

April 28, 2016

The Honorable Roy Blunt
Chairman, Subcommittee on Labor, Health
& Human Services, Education, &
Related Agencies
Committee on Appropriations
U.S. Senate
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Patty Murray
Ranking Member, Subcommittee on Labor,
Health and Human Services, Education, &
Related Agencies
Committee on Appropriations
U.S. Senate
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Tom Cole
Chairman, Subcommittee on Labor, Health
& Human Services, Education, &
Related Agencies
Committee on Appropriations
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro
Ranking Member, Subcommittee on Labor,
Health & Human Services, Education, &
Related Agencies
Committee on Appropriations
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Blunt, Ranking Member Murray, Chairman Cole and Ranking Member DeLauro:

As Congress considers funding priorities for Fiscal Year 2017, the *Friends of the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health* strongly urges you to include at least the Fiscal Year 2016 level of \$339.121 million for the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH).

The Friends of NIOSH is a coalition of industry, labor, professional, education and scientific organizations that are dedicated to research and prevention of occupational injuries and illness and committed to the training of occupational health and safety professionals. Our broad coalition of stakeholders understands the value of research, education and occupational illness prevention from many perspectives, including the labor, academic and business communities.

NIOSH understands these needs and has developed programs like the Education and Research Centers (ERCs), the Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing Program (AFF), and the Healthier Workforce Centers to protect the health and safety of America's workforce. NIOSH has also developed a robust research program – National Occupational Research Agenda (NORA) - to apply the tools of science to improving workplace health and safety. The elimination of the NIOSH supported ERCs and AFF Program and the cuts in NORA as proposed in the President's fiscal 2017 budget, would limit the ability of workers to avoid exposures that can result in injury or illnesses, push back improved working conditions, eliminate occupational safety and health educational services to U.S. businesses, and ultimately raise health care costs.

NIOSH is the primary federal agency responsible for conducting research and making recommendations for the prevention of work-related illness and injury. NIOSH provides national and world leadership to avert workplace illness, injury, disability, and death by gathering information, conducting scientific research, and translating this knowledge into products and

services. NIOSH supports programs in every state to improve the health and safety of workers.

The health and safety of the American workforce is a shared goal of all of our organizations. Many of our members are employed in high risk occupations. Rather than accept that working requires individuals to place their health and wellbeing at risk, we believe strongly that all occupations can be made safer through research, education and training.

In order to maintain the health and safety of the American workforce, we ask that you include at least the Fiscal Year 2016 level of funding for the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) in the Fiscal Year 2017 Labor, Health and Human Services Appropriations bill. Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,

1. AgriSafe Network
2. Agri-Services Agency LLC
3. Agricultural Safety and Health Council of America (ASHCA)
4. Alaska Marine Safety Education Association (AMSEA)
5. Alpha Technology USA Corp
6. American Association of Occupational Health Nurses (AAOHN)
7. American College of Occupational and Environmental Medicine (ACOEM)
8. American Industrial Hygiene Association
9. American Industrial Hygiene Association – Chicago Section
10. American Industrial Hygiene Association - Florida Local Section
11. American Nurses Association
12. American Occupational Therapy Association
13. American Public Health Association
14. American Seafoods Company
15. American Society of Safety Engineers
16. American Thoracic Society
17. Arkansas Farm Bureau
18. Arkansas Timber Producers Association
19. Associates in Occupational + Environmental Health, LLC
20. Association of Occupational Health Professionals in Healthcare (AOHP)
21. Association of University Programs in Occupational Health and Safety
22. Atlantic OSHA Training Center, Universidad Metropolitana, San Juan, Puerto Rico
23. Aurora Industrial Hygiene
24. Aurora Organic Dairy
25. Bassett Healthcare Network
26. Boise State University, School of Allied Health Sciences, Environmental and Occupational Health Program
27. California State Association of Occupational Health Nurses
28. California El Camino Real Association of Occupational Health Nurses (CECRAOHN)
29. California Industrial Hygiene Council
30. Center for Occupational and Environmental Health, University of California, Irvine

31. Center for Occupational and Environmental Health, University of California, Los Angeles
32. Center for Occupational and Environmental Health, University of California, Davis
33. Central Appalachian Regional Education and Research Center
34. Central Rocky Mountain Chapter of the Health Physics Society
35. Central States Center for Agricultural Safety and Health (CS-CASH)
36. College of Public Health and Human Sciences, Oregon State University
37. Colorado Chapter of the American Society of Safety Engineers
38. Colorado Livestock Association
39. Colorado School of Public Health Occupational and Environmental Medicine Residency Program
40. Colorado State University
41. Colorado State University College of Veterinary Medicine & Biomedical Sciences
42. Colorado State University, Office of the Vice President for Research
43. Communications Workers of America
44. Culinary Health Fund
45. Dana-Farber Cancer Institute
46. Deep South Center for Occupational Health and Safety
47. Department of Environmental and Occupational Health, Colorado School of Public Health
48. Department of Environmental and Occupational Health Sciences, University of Washington
49. Department of Environmental Health Sciences, University of Alabama at Birmingham School of Public Health
50. Department of Environmental and Radiological Health Sciences, Colorado State University
51. Dimensions in Occupational Health & Safety, Inc.
52. Division of Occupational and Environmental Medicine, Department of Preventive Medicine, Icahn School of Medicine at Mount Sinai
53. Doisy College of Health Sciences, Saint Louis University
54. Empire State Forest Products Association
55. Environmental and Occupational Medicine and Epidemiology Program of the Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health
56. Ergonomic Technologies Corp
57. Emergency Safety Instruction 2001
58. Environmental Health & Safety Associates
59. Evergreen Safety Council
60. Farm Family Insurance
61. Fishing Partnership Support Services
62. Finishing Trades Institute Northwest (FTINW)
63. Good Old Lower East Side Inc. (GOLES)
64. Great Plains Center for Agricultural Health
65. Harry Bridges Center for Labor Studies, University of Washington
66. Harvard Education and Research Center for Occupational Health and Safety
67. Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health Center for Work, Health, and Wellbeing
68. Health Sciences Associates

