

HB 385

SENATE FINANCE COMMITTEE REPORT

DATE: 5/1/92

FURTHER:

DATE TURNED INTO OFFICE: 5-6-92

The Finance Committee considered CS FOR HOUSE BILL NO. 385 (L&C) am "An Act relating to video display terminals."

and recommends:

- [ ] replace with (FINANCE) [ ] same title
or [x] adopt previous CS HB 385 (L&C) [ ] new title
[ ] attaches amendment(s) [ ] technical title change (HB only)

[ ] adopts Letter of Intent

[ ] further referral to the

[ ] do pass

[ ] do not pass

[ ] no recommendation

[ ] individual recommendations

NEW FISCAL NOTES: Dept/Date

[ ] zero fiscal notes

[ ] fiscal notes

[ ] appropriation--no fiscal note

PREVIOUS FISCAL NOTES: Dept/Date

[ ] zero fiscal notes

[x] fiscal notes CS HB 385 (L&C)

DO PASS:

Rich Lehning (DO PASS)
[Signature]

OTHER RECOMMENDATIONS:

Don't Study No Rec
[Signature]

1. Co-Chair: Signature/Recommendation

2. Co-Chair: Signature/Recommendation

Revision Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Title: Relating to video display terminals.

Sponsor: Ulmer

Requestor: House State Affairs

Department Affected: Administration

BRU: Personnel/OEEO

Component: Personnel/OEEO

COMPONENT SERIAL NO. 

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Expenditures/Revenues: (Thousands of Dollars)

OPERATING	FY 93	FY 94	FY 95	FY 96	FY 97	FY 98
PERSONAL SERVICES						
TRAVEL	8.0	1.7	1.7	1.7	1.7	1.7
CONTRACTUAL	20.5	4.3	4.3	4.3	4.3	4.3
SUPPLIES						
EQUIPMENT						
LAND & STRUCTURES						
GRANTS, CLAIMS						
MISCELLANEOUS						
<b>TOTAL OPERATING</b>	<b>28.5</b>	<b>6.0</b>	<b>6.0</b>	<b>6.0</b>	<b>6.0</b>	<b>6.0</b>

CAPITAL	0	0	0	0	0	0
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REVENUE FUND SOURCE:						
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FUNDING: (Thousands of Dollars)

GENERAL FUND						
FEDERAL FUNDS						
OTHER FUND SOURCE: <u>VA Rec't</u>	28.5	6.0	6.0	6.0	6.0	6.0
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>28.5</b>	<b>6.0</b>	<b>6.0</b>	<b>6.0</b>	<b>6.0</b>	<b>6.0</b>

POSITIONS:

FULL-TIME						
PART-TIME						
TEMPORARY						

Estimate of current year impact: \_\_\_\_\_

ANALYSIS: (Attach a separate page if necessary.)

See Attached.

Changes in SSS HB 385 (L+C) reflect NO FISCAL CHANGE from the original fiscal note. This fiscal note is appropriate.

4/20/92 Pauls  
date Comte Aide (initial)

Prepared by: R. H. King, Director *Richard P. King*  
Division: Personnel/OEEO

Phone: 465-4430  
Date: January 28, 1992

Approved by Commissioner: Nancy Bear Usura  
Agency: Administration

Date: 1/28/92

Distribution (by preparer): Leg. Fin., Legislative Sponsor, Requestor, OMB/DBR, Gov. Legis. Ofc., & Impacted Agency(ies).

STATE OF ALASKA  
1992 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

BILL NO. (SHB 385(S74))  
2-18-92

ANALYSIS: (continued)

This bill requires the Department of Administration to train employees designated by all agencies on the hazards of video display terminals and the measures that may be taken to avoid or lessen those hazards. We estimate that 500 employees will need to be trained initially. For this initial training, it is cost effective to take the training to the various locations. First year costs are for the development of the training, preparation and printing of required notices, course negotiation and contracted instructor costs. Travel for delivering the training throughout the state is provided.

For the second and subsequent years, we anticipate offering the training twice annually, but only in Juneau, Anchorage and Fairbanks. Agencies will be expected to send their new designated employees to one of these courses.

