

**Contact**

**Houston**

1200 Smith Street, Suite 1400  
Houston, Texas 77002-4310  
Tel: 713.658.1818  
Fax: 713.658.2553

**Atlanta**

191 Peachtree Street, N.E.,  
Forty-Sixth Floor  
Atlanta, Georgia 30303  
Tel: 404.659.1410  
Fax: 404.659.1852

**Philadelphia**

300 Conshohocken State Road  
Suite 570  
West Conshohocken, PA 19428  
Tel: 610.772.2300  
Fax: 610.772.2305

**San Antonio**

112 East Pecan Street, Suite  
1450  
San Antonio, Texas 78205  
Tel: 210.253.8383  
Fax: 210.253.8384

## **Labor & Employment Alert**

### **Paid Sick and Safe Leave of Absence Laws Reach the South**

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There is no federal law requiring purely private employers to offer paid leave of absence to their employees. However, states, counties, and cities are ever-increasingly enacting legislation that affects employers' obligations to provide their employees paid time off for sick or safe time. More progressive legislative bodies have enacted requirements for employers to award employees one hour of paid leave for every thirty or forty hours worked. Generally, paid leave laws allow eligible employees to accrue paid time off to care for themselves, their children, and certain family members due to sickness, sexual assault, or domestic violence. Opposite of this growing trend, many states have unfurled preemption legislation that bans local municipalities from requiring employers to provide certain employment benefits, including paid sick leave. [Click here](#) for more information.