

*Update from ABA Project to Expand Resources for Legal Services (PERLS)*

## **Another Successful Legislative Session for Legal Services Programs**

As of September 20th, advocates from 16 states have reported good news about funding from their state legislatures. The total increase reported to date nationwide is almost \$13,000,000, an 8% increase from last year. Mississippi received its first state funding ever, bringing the number of states without state funding down to six. New Mexico obtained a new appropriation, and Nebraska a new charge on criminal fines. Florida regained its appropriation that had been lost in the 2005 session. The majority of the new money comes from increases in appropriations in California, Illinois, Iowa, Louisiana, Massachusetts, New York, Oklahoma, Pennsylvania, Vermont and Washington. Finally, Connecticut, Maine, New York and Pennsylvania will receive increased funds based on the phase in of legislation passed in previous sessions. For more information, contact [Meredith McBurney](#), Director, ABA Project to Expand Resources for Legal Services at 303-329-8091.