Interagency receipts are shown as the funding source on the assumption that agencies will pay the costs. If that assumption is incorrect, the funding source will be general funds.

## SENATE CS FOR CS FOR HOUSE BILL NO. 385 (L&amp;C)

IN THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA

SEVENTEENTH LEGISLATURE - SECOND SESSION

BY THE SENATE LABOR AND COMMERCE COMMITTEE

Offered: 5/1/92  
Referred: Finance

Sponsor(s): REPRESENTATIVES ULMER, B.Davis, Bruckman

## A BILL

## FOR AN ACT ENTITLED

1 "An Act relating to video display terminals."

2 BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATURE OF THE STATE OF ALASKA:

3 \* Section 1. FINDINGS. The legislature finds that

4 (1) investigations conducted by the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health  
5 of video display terminal (VDT) operators resulted in recommendations for workstation design and other  
6 measures to reduce musculoskeletal and vision complaints among VDT users;

7 (2) studies world-wide have demonstrated elevated musculoskeletal discomforts and other  
8 disorders in VDT operators as compared with non-VDT workers; research has shown that inadequate  
9 workstation adjustment and lack of operator knowledge of adjustments and other remedies are associated  
10 with musculoskeletal discomforts and other complaints; the consensus of the National Institute, the World  
11 Health Organization, and the American National Standards Institute is that adjustable VDT workstations  
12 in combination with training on proper adjustment of the workstation substantially contribute to a  
13 healthier environment for VDT operators;

14 (3) reduction of the health and safety risks through education of state workers and

1 modification or replacement of the VDT workstation and associated equipment will help prevent VDT  
2 related injuries, thus reducing health insurance and workers' compensation costs to the state.

3 \* Sec. 2. AS 39.90 is amended by adding a new section to read:

4           Sec. 39.90.160. VIDEO DISPLAY TERMINAL USE. (a) A state agency shall attempt  
5 to provide for proper use of video display terminals. The head of a state agency shall appoint,  
6 for each qualified worksite of the agency, a person responsible for providing information to other  
7 employees on the physical risks associated with improper use of video display terminals and on  
8 their proper use. The Department of Administration shall provide training to the appointee in  
9 the ergonomically proper use of video display terminals and the measures and work habits that  
10 may avoid or lessen physical risks associated with improper video display terminal use. If there  
11 are more than 75 terminals in close proximity within the same agency, the agency shall designate  
12 at least one qualified worksite for each 75 video display terminals. The Department of  
13 Administration shall collect information on the effective use of video display terminals and  
14 related workstation furniture from federal agencies and other sources, including the American  
15 National Standards Institute, the Occupational Safety and Health Administration, and the National  
16 Institute for Occupational Safety and Health, and shall make the information available to state  
17 agencies.

18           (b) The Department of Administration shall prepare notices to advise state employees  
19 using video display terminals about the ergonomically proper use of the terminals. The  
20 department shall mail the notices to the persons appointed under (a) of this section. Those  
21 persons shall post the notices at the qualified worksite for which they are responsible and shall  
22 add information on how employees who desire more information may reach them.

23           (c) The Department of Administration shall prepare and make available to state agencies  
24 notices advising state employees using video display terminals at a worksite that is not part of  
25 a qualified worksite about the ergonomically proper use of video display terminals. Each state  
26 agency shall provide a copy of the notice to those employees who use a video display terminal  
27 at a location that is not part of a qualified worksite together with a statement advising the  
28 employees of the name and how to contact the nearest available person trained in proper use of  
29 video display terminals under (a) of this section.

30           (d) With respect to office equipment related to video display terminal workstations at  
31 which video display equipment will be used by an employee for repetitive keyboard activity,

1 including data entry, data inquiry, or text processing, for more than four hours per day, a state  
2 agency shall, before purchasing, leasing, or installing the equipment, review and consider whether  
3 the equipment is capable of being used in an ergonomically proper manner, using as a guideline  
4 the American National Standard for Human Factors for Engineering of Visual Display Terminal  
5 Workstations, ANSI/HFS Standard No. 100-1988, or a subsequent revision of that standard.

