

Friends of *NIOSH*

September 20, 2017

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 finalizes funding priorities for Fiscal Year 2018, the *Friends of the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health* strongly urges you to include at least \$335.2 million for the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH), the same as the FY18 Senate Appropriations Committee level and the FY17 enacted level.

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, state-based surveillance of work-related injuries and illnesses, education and occupational illness prevention from many perspectives, including the labor, academic and business communities.

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.

With this in mind, we are very concerned that the President's Fiscal Year 2018 budget request significantly cuts NIOSH, eliminating programs that protect the health and safety of America's workforce, such as the Education and Research Centers (ERCs), the Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing (AFF) Program, the Total Worker Health (TWH) Program, and the state occupational health and safety surveillance programs. These cuts would also cripple NIOSH's robust research program, the National Occupational Research Agenda (NORA), which was developed to apply the tools of science to improving workplace health and safety. Elimination of any of these programs 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.

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 \$335.2 million for the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) in the final Fiscal Year 2018 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. Air Alliance Houston
5. Alaska Marine Safety Education Association (AMSEA)
6. Alaska Trollers Association
7. American Association of Occupational Health Nurses (AAOHN)
8. American College of Occupational and Environmental Medicine (ACOEM)
9. American Federation of Labor and Congress of Industrial Organizations (AFL-CIO)
10. American Industrial Hygiene Association (AIHA)
11. American Industrial Hygiene Association – Chicago Section
12. American Industrial Hygiene Association: Iowa/Illinois Local Section
13. American Industrial Hygiene Association - Northern California Section
14. American Industrial Hygiene Association – Rocky Mountain Section
15. American Nurses Association
16. American Public Health Association
17. American Seafoods Company
18. American Society of Safety Engineers
19. American Thoracic Society
20. Arkansas Farm Bureau
21. Arkansas Timber Producers Association
22. Association of Occupational and Environmental Clinics
23. Association of Occupational Health Professionals in Healthcare (AOHP)
24. Association of University Programs in Occupational Health and Safety
25. Aurora Organic Dairy
26. Axion Health, Inc.
27. Bassett Healthcare Network
28. Boise State University, School of Allied Health Sciences, Environmental and Occupational Health Program
29. California AgrAbility Project
30. California Industrial Hygiene Council
31. Center for Health, Work & Environment, University of Colorado Denver
32. Center for Community-Based Research, Dana-Farber Cancer Institute
33. Center for Occupational and Environmental Health, University of California, Irvine
34. Center for Occupational and Environmental Health, University of California, Los Angeles

35. Center for Occupational and Environmental Health, University of California, Davis
36. Central Appalachian Regional Education and Research Center
37. Central Rocky Mountain Chapter of the Health Physics Society
38. Central States Center for Agricultural Safety and Health (CS-CASH)
39. Chicago Federation of Labor
40. Collegium Ramazzini
41. Colorado Chapter of the American Society of Safety Engineers
42. Colorado School of Public Health's Center for Health, Work and Environment
43. Colorado School of Public Health, CU Anschutz
44. Colorado School of Public Health Occupational and Environmental Medicine Residency Program
45. Colorado State University College of Veterinary Medicine & Biomedical Sciences
46. Communications Workers of America
47. Community Health Partnership of Illinois
48. Construction Safety Council
49. CUNY School of Public Health
50. Deep South Center for Occupational Health and Safety
51. Department of Construction Management at the University of Washington
52. Department of Environmental and Occupational Health, Colorado School of Public Health
53. Department of Environmental Public Health Sciences, New York University, College of Global Public Health
54. Department of Environmental and Occupational Health Sciences, University of Washington
55. Department of Environmental Health Sciences, University of Alabama at Birmingham School of Public Health
56. Department of Environmental and Radiological Health Sciences, Colorado State University
57. Dimensions in Occupational Health & Safety, Inc.
58. Division of Environmental and Occupational Health Sciences, Department of Medicine, National Jewish Health
59. Division of Occupational and Environmental Medicine, University of California, Irvine
60. Emergency Safety Instruction 2001
61. Environmental Education Institute (INEDA), Metropolitan University (UMET)
62. Environmental Defense Fund
63. Evergreen Safety Council
64. Farm Family Insurance
65. Fishing Partnership Support Services
66. Finishing Trades Institute Northwest (FTINW)
67. Good Old Lower East Side Inc. (GOLES)
68. Great Plains Center for Agricultural Health
69. Harry Bridges Center for Labor Studies, University of Washington
70. Harvard Education and Research Center for Occupational Health and Safety
71. Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health Center for Work, Health, and Wellbeing
72. Hawai'i Pacific University, College of Health and Society
73. Health Links Colorado
74. Heartland Center for Occupational Health and Safety
75. High Plains Intermountain Center for Agricultural Health and Safety
76. Human Factors and Ergonomics Society (HFES)
77. Iowa's Center for Agricultural Safety and Health (I-CASH)

