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# Maine Video Display Terminal Law, 1992

Labor/Labor Standards

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**THE MAINE VIDEO DISPLAY TERMINAL LAW**

**TITLE 26: VIDEO DISPLAY TERMINALS**

**SECTION 251. Definitions**

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- 1.) **Bureau.** "Bureau" means the Department of Labor, Bureau of Labor Standards.
- 2.) **Employ.** "Employ" means to employ or permit to work.
- 3.) **Employee.** "Employee" means any person engaged to work on a steady or regular basis as an operator by an employer located or doing business in the State.
- 4.) **Employer.** "Employer" means any person, partnership, firm, association or corporation, public or private, that uses 2 or more terminals at one location within the State. The term "employer" includes, but is not limited to:
  - A.) Any person, partnership, firm, association or corporation acting in the interest of any employer, directly or indirectly; and
  - B.) The State, in its capacity as an employer.
- 5.) **Operator.** "Operator" means any employee whose primary task is to operate a terminal for more than 4 consecutive hours, exclusive of breaks, on a daily basis.
- 6.) **Terminal.** "Terminal" will mean any electronic video screen data presentation machine, commonly called video display terminals, VDTs, or cathode-ray tubes, CRTs. The term does not apply to television or oscilloscope, cash registers or money typewriters.

**SECTION 252. Education and Training**

Every employer shall establish an education and training program for all operators as provided in this section.

- 1.) **Requirements.** An employer's education and training program must be provided both orally and in writing, except that an employer that uses fewer than 5 terminals at one location may provide the education and training program in writing only. The program must include, at a minimum:
  - A.) Notification of the rights and duties created under this subchapter by posting in a prominent location in the workplace a copy of this subchapter and a written notice that explains these rights and duties in plain language;
  - B.) An explanation or description of the proper use of terminals and the protective measures that the operator may take to avoid or minimize symptoms or conditions that may result from extended or improper use of terminals and
  - C.) Instruction related to the importance of maintaining proper posture during terminal operation and a description of methods to achieve and maintain this posture, including the use of any adjustable work station equipment used by the operator.
- 2.) **Literature; clearinghouse.** The Bureau shall recommend to employers, for the use of education and training programs, occupational safety literature that provides appropriate, current and pertinent data on terminal use. The Bureau shall also serve as a clearinghouse for information regarding workplace safety and health relative to the use of terminals.
- 3.) **Training schedule.** Employers shall provide current operators with this education and training program within 6 months after the effective date of this section and annually thereafter. Beginning 6 months after the effective date of this section, employers shall provide all new operators with the education and training program within the first month of employment as operators.

Effective Date: January 1, 1992

For further information contact:

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