6 (e) This section does not

7 (1) create a cause of action by any person against the state or an agency of the  
8 state, whether at law or otherwise;

9 (2) establish a standard of care;

10 (3) amend or alter administrative remedies of employees; or

11 (4) amend or alter collective bargaining agreements entered into by the state or an  
12 agency of the state.

13 (f) In this section,

14 (1) "agency" or "state agency" includes the executive, legislative, and judicial  
15 branches of state government, the University of Alaska, and the Alaska Railroad Corporation;

16 (2) "qualified worksite" means a unit or cluster of at least four video display  
17 terminals in regular use that are housed together or in close proximity within the same agency;

18 (3) "terminal" or "video display terminal" means an electronic video screen data  
19 presentation machine, commonly called a video display terminal, and includes cathode-ray tubes;

20 "terminal" does not include a television, cash register, or oscilloscope screen.

21 \* Sec. 3. INITIAL TRAINING AND POSTING OF NOTICES. The Department of Administration  
22 shall comply promptly with the requirements for preparation of notices and provision of training so that,  
23 within one year after the effective date of this Act, state agencies will have been able to comply with  
24 the requirements for posting notices and training current employees set out in AS 39.90.160, enacted by  
25 sec. 2 of this Act.

STATE OF ALASKA  
1992 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

No. 2  
Bill version: CSHB 385 (STA)  
(H) Publish Date: 2/18/92

Revision Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
Title: "An Act relating to video display terminals."  
Sponsor: Representatives Ulmer, B. Davis  
Requestor: House State Affairs

Department Affected: Labor  
BRU: Workers' Compensation & Admin. Svcs.  
Component: Workers' Compensation & Labor Market Information  
COMPONENT SERIAL NO. 344 & 336

EXPENDITURES/REVENUES: (Thousands of Dollars)

OPERATING	FY 93	FY 94	FY 95	FY 96	FY 97	FY 98
PERSONAL SERVICES						
TRAVEL						
CONTRACTUAL						
SUPPLIES						
EQUIPMENT						
LAND&STRUCTURES						
GRANTS, CLAIMS						
MISCELLANEOUS						
TOTAL OPERATING	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

CAPITAL						
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REVENUE FUND SOURCE:						
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FUNDING: (Thousands of Dollars)

GENERAL FUND						
FEDERAL FUNDS						
OTHER						
TOTAL	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

POSITIONS:

FULL-TIME			
PART-TIME			
TEMPORARY			

Changes in SCSCS HB 385 (LTC) have no fiscal impact. This fiscal note is appropriate.

1/20/92 BSWB  
'date Comte Aide (initial).

Estimate of current year impact: None

ANALYSIS: (Attach a separate page if necessary)

This bill requires a report to be prepared by the Department of Labor concerning video display terminal injuries. The department can report to the legislature on injuries identified on the Initial Report of Occupational Injury Form completed by both the employee and employer and collected by the Workers' Compensation Division. There would be no additional fiscal impact to the department.

Prepared by: Arbe Williams, Special Assistant Phone: 465-2700  
Division: Commissioner's Office Date: 1/28/92  
Approved by Commissioner: John Abshire, Acting Commissioner  
Agency: Department of Labor Date: 1/28/92

Distribution (by preparer): Legislative Finance, Legislative Sponsor, Requestor, OMB, & Impacted Agency(ies).

FISCAL NOTE

STATE OF ALASKA

No. 4

1992 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Bill Version: CSHB385(L+C)AM

(S) Publish Date: 3-27-92

Revision Date: March 20, 1992

Department Affected: Revenue

Title: Relating to video display terminals

BRU: Administration & Support

Component: Administrative Services

Sponsor: Ulmer

Component Serial No.

