July 29, 2010

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# **RE: OPPOSITION TO SB 477 (FLOREZ)**

Dear Senator Florez,

On behalf of the California Industrial Hygiene Council (CIHC), I regret to inform you of our opposition to your SB 477 related to a revised heat illness standard. CIHC, which was founded in 1990, represents the Industrial Hygiene profession in California and is affiliated with the American Industrial Hygiene Association (AIHA), a 12,000 member national organization. Our Board consists of Certified Industrial Hygiene (CIH) representatives from all California local sections of the AIHA, these including Northern CA, Orange County, Sacramento, San Diego, and Southern CA. Our mission is to bring good science to the legislative and/or regulatory agenda which impacts the health of California workers and the public.

CIHC board members have worked with the Division of Occupational Safety and Health (DOSH) on many of its proposed standards since we were established. We have consistently agreed with DOSH on the need for a heat illness standard since the standard was first considered. In general, we believe a heat illness standard has significant merit for the agriculture industry. Since the regulation has been in effect, DOSH has reported on successfully reducing the number of heat-related illnesses.

CIHC has provided the Occupational Safety and Health Standards Board with comments on the two changes to standards most recently proposed. CIHC believes that the continued effort to make an effective regulation even better is a worthy cause and we applaud DOSH and the Standards Board for taking such an effort. It is for these reasons we must oppose SB477. CIHC believes that the bill is unnecessary and quite possibly could prevent a far more effective regulation from being adopted.

Sincerely,

//SIGNED// Chris Laszcz-Davis President