

■ **OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY AND HEALTH LAWS (*HAZARD COMMUNICATION*)**

TERMS: Under the authority of the state occupational safety and health laws, the state labor commissioner has adopted regulations requiring employers to provide information to their employees about the hazardous chemicals to which they are exposed on the job. Vermont's hazard communication standards are identical to those established by the U.S. Occupational Safety and Health Administration (*see entry, U.S. — Pesticides & Agricultural Chemicals — Hazard Communication*) and apply only to farm operations that employ more than 10 workers in a given year or that maintain a temporary labor camp.

ENFORCEMENT: *Vermont Occupational Safety and Health Administration (VOSHA), Vermont Department of Labor, Montpelier, Vermont 05601 (802-828-5084).*

SPECIAL NOTE: An employer may not fire, discipline or discriminate against a worker because the worker has filed a complaint or made use of any other right granted by these provisions. A worker who has been subjected to retaliation may submit a discrimination complaint to the Vermont Department of Labor at any time within 30 days after the violation. As an alternative, the worker may bring suit against the employer in civil court, using a private attorney or public legal service provider.