Requestor: Senate State Affairs Committee

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Expenditures/Revenues: (Thousands of Dollars)

OPERATING	FY 93	FY 94	FY 95	FY 96	FY 97	FY 98
PERSONAL SERVICES						
TRAVEL						
CONTRACTUAL	5.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0
SUPPLIES	1.0					
EQUIPMENT						
LAND & STRUCTURES						
GRANTS, CLAIMS						
MISCELLANEOUS						
<b>TOTAL OPERATING</b>	<b>6.0</b>	<b>1.0</b>	<b>1.0</b>	<b>1.0</b>	<b>1.0</b>	<b>1.0</b>

CAPITAL						
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REVENUE FUND SOURCE						
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FUNDING: (Thousands of Dollars)

GENERAL FUND	6.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.0
FEDERAL FUNDS						
OTHER FUND SOURCE						
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>6.0</b>	<b>1.0</b>	<b>1.0</b>	<b>1.0</b>	<b>1.0</b>	<b>1.0</b>

POSITIONS:

FULL-TIME			
PART-TIME			
TEMPORARY			

Changes in SCS CS HB385 (L+C) reflect NO FISCAL CHANGE from the original fiscal note. This fiscal note is appropriate.  
4/30/92 Ruule  
 date Comte Aide (initial)

Estimate of current year impact: \_\_\_\_\_

ANALYSIS: The Department of Revenue would require 9 designated worksite representatives. This fiscal includes training, printing and notice distribution expenses. It does not include any equipment repairs, upgrades or replacement.

Prepared by: Tracy L. McGill Phone: 465-2313

Division: Administrative Services Date: 3/20/92

Approved by Commissioner: Darrel J. Rexwinkel

Agency: Revenue

Distribution (by preparer): Legislative \_\_\_\_\_ Agency(ies).

STATE OF ALASKA  
1992 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

No. 3

Bill Version: CSHB 385(L+C)A

(S) Publish Date: 3-27-92

Revision Date: \_\_\_\_\_ Department Affected: Department of Corrections  
 Title: "An Act relating to video display terminals." BRU: Statewide Operations  
 Sponsor: Rep. Ulmer Component: Various  
 Requestor: Senate State Affairs COMPONENT SERIAL NO. 

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EXPENDITURES/REVENUES: (Thousands of Dollars)

OPERATING	FY 93	FY 94	FY 95	FY 96	FY 97	FY 98
PERSONAL SERVICES						
TRAVEL	6.7	6.7	6.7	6.7	6.7	6.7
CONTRACTUAL	.8	.2	.2	.2	.2	.2
SUPPLIES						
EQUIPMENT						
LAND & STRUCTURES						
GRANTS, CLAIMS						
MISCELLANEOUS						
TOTAL OPERATING	7.5	6.9	6.9	6.9	6.9	6.9
CAPITAL	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-	-0-

REVENUE						
FUND SOURCE:						

FUNDING: (Thousands of Dollars)

GENERAL FUND	7.5	6.9	6.9	6.9	6.9	6.9
FEDERAL FUNDS						
OTHER FUND SOURCE:						
TOTAL	7.5	6.9	6.9	6.9	6.9	6.9

POSITIONS:

FULL-TIME						
PART-TIME						
TEMPORARY						

Estimate of current year impact: 0

ANALYSIS: (Attach a separate page if necessary.)  
 Please see attached fiscal analysis.

Changes in SCSCS NB 385 (L+C) reflect NO FISCAL CHANGE from the original fiscal note. This fiscal note is appropriate.  
4/20/92 Ulmer  
 Date Comte Aide (initial)

Prepared By: Diane Schenker, Legislative Liaison Phone: 465-3376  
 Division: Office of the Commissioner Date: 03/24/92  
 Approved by Commissioner: Lloyd Hames, Commissioner  
 Agency: Department of Corrections Date: 03/24/92

CONTINUATION OF FISCAL ANALYSIS

BILL: CSHB 385 (L&C) " An Act relating to video display terminals."

The bill would require each state agency to appoint a person responsible for providing information on the risks and proper use of video display terminals (VDTs) at each "qualified work site." A qualified work site means a cluster of at least four VDTs. The Department of Administration would be required to train the appointees in the proper use of VDTs to avoid or lessen risks involved with improper use. The Department of Administration has submitted a fiscal note based on the assumption that this training would be paid for by the state agencies receiving training.

