Dear Chairman Blunt, Ranking Member Murray, Chairman Cole and Ranking Member DeLauro:

As Congress considers funding priorities for Fiscal Year 2018, 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).

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, education and occupational illness prevention from many perspectives, including the labor, academic and business communities.

NIOSH understands these needs and has developed programs like the Education and Research Centers (ERCs), the Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing Program (AFF), and the Healthier Workforce Centers to protect the health and safety of America’s workforce. NIOSH has also developed a robust research program – National Occupational Research Agenda (NORA) - to apply the tools of science to improving workplace health and safety. The 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.

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.

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 the Fiscal Year 2016 level of funding for the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health (NIOSH) in the Fiscal Year 2018 Labor, Health and Human Services Appropriations bill. Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Sincerely,

1. AgriSafe Network
2. Agri-Services Agency LLC
3. Agricultural Safety and Health Council of America (ASHCA)
4. Air Alliance Houston
5. Alaska Marine Safety Education Association (AMSEA)
6. American Association of Occupational Health Nurses (AAOHN)
7. American College of Occupational and Environmental Medicine (ACOEM)
8. American Federation of Labor and Congress of Industrial Organizations (AFL-CIO)
9. American Industrial Hygiene Association (AIHA)
10. American Industrial Hygiene Association – Chicago Section
11. American Industrial Hygiene Association: Iowa/Illinois Local Section
12. American Industrial Hygiene Association - Northern California Section
13. American Industrial Hygiene Association – Rocky Mountain Section
14. American Nurses Association
15. American Public Health Association
16. American Seafoods Company
17. American Society of Safety Engineers
18. American Thoracic Society
19. Arkansas Farm Bureau
20. Arkansas Timber Producers Association
21. Association of Occupational Health Professionals in Healthcare (AOHP)
22. Association of University Programs in Occupational Health and Safety
23. Aurora Organic Dairy
25. Bassett Healthcare Network
26. Boise State University, School of Allied Health Sciences, Environmental and Occupational Health Program
27. California AgrAbility Project
28. California Industrial Hygiene Council
29. Center for Health, Work & Environment, University of Colorado Denver
30. Center for Community-Based Research, Dana-Farber Cancer Institute
31. Center for Occupational and Environmental Health, University of California, Irvine
32. Center for Occupational and Environmental Health, University of California, Los Angeles
33. Center for Occupational and Environmental Health, University of California, Davis
34. Central Appalachian Regional Education and Research Center
35. Central Rocky Mountain Chapter of the Health Physics Society
36. Central States Center for Agricultural Safety and Health (CS-CASH)
37. Chicago Federation of Labor
38. Collegium Ramazzini
39. Colorado Chapter of the American Society of Safety Engineers
40. Colorado Livestock Association
41. Colorado School of Public Health's Center for Health, Work and Environment
42. Colorado School of Public Health, CU Anschutz
43. Colorado School of Public Health Occupational and Environmental Medicine Residency Program
44. Colorado State University College of Veterinary Medicine & Biomedical Sciences
45. Colorado State University Occupational Safety and Health Consultation Program
46. Communications Workers of America
47. CUNY School of Public Health
48. Deep South Center for Occupational Health and Safety
49. Department of Construction Management at the University of Washington
50. Department of Environmental and Occupational Health, Colorado School of Public Health
51. Department of Environmental Public Health Sciences, New York University, College of Global Public Health
52. Department of Environmental and Occupational Health Sciences, University of Washington
53. Department of Environmental Health Sciences, University of Alabama at Birmingham School of Public Health
54. Department of Environmental and Radiological Health Sciences, Colorado State University
55. Dimensions in Occupational Health & Safety, Inc.
56. Division of Environmental and Occupational Health Sciences, Department of Medicine, National Jewish Health
57. Division of Occupational and Environmental Medicine, University of California, Irvine
58. Emergency Safety Instruction 2001
59. Environmental Education Institute (INEDA), Metropolitan University (UMET)
60. Environmental Defense Fund
61. Evergreen Safety Council
62. Farm Family Insurance
63. Fishing Partnership Support Services
64. Finishing Trades Institute Northwest (FTINW)
65. Good Old Lower East Side Inc. (GOLES)
66. Great Plains Center for Agricultural Health
67. Harry Bridges Center for Labor Studies, University of Washington
68. Harvard Education and Research Center for Occupational Health and Safety
70. Hawai‘i Pacific University, College of Health and Society
71. Health Links Colorado
72. Heartland Center for Occupational Health and Safety
73. High Plains Intermountain Center for Agricultural Health and Safety
74. Human Factors and Ergonomics Society (HFES)
75. Iowa’s Center for Agricultural Safety and Health (I-CASH)
76. Iowa Federation of Labor, AFL-CIO
77. International Association of Fire Fighters
78. International Chemical Workers Union Council (ICWUC)
79. Johns Hopkins Center for Injury Research and Policy
80. Johns Hopkins Education and Research Center for Occupational Safety and Health
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<td>National Children’s Center for Rural and Agricultural Safety and Health</td>
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<td>School of Health Sciences, College of Health and Human Sciences, Purdue University</td>
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124. Society for Occupational Health Psychology
125. South Dakota State University (SDSU) Extension
126. Southeast Center for Agricultural Health and Injury Prevention
127. Southern California Education and Research Center, University of California, Los Angeles and Irvine
128. Southwest Center for Occupational and Environmental Health
129. Saint Louis University, Doisy College of Health Sciences
130. Sunshine Education and Research Center at the University of South Florida
131. Texas College of Occupational and Environmental Medicine
132. UTHealth School of Public Health
133. University of California, Irvine Occupational Medicine Residency Program
134. University of Cincinnati Education and Research Center
135. University of Illinois at Chicago School of Public Health
136. University of Iowa College of Public Health
137. University of Iowa Healthier Workforce Center of Excellence
138. University of Kentucky College of Public Health
139. University of Michigan Center for Occupational Health and Safety Engineering
140. University of Minnesota Division of Environmental Health Sciences, School of Public Health
141. University of Minnesota, Midwest Center for Occupational Health and Safety (MCOHS) Education and Research Center (ERC)
142. University of Minnesota School of Public Health
143. University of Nebraska Medical Center
144. University of Utah Rocky Mountain Center for Occupational and Environmental Health
145. University of Washington, College of Built Environments
146. University of Washington School of Public Health
147. Upper Midwest Agricultural Safety and Health Center
148. USW local 9231
149. Vibrant, Inc.
150. ViewPoint Marketing, Inc. Denver, CO
151. Washington State Apprenticeship Coordinators Association (WSACA)
152. Western Center for Agricultural Health & Safety
153. Western Occupational & Environmental Medical Association (WOEMA)
154. Workers Compensation Fund
155. Worksafe Iowa