

March 20, 2026

The Honorable Robert Aderholt  
Chair  
House Appropriations Committee  
Labor, HHS, Education Appropriations  
Subcommittee  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Rosa DeLauro  
Ranking Member  
House Appropriations Committee  
Labor, HHS, Education Appropriations  
Subcommittee  
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Shelley Moore Capito  
Chair  
Senate Appropriations Committee  
Labor, HHS, Education Appropriations  
Subcommittee  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Tammy Baldwin  
Ranking Member  
Senate Appropriations Committee  
Labor, HHS, Education Appropriations  
Subcommittee  
Washington, DC 20510

**Re: Support the Health and Safety of America's Workforce with the Highest Possible Fiscal Year 2027 Funding for OSHA and NIOSH**

Dear Chairs Aderholt and Capito and Ranking Members DeLauro and Baldwin:

We write to express our strong support for investing in the federal agencies and programs keeping America's workforce safe. Our nation's workers underpin the success of businesses throughout the country, and the federal agencies that support their safety are essential to our economic and public health. The Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) and the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) are foundational to helping businesses maintain safe workplaces with quality data, compliance assistance, research and program activities. **We urge your subcommittees to provide no less than Fiscal Year (FY) 2026 funding levels for OSHA and NIOSH in FY 2027.**

**OSHA**

OSHA is the preeminent federal agency that ensures safe and healthy workplaces for America's workers by providing training, outreach, education and compliance assistance to employers and employees. OSHA ensures compliance with the law on a host of critical safety issues such as personal protective equipment (PPE), hazard communication and other workplace safety topics.

OSHA is far from a punitive federal agency, as a large share of its efforts focus on voluntary cooperation between private businesses, labor organizations and safety partners to ensure millions of American workers can return home safe and sound after their shift. This partnership has enabled businesses to make critical advances to alleviate occupational safety risks such as opioid overdoses, falls, suicide, workplace violence and exposure to hazardous substances and environments. The vast majority of businesses want to do the right thing and protect their people. A strong and vibrant OSHA is crucial to that mission.

Recent data shows there is more work to do to eliminate serious injuries and fatalities in workplaces throughout the United States. In 2024, 3.95 million workers sustained medically consulted injuries and 4,337 workers died.<sup>1</sup> Broken down, every day 12 workers die on the job and over 10,800 workers sustain potentially life changing injuries. These are not just statistics, but instead represent parents, young workers

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<sup>1</sup> <https://injuryfacts.nsc.org/work/work-overview/work-safety-introduction/>

and community leaders. In 2023, occupational injuries cost the United States economy \$176.5 billion dollars.<sup>2</sup> These tragedies show clearly why continued investment in OSHA's evidence-based approach is vital to reducing and/or eliminating workplace hazards that lead to serious injury and even death.

Without a robust OSHA, injuries and fatalities on the job may rise and lead to detrimental business impacts such as workforce shortages, supply chain disruptions and occupational exposures to communicable illness. The work of OSHA touches nearly every single city, town and state in the United States. Without safe and healthy workers who can contribute meaningfully to the economy, local economies would suffer, affecting the bottom lines of small and medium-sized businesses everywhere.

## **NIOSH**

NIOSH is the primary federal agency responsible for conducting research and making recommendations for the prevention of work-related illness and injury. NIOSH gathers information, conducts scientific research and translates knowledge into products and services to support workplace safety. These research findings, evaluations and certifications are known by businesses and workers nationwide.

NIOSH delivers indispensable expertise to workers and industries through its Agriculture, Forestry, and Fishing (AgFF) sector program, Education and Research Centers (ERCs), National Construction Center, Training Project Grants (TPGs), Total Worker Health (TWH) program, National Occupational Research Agenda (NORA), Respirator Approval Program (RAP), state-based occupational health surveillance, and other occupational safety and health research programs. NIOSH works to ensure that respirators used by 50 million American workers function effectively, that fire fighters avoid cancer, that coal miners avoid lung disease, that drivers are focused on the road and not distractions, that workplaces address substance use disorders brought about by the growing scourge of opioids, and that the next generation of health and safety professionals are ready to monitor potential occupational health threats at workplaces throughout the country. This work is carried out in research laboratories across the country, including in Alaska, Colorado, Georgia, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Washington state and West Virginia.

**In order to ensure the health and safety of our nation's workers, we respectfully request that you provide no less than FY 2026 funding levels for OSHA and NIOSH in FY 2027.**

Thank you for your consideration of our request.

Sincerely,

ABSA International, The Association for Biosafety and Biosecurity  
Ag Health and Safety Alliance  
Agricultural Safety & Health Council of America (ASHCA)  
American College of Occupational and Environmental Medicine  
American Industrial Hygiene Association (AIHA)  
American Industrial Hygiene Association New Jersey Local Section  
American Public Health Association  
American Society of Safety Professionals (ASSP)  
Arise Chicago  
Arizona Chapter National Safety Council  
Board of Certified Safety Professionals

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<sup>2</sup> <https://injuryfacts.nsc.org/work/costs/work-injury-costs/>

Campus Safety, Health, and Environmental Management Association (CSHEMA)  
Center for Environmental Health  
Center for Occupational Health and Safety Engineering  
Center for Social Epidemiology  
Chesapeake Region Safety Council  
Chicago Community and Workers Rights  
Chicago Jobs with Justice  
CRLA Foundation  
Deep South Center for Occupational Health and Safety  
DJ. Suarez  
Hamm MD Occupational Health  
Harvard T.H. Chan School of Public Health Center for Work, Health, & Well-being  
Heartland Center for Occupational Health and Safety/NIOSH ERC  
High Environmental Health & Safety Consulting Ltd.  
IHN EHS Services  
Institute of Hazardous Materials Management  
International Safety Equipment Association  
Iowa-Illinois Safety Council  
John Henshaw and Associates, Inc.  
Legal Aid at Work  
Long Beach Alliance for Clean Energy  
Mediprise  
Midwest Center for Occupational Health and Safety  
Minnesota Safety Council  
National Association of Women in Construction  
National Council for Occupational Safety & Health (National COSH)  
National Environmental Health Association  
National Safety Council  
National Safety Council - New England Chapter  
National Safety Council Ohio Chapter  
Nebraska Chapter - National Safety Council  
New England College of Occupational and Environmental Medicine  
North Dakota Safety Council  
Nurse Alliance of SEIU California  
Society for Industrial and Organizational Psychology (SIOP)  
Society for Occupational Health Psychology  
South Dakota Safety Council  
Southeastern Chapter National Safety Council  
Sur Legal Collaborative  
The Health Project  
Tompkins County Workers' Center, Inc.  
UIC United Faculty, AFT-AAUP Local 6456  
University of Illinois Chicago, Environmental and Occupational Health Sciences  
Upper Midwest Agricultural Safety and Health Center  
Utah Safety Council  
Warehouse, Processing & Distribution Workers' Union, Local 26, I.L.W.U.  
Waukesha County Labor Council  
Western Center for Agricultural Health and Safety  
Western New York Council on Occupational Safety and Health (WNYCOSH)

Wisconsin Safety Council  
WisCOSH, Inc.  
Worksafe  
Wyoming Montana Safety Council