NOTE: The Department will request that training be provided in writing or on videotape in order to reduce travel costs to zero; however, based on assumptions in the Department of Administration's fiscal note, the following costs are estimated for training:

Travel Costs: The Department would send the following numbers of appointees to yearly training in either Anchorage, Fairbanks, or Juneau. It is assumed that current airfares will remain constant, and that each training session will require one overnight and full day of per diem.

<u>Location</u>	<u># of worksites</u>	<u>transportation</u>	<u>per diem</u>	<u>Total</u>
Anchorage	6	0.00	0.00	0.00
Palmer	3	0.00	108.00	108.00
Kenai	3	282.60	108.00	390.60
Seward	1	76.20	36.00	112.20
Kodiak	1	276.00	95.00	371.00
Dillingham	1	446.00	95.00	541.00
Fairbanks	2	0.00	0.00	0.00
Nome	2	1228.00	190.00	1418.00
Bethel	2	1388.00	190.00	1578.00
Kotzebue	1	614.00	95.00	709.00
Barrow	1	470.00	95.00	565.00
Juneau	3	0.00	0.00	0.00
Ketchikan	2	496.00	190.00	686.00
Sitka	1	174.00	95.00	269.00
<u>TOTAL COSTS</u>				<u>\$ 6,747.80</u>

Contractual Costs: The Department of Administration's fiscal note assumes that contractual costs for preparing and presenting the training will be paid by the receiving agencies. It is assumed that the contractual costs identified each year in that fiscal note will be divided among the agencies receiving training, or approximately 25 agencies, to estimate the cost to this Department.

# Alaska State Legislature

## HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES



### REPRESENTATIVE FRAN ULMER

MEMORANDUM

April 30, 1992

TO: Senator Pat Purchot, Co-Chair  
Senate Finance Committee

FROM: Rep. Fran Ulmer

RE: SCSHB 385 (L&C) am - Video Display Terminals

I am requesting a hearing on this legislation at your earliest convenience.

HB 385 was created in response to a growing health problem among state workers who spend long hours in front of their Video Display Terminals (VDTs). VDT workplace injuries include eye strain, stress and musculoskeletal disorders (wrist, back and neck injuries) including host of ailments dubbed "repetitive strain injuries" or RSI.

According to the Federal Bureau of Labor Statistics, disorders associated with repetitive strain injuries now rank among the highest reported workplace injuries in the U.S. (more than 52%). For instance, in recent years the cases of carpal tunnel syndrome (swelling of tendons in the wrist) have increased more rapidly than any other job related illness. Insurance industry sources believe that keyboard operators are one of the highest at-risk groups.

In many cases, the remedy for these conditions already exists in the workplace. Educating workers on the proper positioning of VDT monitors, keyboards and chairs can go a long way to alleviating this problem. However, phasing out or remodeling "unhealthy" work station configurations and furniture is also essential.

CSHB 385 (L&C) seeks to remedy this situation for state workers by:

- \* Requiring the training of supervisory staff about the causes, remedies and prevention of VDT related injuries.
- \* Requiring the posting of notices in the workplace to advise state employees about the safe use of Video Display Terminals.



April 30, 1992  
CSHB 385 (L&C)  
Page Two

- \* Requiring that future purchases and installation of office furniture and equipment meet standards that reduce the health risks associated with VDTs.

Think of HB 385 as a dose of preventative medicine. By moving now to answer the health concerns of state workers, we will also be saving the state money by eliminating the causes of a growing number of health insurance claims.



# Filipino Community, Inc.

251 South Franklin Street • Juneau, Alaska 99801-1343  
Phone (907) 586-4118 • Executive Offices (907) 586-2118

**TO: The House of Representatives  
Alaska State Legislature**

**DATE: March 11, 1992**

**FROM: Lucille J. Santos  
Secretary & Legislative Chair  
Filipino Community, Inc.**

**TELEPHONE NO: 586-2116**

**SUBJECT: HB385**

The Filipino Community, Inc. of Juneau urge the swift passage of HB 385 which pertains to the proper use of VDTs (video display terminals). Our organization strongly believes that this would be a great preventive measure to the physical hazards from the improper use of VDTs. It is the lower range employees in the clerical and support services fields, primarily women, who can least afford to lose their jobs and ill afford the high medical bills which will be highly impacted by the lack of information about VDTs. This bill would also lower the rate of absenteeism due to VDT related health problems.

