Friends of NIOSH

May 9, 2018

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 2019, 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). In addition, we support keeping NIOSH within the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and oppose moving it to the National Institutes of Health (NIH), as proposed in the President's Fiscal Year 2019 budget.

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, state-based surveillance of work-related injuries and illnesses, education and occupational illness prevention from many perspectives, including the labor, academic and business communities.

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.

With this in mind, we are very concerned that the President's Fiscal Year 2019 budget request significantly cuts NIOSH, eliminating programs that protect the health and safety of America's workforce, such as the Education and Research Centers (ERCs), the Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing (AFF) Program, the Total Worker Health (TWH) Program, and the state occupational health and safety surveillance programs. These cuts would also cripple NIOSH's robust research program, the National Occupational Research Agenda (NORA), which was developed to apply the tools of science to improving workplace health and safety. Elimination of any of these programs 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.

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 \$339.121 million for the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) in the Fiscal Year 2019 Labor, Health and Human Services Appropriations bill. Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,

- 1. AG Health and Safety Alliance
- 2. Agri-Services Agency LLC
- 3. Agricultural Safety and Health Council of America (ASHCA)
- 4. Alaska Marine Safety Education Association (AMSEA)
- 5. American Association of Occupational Health Nurses (AAOHN)
- 6. American College of Occupational and Environmental Medicine (ACOEM)
- 7. American Industrial Hygiene Association (AIHA)
- 8. American Industrial Hygiene Association Chicago Local Section
- 9. American Industrial Hygiene Association: Iowa/Illinois Local Section
- 10. American Industrial Hygiene Association New England Section
- 11. American Industrial Hygiene Association Orange County Local Section
- 12. American Industrial Hygiene Association Rocky Mountain Section
- 13. American Nurses Association
- 14. American Public Health Association
- 15. American Seafoods Company
- 16. American Society of Safety Engineers
- 17. American Thoracic Society
- 18. Arkansas Timber Producers Association
- 19. Association of Occupational and Environmental Clinics
- 20. Association of Occupational Health Professionals in Healthcare (AOHP)
- 21. Association of University Programs in Occupational Health and Safety
- 22. Aurora Organic Farms, Inc.
- 23. Axion Health, Inc.
- 24. Bassett Healthcare Network
- 25. Boise State University, School of Allied Health Sciences, Environmental and Occupational Health Program
- 26. Center for Occupational and Environmental Health, University of California, Berkeley
- 27. Center for Occupational and Environmental Health, University of California, Irvine
- 28. Center for Occupational and Environmental Health, University of California, Los Angeles
- 29. Center for Public Health Workforce Development, Rutgers School of Public Health
- 30. Central Appalachian Regional Education and Research Center
- 31. Central Rocky Mountain Chapter of the Health Physics Society
- 32. Central States Center for Agricultural Safety and Health (CS-CASH)

- 33. The Cohen Group
- 34. College of Public Health & Human Sciences, Oregon State University
- 35. Collegium Ramazzini
- 36. Colorado Livestock Association
- 37. Colorado School of Public Health's Center for Health, Work and Environment
- 38. Colorado School of Public Health, CU Anschutz
- 39. Colorado School of Public Health Occupational and Environmental Medicine Residency Program
- 40. Community Health Partnership of Illinois
- 41. Council of State and Territorial Epidemiologists
- 42. The CUNY Graduate School of Public Health and Health Policy
- 43. Deep South Center for Occupational Health and Safety
- 44. Department of Environmental and Radiological Health Sciences, Colorado State University
- 45. Dimensions in Occupational Health & Safety, Inc.
- 46. Division of Environmental and Occupational Health Sciences, Department of Medicine, National Jewish Health
- 47. EE Cruz Co. Inc.
- 48. Emergency Safety Instruction 2001
- 49. Environmental Defense Fund
- 50. Environmental and Occupational Medicine Epidemiology Program of the Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health
- 51. ERS International
- 52. Faith and Justice Worker Center
- 53. Fine, Olin, & Anderman, LLP
- 54. Fishing Partnership Support Services
- 55. Great Plains Center for Agricultural Health
- 56. Greater Cincinnati Occupational Health Center (GCOHC)
- 57. Harry Bridges Center for Labor Studies, University of Washington
- 58. Harvard Education and Research Center for Occupational Health and Safety
- 59. Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health Center for Work, Health, and Wellbeing
- 60. Health Links Colorado
- 61. Health Science Associates
- 62. Healthier Workforce Center of the Midwest
- 63. Heartland Center for Occupational Health and Safety
- 64. High Plains Intermountain Center for Agricultural Health and Safety
- 65. Human Factors and Ergonomics Society (HFES)
- 66. Indoor Air Quality Association (IAQA), Boston chapter
- 67. International Association of Fire Fighters
- 68. International Chemical Workers Union Council (ICWUC)
- 69. Intrinsik, Ltd.
- 70. Iowa's Center for Agricultural Safety and Health (I-CASH)
- 71. Iowa Federation of Labor, AFL-CIO
- 72. Johns Hopkins Center for Injury Research and Policy
- 73. Johns Hopkins Education and Research Center for Occupational Safety and Health
- 74. Labor Occupational Health Program, UC Berkeley
- 75. Midwest Consortium for Hazardous Waste Worker Training
- 76. Migrant Clinicians Network

