

October 23, 2015

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 you work to finalize the Fiscal Year 2016 Labor-HHS Appropriations Bill, the *Friends of the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health* **urge that the final bill include the House-recommended funding level of \$341.1 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.

We are particularly grateful that the House bill includes increased funding for NIOSH, including the National Occupational Research Agenda (NORA), the Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing Program, the Education and Research Centers, and the Healthier Workforce Centers. These programs work in tandem to protect the health and safety of America's workforce.

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.

Thank you for the opportunity to present the views of the *Friends of the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health*. Please contact Gary Ewart (gewart@thoracic.org, (202) 296-9770) or Katie Vanlandingham (kvanlandingham@vsadc.com, (202) 638-1950) with any questions.

Sincerely,

1. 9HealthFair, Colorado
2. AgriSafe Network, Inc.
3. Agri-Services Agency LLC
4. Agricultural Safety and Health Council of America
5. Alaska Marine Safety Education Association (AMSEA)
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, Kentuckiana local section
10. American Industrial Hygiene Association - Rocky Mountain Section
11. American Nurses Association
12. American Public Health Association
13. American Seafoods Company
14. American Society of Safety Engineers
15. American Thoracic Society
16. Arkansas Farm Bureau
17. Arkansas Timber Producers Association
18. Association of Occupational Health Professionals in Healthcare (AOHP)
19. Association of University Programs in Occupational Health and Safety
20. Atlantic OSHA Training Center, PR, Universidad Metropolitana, San Juan, Puerto Rico
21. Aurora Organic Dairy
22. Axion Health, Inc.
23. Bassett Healthcare Network
24. Boise State University, School of Allied Health Sciences, Environmental and Occupational Health Program
25. California State Association of Occupational Health Nurses
26. California Central Coast Association of Occupational Health Nurses (CCCAOHN)
27. California El Camino Real Association of Occupational Health Nurses (CECRAOHN)
28. California Harbor Area Association of Occupational Health Nurses
29. California Industrial Hygiene Council
30. Center for Health, Work and Environment, Colorado School of Public Health
31. Center for Infectious Disease Research
32. Center for Occupational and Environmental Health, University of California, Irvine
33. Center for Occupational and Environmental Health, University of California, Los Angeles
34. Central Rocky Mountain Chapter of the Health Physics Society

35. Central States Center for Agricultural Safety and Health (CS-CASH)
36. Colorado Chapter of the American Society of Safety Engineers
37. Colorado Consortium for Prescription Drug Abuse Prevention
38. Colorado Livestock Association
39. Colorado Office of Economic Development and International Trade (OEDIT)
40. Colorado School of Public Health Occupational and Environmental Medicine Residency Program
41. Colorado Small Business Development Center Network
42. Colorado State University
43. Colorado State University College of Veterinary Medicine & Biomedical Sciences
44. Communications Workers of America
45. Culinary Health Fund
46. Dana-Farber Cancer Institute
47. Deep South Center for Occupational Health and Safety
48. DeLaval, Inc.
49. Department of Environmental and Occupational Health, Colorado School of Public Health
50. Department of Environmental and Occupational Health Sciences, University of Washington
51. Department of Environmental and Radiological Health Sciences, Colorado State University
52. Dimensions OHS
53. Division of Occupational Medicine, Denver Health and Hospital Authority
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. ESI2001
58. Farm Family Insurance
59. Farm Safety For Just Kids
60. Fishing Partnership Support Services
61. Golden Aluminum Inc.
62. Good Old Lower East Side Inc. (GOLES)
63. Great Plains Center for Agricultural Health
64. Harry Bridges Center for Labor Studies, University of Washington
65. Harvard Education and Research Center for Occupational Health and Safety
66. Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health Center for Work, Health, and Wellbeing
67. Health Links Colorado
68. Healthy Communities Coalition of Eagle County, Colorado
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. International Association of Fire Chiefs
74. International Association of Fire Fighters
75. International Chemical Workers Union Council (ICWUC)