78. Iowa Federation of Labor, AFL-CIO
79. International Association of Fire Fighters
80. International Chemical Workers Union Council (ICWUC)
81. International Society for Agricultural Safety and Health
82. Johns Hopkins Center for Injury Research and Policy
83. Johns Hopkins Education and Research Center for Occupational Safety and Health
84. Johns Hopkins Institute for Health and Social Policy
85. Labor Occupational Health Program, UC Berkeley
86. LiUNA!-Midwest Region
87. Midwest Consortium for Hazardous Waste Worker Training
88. Migrant Clinicians Network
89. Minnesota Association of Occupational Health Nurses
90. Montana Tech School of Mines and Engineering
91. Mountain and Plains Education and Research Center, Colorado School of Public Health
92. National Children's Center for Rural and Agricultural Safety and Health
93. National Council for Occupational Safety and Health (National COSH)
94. National Education Center for Agricultural Safety (NECAS)
95. National Farm Medicine Center, Marshfield Clinic Research Institute
96. National Safety Council
97. Nationwide Insurance
98. Nevada Public Health Association
99. New England College of Occupational and Environmental Medicine (NECOEM)
100. New Solutions: A Journal of Environmental and Occupational Health Policy
101. New York Committee for Occupational Safety and Health (NYCOSH)
102. New York New Jersey Education and Research Center
103. The New York Center for Agricultural Medicine and Health
104. New York City District Council of Carpenters Apprenticeship Journeyman Retraining Educational and Industry Fund
105. New York Farm Bureau
106. NMSU Dairy Extension
107. Northeast Center for Occupational Health and Safety: Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing
108. Northeast Iowa Association of Occupational Health Nurses
109. NorthEast New York Coalition for Occupational Safety and Health (NENYCOSH)
110. Northwest Association of Occupational and Environmental Medicine
111. Northwest Center for Occupational Health and Safety
112. North Carolina Occupational Safety and Health and Education and Research Center
113. Northern California Center for Occupational and Environmental Health, University of California, Berkeley, Davis, and San Francisco
114. Occupational and Environmental Health and Safety Education and Research Center at the University of Illinois at Chicago
115. Occupational & Environmental Health Resources, Inc., dba MediSHARE Environmental Health & Safety Services
116. Occupational and Environmental Medicine and Epidemiology Program, Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health
117. Occupational Safety and Health Engineering MS Program, New Jersey Institute of Technology
118. Office of Public Health Practice, Rutgers School of Public Health
119. Pacific Northwest Agricultural Safety and Health Center
120. Pinnacol Assurance

121. Portland State University Occupational Health Psychology Program
122. Professional Logging Contractors of Maine
123. Puget Sound Shipbuilders Association (PSSA)
124. Rocky Mountain Academy of Occupational and Environmental Medicine
125. School of Health Sciences, College of Health and Human Sciences, Purdue University
126. Seattle Fishermen's Memorial
127. SEIU 925
128. Simmons College School of Nursing and Health Sciences
129. SMART Association
130. Society for Occupational Health Psychology
131. South Dakota State University (SDSU) Extension
132. Southeast Center for Agricultural Health and Injury Prevention
133. Southern California Education and Research Center, University of California, Los Angeles and Irvine
134. Southwest Center for Occupational and Environmental Health
135. Saint Louis University, Doisy College of Health Sciences
136. Sunshine Education and Research Center at the University of South Florida
137. Texas College of Occupational and Environmental Medicine
138. The Ohio State University - Agricultural Safety and Health Program
139. UTHealth School of Public Health
140. University of California, Irvine Occupational Medicine Residency Program
141. University of Cincinnati Education and Research Center
142. University of Illinois at Chicago School of Public Health
143. University of Iowa College of Public Health
144. University of Iowa Healthier Workforce Center of Excellence
145. University of Kentucky College of Public Health
146. University of Michigan Center for Occupational Health and Safety Engineering
147. University of Minnesota Division of Environmental Health Sciences, School of Public Health
148. University of Minnesota, Midwest Center for Occupational Health and Safety (MCOHS) Education and Research Center (ERC)
149. University of Minnesota School of Public Health
150. University of Nebraska Medical Center
151. University of Utah Rocky Mountain Center for Occupational and Environmental Health
152. University of Washington, College of Built Environments
153. University of Washington School of Public Health
154. Upper Midwest Agricultural Safety and Health Center
155. USW local 9231
156. Vibrant, Inc.
157. ViewPoint Marketing, Inc. Denver, CO
158. Washington State Apprenticeship Coordinators Association (WSACA)
159. Western Center for Agricultural Health & Safety
160. Western Occupational & Environmental Medical Association (WOEMA)
161. Workers Compensation Fund
162. Worksafe Iowa