

CALIFORNIA INDUSTRIAL HYGIENE COUNCIL



April 19, 2023

Assemblyman James Ramos
1021 O Street, Suite 8310
Sacramento, CA 95814

RE: AB 685 Workforce training: CaliforniaVolunteers: youth job corps.

Dear Assemblyman Ramos,

The California Industrial Hygiene Council (CIHC) would like to offer our support for AB 685, if amended. The requested amendment is to include a clause on safety training requirements for young workers that would greatly benefit them as they pursue careers. Young, inexperienced workers are at a higher risk of being injured on the job compared to older experienced workers. An introduction to workplace safety issues as they are being prepared to enter the workforce would provide a foundation for understanding their right to a safe and healthful work environment.

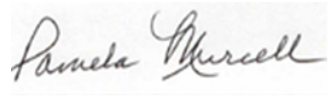
Specifically, such training should include:

- The California work permit program for young workers;
- Employee rights and employer responsibilities with respect to workplace health and safety; and
- The National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health's (NIOSH) *Youth@Work—Talking Safety* curriculum, which teaches essential knowledge and skills to help keep young people safe and healthy at work through key concepts and activities.

The CIHC Board members review, monitor and comment on legislation which may impact the occupational environmental health and safety (OEHS) profession, but also on legislation which may impact occupational and environmental health and safety in general. This includes legislation which CIHC considers may have impact on our stakeholders – the workers of California.

CIHC (<https://www.cihconline.com/about-cihc>) was founded in 1990 to establish a legislative presence in the California State Capitol for the OEHS profession. It is supported by the local sections of the American Industrial Hygiene Association (AIHA) within California. The local sections consist of Northern CA, Orange County, Sacramento Valley, San Diego, and Southern CA. CIHC is designated as the AIHA State Governmental Affairs Organization in California. There are 15 official board members, made up of three volunteer directors from each California local section.

Respectfully,



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