69. Heartland Center for Occupational Health and Safety
70. High Plains Intermountain Center for Agricultural Health and Safety
71. Human Factors and Ergonomics Society (HFES)
72. Iowa's Center for Agricultural Safety and Health (I-CASH)
73. Iowa Federation of Labor, AFL-CIO
74. International Association of Fire Fighters
75. International Chemical Workers Union Council (ICWUC)
76. Intrinsic Environmental Sciences (US) Inc.
77. Johns Hopkins Center for Injury Research and Policy
78. Johns Hopkins Education and Research Center for Occupational Safety and Health
79. Labor Occupational Health Program, Center for Occupational and Environmental Health, UC Berkeley
80. Laborers' Health and Safety Fund of North America
81. Massachusetts Coalition for Occupational Safety and Health (MassCOSH)
82. Midwest Consortium for Hazardous Waste Worker Training
83. Migrant Clinicians Network
84. Minnesota Association of Occupational Health Nurses
85. Montana Tech School of Mines and Engineering
86. Mount Sinai Selikoff Centers for Occupational Health
87. Mountain and Plains Education and Research Center
88. National Center for Farmworker Health, Inc.
89. National Children's Center for Rural and Agricultural Safety and Health
90. National Council for Occupational Safety and Health
91. National Education Center for Agricultural Safety (NECAS)
92. National Farm Medicine Center, Marshfield Clinic Research Foundation
93. National Safety Council
94. Nationwide Insurance
95. New Belgium Brewing Company
96. New England College of Occupational and Environmental Medicine (NECOEM)
97. New Solutions: A Journal of Environmental and Occupational Health Policy
98. New York New Jersey Education and Research Center
99. The New York Center for Agricultural Medicine and Health
100. New York Farm Bureau
101. New York State Nurses Association
102. NMSU Dairy Extension
103. Northeast Center for Occupational Health and Safety: Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing
104. Northeast Iowa Association of Occupational Health Nurses
105. NorthEast New York Coalition for Occupational Safety and Health (NENYCOSH)
106. North Carolina Occupational Safety and Health and Education and Research Center
107. North Dakota State University Extension Service
108. Northern California Center for Occupational and Environmental Health, University of California, Berkeley, Davis, and San Francisco
109. Northwest Green Chemistry
110. OAI, Inc.-Opportunity, Advancement, Innovation in Workforce Development
111. Occupational and Environmental Health and Safety Education and Research Center at the University of Illinois at Chicago

112. Occupational and Environmental Medicine Residency Program, University of California, Irvine
113. Office of Public Health Practice, Rutgers School of Public Health
114. Old Dominion University Department of Psychology
115. OSHA Training Institute Education Center at the University of South Florida
116. Pacific Northwest Agricultural Safety and Health Center
117. Pacific Northwest Section of the American Industrial Hygiene Association (PNSAIHA)
118. Penn State Agricultural Safety and Health Program
119. Pinnacol Assurance
120. Puget Sound Shipbuilders Association (PSSA)
121. Rocky Mountain Academy of Occupational and Environmental Medicine
122. Rocky Mountain Center for Occupational and Environmental Health (RMCOEH)
123. Rutgers School of Public Health
124. School of Health Sciences, College of Health and Human Sciences, Purdue University
125. School of Occupational Therapy- University of Western Ontario
126. Seattle Fishermen's Memorial
127. Sentis Inc., USA
128. SMART Association
129. South Dakota State University (SDSU) Extension
130. Southeast Center for Agricultural Health and Injury Prevention
131. Southern California Education and Research Center, University of California, Los Angeles and Irvine
132. Southwest Center for Occupational and Environmental Health
133. Sunshine Education and Research Center at the University of South Florida
134. The University of Findlay, Environmental, Safety and Occupational Health Programs
135. UTHealth School of Public Health
136. Unite HERE Health Fund
137. UNITE HERE International Union
138. University of California, Irvine Occupational Medicine Residency Program
139. University of Cincinnati Education and Research Center
140. University of Iowa College of Public Health
141. University of Iowa Healthier Workforce Center of Excellence
142. University of Kentucky College of Public Health
143. University of Michigan Center for Occupational Health and Safety Engineering
144. University of Minnesota Division of Environmental Health Sciences, School of Public Health
145. University of Minnesota, Midwest Center for Occupational Health and Safety (MCOHS) Education and Research Center (ERC)
146. University of Minnesota School of Public Health
147. University of Nebraska Medical Center College of Public Health
148. University of Pittsburgh Department of Occupational Therapy
149. University of Washington, College of Built Environments
150. University of Washington School of Public Health
151. Upper Midwest Agricultural Safety and Health Center
152. USW local 9231
153. Washington State Apprenticeship Coordinators Association (WSACA)

154. WCF Insurance
155. Western Center for Agricultural Health & Safety
156. Western Occupational & Environmental Medical Association (WOEMA)
157. Workers Compensation Fund (Utah)
158. Worksafe Iowa