

CALIFORNIA INDUSTRIAL HYGIENE COUNCIL

*Advancing public policy to improve the health and safety
of workers and the community.*

April 21, 2022
Via email: OSHSB@dir.ca.gov

Ms. Christina Shupe
Executive Director
Occupational Safety and Health Standards Board
Sacramento, CA

Subject: Comments on Proposed Language for 3rd Readoption of COVID-19 Prevention ETS

Dear Ms. Shupe:

The California Industrial Hygiene Council (CIHC) appreciates the opportunity to comment on proposed language for the third readoption of the COVID-19 Emergency Temporary Standard (ETS) (8 CCR 3205 et seq). CIHC represents Occupational Health and Safety Professionals in California and works to enhance their professional practice. We appreciate the challenges this issue has presented, and the hard work and countless hours from Board staff and DOSH staff on this issue.

The version of the ETS that is being considered for the third readoption has incorporated language to default to California Department of Public Health (CDPH) rules/orders on several challenging issues. We agree that this is a reasonable approach in an effort to keep up with the rapid-paced developments and changes related to this virus and subsequent disease.

CIHC has comments regarding the path forward. It is our understanding that the 3rd readoption of the COVID ETS (assuming the Board adopts the proposed language) will be in effect through December 2022. What has happened with the IIPP approach proposal, and is that going to be proposed as the permanent COVID regulation? However, a more basic question is, do we even need a permanent COVID regulation? CIHC supports letting the ETS expire at the end of this year, and focus resources on moving expeditiously to address worker protection from aerosol transmissible diseases in all industries not covered by the current 8 CCR 5199, Aerosol Transmissible Diseases.

We appreciate the opportunity to participate with the COVID-19 Advisory Committee. CIHC looks forward to further advisory committee participation to assist the Board and the Division with the path forward.

Thank you for your time and consideration. Please contact me on behalf of the CIHC at (916) 712-4547 or kwa-sacramento@att.net.

Very truly yours,
California Industrial Hygiene Council



Pamela Murcell, MS, CIH
President, CIHC