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 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 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 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. Intrinsik 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