As we enter the New Year, we thought it interesting to look at some of the new laws that came into effect on the 1st January 2013, for our neighbors to the north.

Sex offenders can no longer hand out Halloween candy in Illinois.

Prison workers and officers are forbidden from engaging in sexual acts with prisoners in California.

In California coaches and administrators in K-12 schools, as well as higher education employees are required to report suspected child abuse.

In California and Illinois it is now illegal for your boss to require you to give them your social media password, like Facebook.

House Bill 5101 prohibits drivers of commercial vehicles from texting or using handheld devices behind the wheel.

House Bill 5280 designates a criminal a sexual predator after his or her first conviction for luring a child.

In Florida, flashing your headlights to warn other drivers about nearby police became legal.

California is now banning any treatment aimed at changing the sexual orientation of someone who is under the age of 18.

In Oregon employers are no longer allowed to post a job opening unless they are willing to hire the unemployed.

In Maryland and Maine gay marriages was passed.

Recreation use of marijuana was approved in Colorado and Washington State.

House Bill 5056 makes it a crime to use a dead person’s handicapped parking sign or license plate.

**Halsbury Chambers**