January 31, 2017

Expressing Concern for Worker Health & Safety Related to H.J.Res. 37 “Disapproving the Final Rule Submitted by the Department of Defense, the General Services Administration, and the National Aeronautics and Space Administration Relating to the Federal Acquisition Regulation”

Dear US Representatives:

On behalf of the American Industrial Hygiene Association® (AIHA), I am writing to express our concern with H.J.Res. 37, which would overturn a final rule that amended the Federal Acquisition Regulation to implement Executive Order 13673 “Fair Pay and Safe Workplaces”, and is currently scheduled for consideration this week on the House floor under Suspension of the Rules. While the final rule and Executive Order address many topics, our concerns are limited to those areas dealing with worker health and safety, as these are the subjects in which AIHA and its members possess unique expertise and knowledge.

Instead of a blanket repeal of this rule, AIHA encourages you to engage with occupational and environmental health and safety professionals, and others in a constructive dialogue that examines how best to improve worker health, safety, and socioeconomic prosperity – all of which are closely linked. As currently drafted, H.J.Res. 37 threatens to slow progress towards healthier and safer workplaces; as such, we encourage you to oppose its passage.

Founded in 1939, AIHA is the premier association of occupational and environmental health and safety professionals. AIHA’s 8,500 members play a crucial role on the front line of worker health and safety every day. Our members represent a cross-section of industry, private business, labor, government and academia.

Thank you for your consideration of AIHA’s concerns and recommendations. AIHA looks forward to working with you to help protect worker health and safety. Please feel free to contact Mark Ames, AIHA’s Director of Government Relations, at mames@aiha.org or (703) 846-0730.

Respectfully,

Lawrence Sloan, CAE
Chief Executive Officer
AIHA