**Thank you for reading this message and your affirmative vote!**

*distributed by Ulmer*

# ALASKA STATE DISTRICT COUNCIL OF LABORERS

Laborers International Union of North America, AFL-CIO

2501 Commercial Drive, Suite 140  
Anchorage, Alaska 99501 • 907/276-1640

Don Valesko  
President

Andrew J. "Bear" Piekarski  
Business Manager/Secretary Treasurer

## POSITION STATEMENT

TO: MEMBERS, ALASKA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES  
FROM: A.J. "BEAR" PIEKARSKI, BUSINESS MANAGER/SECY'TREAS.  
RE: HB 385

THE ALASKA STATE DISTRICT COUNCIL OF LABORERS SUPPORTS THE PASSAGE OF HB 385. HAZARD COMMUNICATION TRAINING FOR VDT USERS BENEFITS BOTH EMPLOYER AND EMPLOYEE, AND WE URGE YOU TO SUPPORT THE BILL WHEN IT COMES TO A FLOOR VOTE.

*El Ferguson, SE Rep.*  
A.J. "BEAR" PIEKARSKI  
BUSINESS MANAGER/SECY-TREAS.

January 27, 1992

Mr. Barnaby Dow  
State Capitol, Room 421  
Juneau, AK 99811

Post-It™ brand fax transmittal memo 7671 # of pages > 1

To	Barnaby Dow	From	Jan B. Smith
Co.	Rep. Ulmer	Co.	Fish & Game
Dept.		Phone #	465-4160
Fax #	2108	Fax #	465-4168

Dear Mr. Dow:

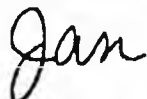
I understand Representative Fran Ulmer is requesting information regarding carpal tunnel syndrome and the use of video display terminals.

My first problem with carpal tunnel syndrome began about two years before I began working for the State of Alaska. At the time, I was employed as a nurse during the day and did medical transcription at home during the evening using an electric typewriter. During this time, I developed pain in my hands and wrists to the extent that at one point I had to wear custom-molded, fiberglass splints, sometimes on one and sometimes on both wrists. This continued until I stopped doing medical transcription at home.

In July 1988, I began working for the state as a clerk typist, and within a few months I began to have problems with my wrists again. While shopping for office supplies one day, I noticed a "wrist rest" device and requested permission to buy one. My supervisor thought I was being silly to want to spend state money in such a manner, but finally allowed the purchase. Coworkers ridiculed me for using the wrist rest, and frequently I returned to my desk to find the wrist rest on the floor. However, soon after beginning to use the wrist rest, my symptoms abated and I have had essentially no problems with carpal tunnel syndrome since.

In August 1990, I began working for the Department of Fish and Game, Division of Fisheries Rehabilitation, Enhancement and Development (FRED). Shortly thereafter, I obtained a wrist rest, received no ridicule for using it, and continue to be symptom-free.

Sincerely,



Jan. B. Smith

Martha Samaniego  
P.O. BOX 1893  
Kodiak Alaska 99615

March 19, 1992

Representative Fran Ulmer  
Alaska State Legislative  
Juneau, Alaska 99801-1182

Dear Representative Fran Ulmer:

I am an eighth grader at the Kodiak Junior High. Please don't allow my age to take away some of the attention needed on what I have to say. I am writing in support to the House Bill 385 concerning VDT hazards.

I favor this bill because I believe that adults and children who use video display terminals (such as computers) have the right to know the dangers in connection with VDT's. I have noticed that children are beginning to use computers at younger and younger ages, they use them without the parents knowing what dangers may come with advancement.

Many employees also apply for jobs and work with computers. All these people, adults and children alike are in danger of becoming nearsighted and also putting thier eyes in risk of attracting other RSI's. This issue deserves more attention then it all ready has. This bill will not only help the people now, but will help people for a long time to come.

Thank you for taking the time to consider this opinion and I will be waiting to hear from you concerning the further progress of House Bill 385.

Sincerely,

Martha Samaniego

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