



OSHA – EPA – NIOSH
Congress

Public Policy Issues Update

**American Industrial Hygiene Association
Government Affairs Department**

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AIHA government affairs is responsible for facilitating AIHA comments on public policy issues. This update is provided on a regular basis to volunteer group officers, working groups, local section officers and others to keep them informed of issues that may be of concern to AIHA and the IH profession. If a committee, local section or working group, in addition to those already contacted, would like to provide comments they are asked to immediately contact scientific and technical initiatives or government affairs staff at AIHA. Once an issue is deemed closed by AIHA government affairs, the association will no longer accept comments.

Questions, please contact AIHA director of government affairs Aaron Trippler at atrippler@aiha.org or call 703-846-0730.

- **OSHA – National Advisory Committee on Occupational Health and Safety (NACOSH) – Notice of Meeting**

<http://edocket.access.gpo.gov/2009/E9-14576.htm>

Federal Register Notice: June 22, 2009
Meeting Date: July 15, 2009

NOTE: AIHA National will have staff at this meeting

▪ **OSHA – Advisory Committee on Construction Safety and Health (ACCSH) – Notice of Meeting**

<http://edocket.access.gpo.gov/2009/E9-16310.htm>

Federal Register Notice: July 10, 2009
Meeting Date: July 30-31, 2009

▪ **OSHA – Proposed Rule – Illinois State Plan for Public Employees Only**

<http://edocket.access.gpo.gov/2009/E9-16379.htm>

Federal Register Notice: July 10, 2009
Comments Due: August 10, 2009

INFORMATION COLLECTION REQUESTS

As part of continuing efforts to reduce paperwork and respondent burden, the public is provided with an opportunity to comment on proposed and continuing information collection requirements in accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995. This program ensures that information is in the desired format, reporting burden (time and costs) is minimal, collection instruments are clearly understood, and estimate of the information collection burden is accurate.

The request for comments on the following issues is strictly limited to the paperwork reduction act and usually does not apply to the technical merits of the proposal.

None to Report

MISCELLANEOUS ISSUES

- **CDC – Request for Nominations to Serve on the Board of Scientific Counselors, National Center for Environmental Health/Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry**

<http://edocket.access.gpo.gov/2009/E9-16339.htm>

Federal Register Notice: July 10, 2009

Nominations Due: November 30, 2009

- **CDC – Request for Nominations to Serve the National Conversation on Public Health and Chemical Exposures**

Nominations Due: July 20, 2009

Call for Work Group Membership Nominations

www.2009nationalconversation.com

RESOLVE, a non-profit organization specializing in consensus building in public decision making, and CDC's National Center for Environmental Health and the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (NCEH/ATSDR) are currently accepting nominations for membership on the National Conversation on Public Health and Chemical Exposures work groups.

We are seeking individuals with expertise, experience and/or interest in the following work group topics:

- **Monitoring:** collecting information on chemical use, exposure pathways, exposure levels, and health outcomes;
- **Scientific Understanding:** filling knowledge gaps on the health effects of chemicals;
- **Policies and Practices:** reducing harmful chemical exposures and adverse health outcomes, eliminating inequities, and spurring the development and use of safer alternatives;
- **Chemical Emergencies:** preventing, preparing for, and responding to acute chemical incidents;
- **Serving Communities:** addressing local chemical exposure concerns to promote environmental justice and improve health, and

- **Education and Communication:** ensuring a well-informed public and a competent network of health care providers.

Please visit www.2009nationalconversation.com to learn more about work group responsibilities and to submit a work group membership nomination.

CONGRESSIONAL ISSUES

▪ Federal Legislative (Major Issues Monitored by AIHA)

Private file: L

US H 34 **SPONSOR:** Nadler (D)
TITLE: Implementation of Agency Rules
DISPOSITION: Pending
LOCATION: House Judiciary Committee
SUMMARY:
 Delays the implementation of agency rules adopted within the final 90 days of the final term a President serves.
STATUS:
 01/06/2009 INTRODUCED.
 01/06/2009 To HOUSE Committee on JUDICIARY.

