

Highlights include the following:

1. The 2009 CIHC Conference, slated for December 14-16, 2009 at San Francisco's Hotel Nikko and co-chaired by CIHC Treasurer Joel Cohen and CIHC VP Chris Laszcz-Davis, is coming together quite nicely. Of particular note is that Jordan Barab, Deputy Assistant Secretary and Acting Assistant Secretary for OSHA has agreed to address the Conference. Other notable speakers include former NIOSH head Dr. John Howard along with Len Welch, Director of Cal-OSHA, Barbara Materna, Director of the Department of Public Health, and Maziar Movassaghi, Acting Director of Cal-EPA's Department of Toxic Substances Control (DTSC). During this 3-day conference, topics of discussion will include International Issues; Biotech/Pharmaceutical Industry Issues; Energy Related Issues; and Public Service/Life Safety. The Conference Committee was also successful in being able to pull together an optional 2 hour Ethics segment at the end of the Conference to address the new ABIH CM requirements. All this is being delivered at 2008 hotel and registration pricing. Northern California section member Dave Kahane is coordinating all exhibitor sponsorships, while Sacramento Section's Sylvia Fontes and Southern California's Jackie Luca are leading the Communications/Marketing efforts. For further information on the 2009 Conference, go to www.cihconline.com.
2. CIHC has submitted its second round of comments to Cal-EPA's DTSC on Green Chemistry and its Safer Alternatives proposed regulations. Both 2009 letters from CIHC to DTSC are accessible at www.cihconline.com. The Green Chemistry Initiative, which aims to change the approach to chemicals policy, continues to advance within California's regulatory architecture on an aggressive timetable. All stakeholders should closely monitor actions being proposed so that appropriate input can be provided. Cathy Barankin, CIHC's legislative advocate with Sac Advocacy, will begin contacting Sacramento legislative staff so that they remain educated about the Initiative's evolution and CIHC's positions.
3. Sac Advocacy representative Cathy Barankin indicates that the state budget debate has
overshadowed everything in Sacramento. Cuts are drastic and the Governor may be cutting
even more before signing the currently proposed budget. Sac Advocacy and the CIHC Board are
tracking 51 bills in Sacramento. 18 of those bills are actually moving.
4. CIHC is working with National AIHA's Governmental Affairs Director Aaron Trippler to calibrate
whether other states have defined "competent person" in terms of workplace monitoring. This
concept is one CIHC is considering to address within the legislative or regulatory framework.

5. In terms of Bill summary, CIHC is taking a support position on SB 39 "Torts: Personal Liability Immunity" which is an extension of a liability protection bill to cover volunteering professions during an emergency. As regards our "Workplace Exposure Monitoring/Advisory Committee Bill", Cathy suggested that we consider approaching Senator Steinberg who is the sponsor of SB 667, Division of Occupational Safety & Health: Expenditures. SB 667 is a spot Bill that Senator Steinberg has not fleshed out yet. And finally, as regards SB 183 "Residential Building Safety", a Bill CIHC supported last year, the Board agreed to support this Bill which requires the installation of CO monitors again this year.
6. The CIHC Website at www.cihconline.com has been overhauled. It now includes an active link to the five California local section websites; regulatory links to AIHA, IOHA, ACGIH, DOSH and Cal-EPA; all submittals it has made to the state legislative and regulatory bodies; CIHC conference presentations for the past several years; and minutes of all CIHC Board deliberations. Sac Advocacy has also added a search box for looking up state representatives (Senate and Assembly). Current 2009 Conference information is available on the CIHC website.

Respectfully Submitted,

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