**Business Case for: Law Digest 4 New Jersey**

**Date: 1/26/2024**

**Prepared by: Joseph Tomasello**

**1.0 Introduction / Background**

For the layperson, the interpretation of state law, how to comply with it, and the overall legal adoption process can be a confusing web of concepts. In this day and age, the ability to stay abreast of any existing or new legal developments can be provided through technology. Whether it's related to traffic, sanitation, healthcare, or public safety, understanding the various dimensions of state law and its effects on New Jersey’s day-to-day functions is vital to the continuing fulfillment of civic obligation of both oneself and their community. Our product attempts to accomplish providing an overview of individual bills/laws, as well as answering questions residents may have about them.

**2.0 Business Objective**

Our team’s business objective is to accomplish helping users to gain a better understanding and compliance with state law among the New Jersey population. This would be measured in the form of user surveys provided alongside the presentation of site content to gauge user understanding of the information after engagement. Ultimately, we would seek to get a user base of around 5% of New Jersey residents using the web application over the next 3 years.

**3.0 Current Situation and Problem/Opportunity Statement**

There are a myriad of issues when searching for quick and comprehensive information about New Jersey law. For instance, one issue is the constant rate of new laws being passed, which can be difficult for citizens and businesses to keep up in order to ensure that they comply with them. Another would be a general lack of ‘legal literacy’, which can limit the participation of constituents when voting on proposed legislation.

In this, we see a chance to offer a resource that seeks to be unbiased for everyday New Jersey citizens to better understand the full context and implications of New Jersey state law. On a lesser note, our platform can also serve to increase legal transparency, and inform citizens of the legal impact of the government on themselves.

**4.0 Critical Assumptions and Constraints**

**Assumptions:**

* All of our data is publicly available from and provided by the state
* The data will be out of sync when it comes to updates between our database and the state websites. Our database will not be updated in real-time and there will be a delay before updates are made.

**Constraints:**

* Subject matter (legal) experts are required to verify our information.

**5.0 Analysis of Options and Recommendations**

We cannot simply rely on existing resources in this domain. They are not robust enough to take large legal texts and not only summarize, but to also rephrase the proposed bills/laws in a way the average person could understand.

Outsourcing to another company will likely be the most expensive method but is another available option. . But configuration of the software and running maintenance would be something we would then have to learn or hire a consultant.

The project, while not entirely novel in its function, is novel in its purpose. And being made for the people of New Jersey makes it appropriate that New Jersey residents such as ourselves should be the ones to develop it.

**7.0 Preliminary Project Requirements**

* Input will be the bill information; Output = LLM output which would be assessed by the user or system; Interface would be the web client

**8.0 Budget Estimate and Financial Analysis**

Budget estimate is $0

**9.0 Schedule Estimate**

* **Timeline**: 1/23/2024 - 1/28/2024

**Project Kick-Off**: Finalization of project idea, Finalization of team, Finalization of initial team roles, Initial drafting of 4 high-level documents

* **Timeline**: 1/29/2024 - 02/07/2024

**Project Initialization**: Finalization of project planning materials, High-Level Documentation, Initialization of remaining project documentation

* **Timeline**: 2/8/2024 - 02/28/2024

**Sprint 1**: Data Collection, Web Scraping, Data Ingestion Pipeline, Front-End Framework

* **Timeline**: 03/10/2024 - 04/03/2024

**Sprint 2**: Q&A Functionality, LLM Integration, User Management

* **Timeline**: 04/04/2024 - 04/17/2024

**Sprint 3**: Data pipeline testing, LLM Summarization Testing, Account/User data handling Testing, Front End Completion

* **Timeline**: 04/18/2024 - 05/08/2024

**Lead up to Final Presentation:** Final presentation

**10.0 Potential Risks**

* LLM performance issue
* Misinterpretation due to bias with the LLM