76. International Safety Equipment Association
77. Intrinsic Environmental Sciences (US) Inc
78. Island Insurance Company, Ltd.
79. Johns Hopkins Education and Research Center for Occupational Safety and Health
80. La Luna Dairy
81. Labor Occupational Health Program, Center for Occupational and Environmental Health, UC Berkeley
82. Laboratory for Occupational Immunotoxicology, Department of Medicine, School of Medicine, University of Colorado Denver, Anschutz Medical Campus
83. Massachusetts Coalition for Occupational Safety and Health (MassCOSH)
84. MediSHARE Environmental Health & Safety Services
85. Metropolitan Washington Association of Occupational Health Nurses, Inc.
86. Midwest Consortium for Hazardous Waste Worker Training
87. Migrant Clinicians Network
88. Montana Tech School of Mines and Engineering
89. Mount Sinai Selikoff Centers for Occupational Health
90. Mountain and Plains Education and Research Center
91. National Center for Farmworker Health, Inc.
92. National Children's Center for Rural and Agricultural Safety and Health
93. National Council for Occupational Safety and Health
94. National Economic and Social Rights Initiative (NESRI)
95. National Education Center for Agricultural Safety (NECAS)
96. National Farm Medicine Center, Marshfield Clinic Research Foundation
97. National Safety Council
98. Nationwide Insurance
99. New Belgium Brewing Company
100. New Solutions, A Journal of Environmental and Occupational Health Policy
101. New York New Jersey Education and Research Center
102. The New York Center for Agricultural Medicine and Health
103. New York Committee for Occupational Safety and Health (NYCOSH)
104. New York Farm Bureau
105. NMSU Dairy Extension
106. Northeast Center for Occupational Health and Safety
107. NorthEast New York Coalition for Occupational Safety and Health (NENYCOSH)
108. North Carolina Occupational Safety and Health and Education and Research Center
109. Northern California Center for Occupational and Environmental Health, University of California, Berkeley, Davis, and San Francisco
110. Occupational and Environmental Health and Safety Education and Research Center at the University of Illinois at Chicago
111. Occupational and Environmental Medicine Residency Program, University of California, Irvine
112. Pacific Northwest Agricultural Safety and Health Center
113. Philadelphia Section, American Industrial Hygiene Association
114. Pinnacol Assurance
115. Puget Sound Shipbuilders Association (PSSA)
116. Purdue University School of Health Sciences

117. Rocky Mountain Academy of Occupational and Environmental Medicine, Inc.
118. Rocky Mountain Center for Occupational and Environmental Health (RMCOEH)
119. Seattle Fishermen's Memorial
120. Sentis Inc., USA
121. Southern California Education and Research Center, University of California, Los Angeles and Irvine
122. Southwest Center for Occupational and Environmental Health
123. Sunshine Education and Research Center at the University of South Florida
124. Toxicology Research Center, University at Buffalo
125. UNITE HERE International Union
126. University of Alabama at Birmingham School of Public Health
127. University of Cincinnati Education and Research Center
128. University of Iowa College of Public Health
129. University of Iowa Healthier Workforce Center of Excellence
130. University of Minnesota Division of Environmental Health Sciences, School of Public Health
131. University of Minnesota, Midwest Center for Occupational Health and Safety (MCOHS) Education and Research Center (ERC)
132. University of Minnesota School of Public Health
133. University of Nebraska Medical Center College of Public Health
134. University of Washington School of Public Health
135. Upper Midwest Agricultural Safety and Health Center
136. USW local 9231
137. Utah State University
138. Western Center for Agricultural Health & Safety
139. Western Occupational & Environmental Medical Association (WOEMA)
140. Western New York Association of Occupational Health Nurses
141. Workers Compensation Fund (Utah)
142. Worksafe Colorado
143. Worksafe, Inc.
144. Worksafe Iowa
145. Y-stress Inc.