

STATE OF MAINE

—
IN THE YEAR OF OUR LORD
TWO THOUSAND TWENTY-THREE

—
S.P. 721 - L.D. 1796

An Act to Protect Maine's Transit Employees

Be it enacted by the People of the State of Maine as follows:

Sec. 1. 30-A MRSA §3520 is enacted to read:

§3520. Protection of transit employees

1. Posting of signs. A transit district shall post signs in conspicuous places in all transit district facilities accessible to the public, including a building, terminal, kiosk, shelter or passenger rail, ferry, bus, bicycle or pedestrian facility, informing the public of the penalties for assaulting a transit employee.

2. De-escalation training. All employees of a transit district must receive de-escalation training upon commencement of employment with the transit district and at least once annually thereafter. The transit district shall jointly approve the de-escalation training curriculum with the labor organization representing a plurality of the employees of the transit district, except that if the transit district is party to a joint labor-management safety committee, the committee shall approve the curriculum. For purposes of this subsection, "de-escalation" means the reduction of violent or disruptive behavior and resolution and minimization of conflict through verbal engagement and calming techniques.