- 77. Minnesota Association of Occupational Health Nurses
- 78. Mountain and Plains Education and Research Center, Colorado School of Public Health
- 79. Northern Kentucky University, College of Health Professions
- 80. National Children's Center for Rural and Agricultural Safety and Health
- 81. National Council for Occupational Safety and Health (National COSH)
- 82. National Education Center for Agricultural Safety (NECAS)
- 83. National Environmental Health Association
- 84. National Farm Medicine Center, Marshfield Clinic Research Institute
- 85. National Safety Council
- 86. New Solutions: A Journal of Environmental and Occupational Health Policy
- 87. New York New Jersey Education and Research Center
- 88. The New York Center for Agricultural Medicine and Health
- 89. New York Farm Bureau
- 90. NMSU Dairy Extension
- 91. Northeast Center for Occupational Health and Safety: Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing
- 92. Northeast Equipment Dealers Association Inc.
- 93. Northeast Iowa Association of Occupational Health Nurses
- 94. NorthEast New York Coalition for Occupational Safety and Health (NENYCOSH)
- 95. Northwest Center for Occupational Health and Safety
- 96. Occupational and Environmental Health and Safety Education and Research Center at the University of Illinois at Chicago
- 97. Occupational Knowledge International
- 98. Oregon Institute of Occupational Health Sciences, Oregon Health & Science University
- 99. Pacific Northwest Agricultural Safety and Health Center
- 100. Phylmar Group
- 101. Pinnacol Assurance
- 102. Portland State University Occupational Health Psychology Program
- 103. Purdue University School of Health Sciences
- 104. Rocky Mountain Academy of Occupational and Environmental Medicine
- 105. Safety Executives of New York (SENY)
- 106. Saint Louis Area Business Health Coalition (BHC)
- 107. Saint Louis University, Doisy College of Health Sciences
- 108. Seattle Fishermen's Memorial
- 109. Simmons College School of Nursing and Health Sciences
- 110. Society for Occupational Health Psychology
- 111. Southeast Center for Agricultural Health and Injury Prevention
- 112. Southern California Education and Research Center, University of California, Los Angeles and Irvine
- 113. Southwest Center for Occupational and Environmental Health
- 114. Society for Occupational Health Psychology
- 115. Sunshine Education and Research Center at the University of South Florida
- 116. Texas College of Occupational and Environmental Medicine
- 117. UCLA Labor Occupational Safety & Health Program
- 118. UTHealth School of Public Health
- 119. Universidad Metropolitana
- 120. University of California, Berkeley
- 121. University of California, Davis

- 122. University of Cincinnati Education and Research Center
- 123. University of Iowa College of Public Health
- 124. University of Kentucky College of Public Health
- 125. University of Michigan Center for Occupational Health and Safety Engineering
- 126. University of Minnesota, Midwest Center for Occupational Health and Safety Education and Research Center
- 127. University of Minnesota School of Public Health
- 128. University of Nebraska Medical Center
- 129. University of Nebraska Medical Center, College of Public Health
- 130. University of Utah Rocky Mountain Center for Occupational and Environmental Health
- 131. University of Washington, College of Built Environments
- 132. University of Washington Department of Environmental and Occupational Health Sciences
- 133. University of Washington School of Public Health
- 134. Upper Midwest Agricultural Safety and Health Center
- 135. U.S. Dairy Education and Training Consortium
- 136. USW local 9231
- 137. WCF Mutual Insurance Company
- 138. Western Occupational & Environmental Medical Association (WOEMA)
- 139. Wind of the Spirit, Immigrant Resource Center
- 140. Worksafe Iowa