policies that are evidence-based, workable, legally sound, and tailored for a specific jurisdiction.

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## EDUCATIONAL PUBLICATIONS & RESOURCES

The Public Health Law Center is a nationally recognized expert in producing clear, user-friendly public health law and policy resources. The Center's materials demystify complex regulatory issues and allow anyone — public health official, local policy maker, community member, school teacher, advocate, etc. — to understand the legal issues concerning public health initiatives in their communities. Visit the Center's website at [publichealthlawcenter.org](http://publichealthlawcenter.org) to see examples of this work.

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## POLICY DRAFTING ASSISTANCE

Every year, the Center's attorneys field hundreds of requests for assistance in drafting, analyzing, critiquing, and amending laws, regulations, and other forms of policy. Although the Center does not provide legal advice or engage in lobbying, the Center helps advocates understand the legal landscape, including where the most promising policy levers might be and how best to use them, as well as how to avoid potential pitfalls. The Center also can help advocates and other groups understand the impact of proposed amendments to laws, draft meaningful comments on proposed regulations, and craft common sense organizational policies.

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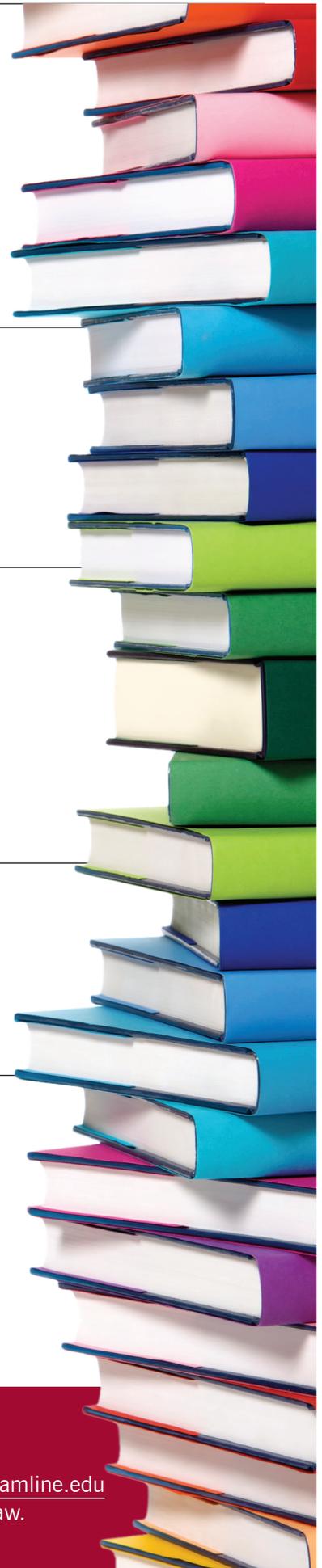
## TRAININGS

The Public Health Law Center provides training on public health law issues in a variety of ways. For example, the Center's staff gives on-site presentations and conducts workshops, as well as develops webinars on timely public health related topics. Many of the Center's in-house legal experts are also published authors and regularly provide guest lectures for public health classes on law and policy.

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## LITIGATION SUPPORT

Innovative and effective public health laws sometimes face the battle test of litigation. Although the Center's attorneys do not provide legal representation, they can help to defend public health laws from legal challenges in other ways. The Center's attorneys have provided litigation strategy consulting to federal, state, and local government attorneys to support their efforts to defend important, new public health laws. The Center has also coordinated or drafted friend-of-the-court (amicus) briefs in high impact cases to try to ensure that judges are informed about the greater public health significance of the cases before them.



### CONTACT THE PUBLIC HEALTH LAW CENTER

Contact the Center today at 651.290.7506 or [publichealthlaw@mitchellhamline.edu](mailto:publichealthlaw@mitchellhamline.edu) to see how the Center can help you improve health through the power of law.