US H 242 **SPONSOR:** Green G (D)
TITLE: Occupational Injuries
DISPOSITION: Pending
LOCATION: House Education and Labor Committee
SUMMARY:
 Directs the Secretary of Labor to revise regulations concerning the recording and reporting of occupational injuries and illnesses under the Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1970.
STATUS:
 01/07/2009 INTRODUCED.
 01/07/2009 To HOUSE Committee on EDUCATION AND LABOR.

US H 554 **SPONSOR:** Gordon (D)
TITLE: Nanotechnology Research
DISPOSITION: Pending
LOCATION: Senate Commerce, Science & Transportation Committee
SUMMARY:
 To authorize activities for support of nanotechnology research and development; provides for amendments to the National Nanotechnology Program provisions; requires a triennial external review of the program by the National Research Council and the National Academy of Sciences; requires the development of nanoscale materials standards; provides for Nanotechnology Education Partnerships to recruit students to pursue higher education nanotechnology courses and to consider careers in the field.
STATUS:
 01/15/2009 INTRODUCED.
 01/15/2009 To HOUSE Committee on SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY.

02/11/2009 In HOUSE. Discharged from HOUSE Committee on SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY.
 02/11/2009 In HOUSE. Passed HOUSE. *****To SENATE.
 02/12/2009 In SENATE. Read second time.
 02/12/2009 To SENATE Committee on COMMERCE, SCIENCE, AND TRANSPORTATION.

US H 672 **SPONSOR:** Filner (D)
TITLE: Defense Compliance With Enviromental Laws
DISPOSITION: Pending
LOCATION: Multiple Committees
SUMMARY:
 Amends title 10, United States Code; requires the Department of Defense and all other defense-related agencies of the United States to fully comply with Federal and State environmental laws, including certain laws relating to public health and worker safety, that are designed to protect the environment and the health and safety of the public, particularly those persons most vulnerable to the hazards incident to military operations and installations.
STATUS:
 01/26/2009 INTRODUCED.
 01/26/2009 To HOUSE Committee on ARMED SERVICES.
 01/26/2009 Additionally referred to HOUSE Committee on ENERGY AND COMMERCE.
 01/26/2009 Additionally referred to HOUSE Committee on TRANSPORTATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE.
 01/26/2009 Additionally referred to HOUSE Committee on NATURAL RESOURCES.
 01/26/2009 Additionally referred to HOUSE Committee on EDUCATION AND LABOR.

US H 849 **SPONSOR:** Miller Ge (D)
TITLE: Combustible Dust Exposure Health Standards
DISPOSITION: Pending
LOCATION: House Education and Labor Committee
SUMMARY:
 Requires the Secretary of Labor to issue interim and final occupational safety and health standards regarding worker exposure to combustible dust.
STATUS:
 02/04/2009 INTRODUCED.
 02/04/2009 To HOUSE Committee on EDUCATION AND LABOR.
 03/23/2009 In HOUSE Committee on EDUCATION AND LABOR: Referred to Subcommittee on WORKFORCE PROTECTIONS.
AIHA Sent a Letter of Support

US H 875 **SPONSOR:** DeLauro (D)
TITLE: Prevention of Food-boren Illnesses
DISPOSITION: Pending
LOCATION: Multiple Committees
SUMMARY:
 Establishes the Food Safety Administration within the Department of Health and Human Services to protect the public health by preventing food-borne illness, ensuring the safety of food, improving research on contaminants leading to food-borne illness, and improving security of food from intentional contamination.
STATUS:

02/04/2009 INTRODUCED.
02/04/2009 To HOUSE Committee on ENERGY AND COMMERCE.
02/04/2009 Additionally referred to HOUSE Committee on AGRICULTURE.
04/23/2009 In HOUSE Committee on AGRICULTURE: Referred to Subcommittee on LIVESTOCK, DAIRY AND POULTRY.

US H 1174 **SPONSOR:** Oberstar (DFL)
TITLE: Federal Emergency Management Agency
DISPOSITION: Pending
LOCATION: Multiple Committees
SUMMARY:
Establishes the Federal Emergency Management Agency as a cabinet-level independent agency in the executive branch.
STATUS:
02/25/2009 INTRODUCED.
02/25/2009 To HOUSE Committee on TRANSPORTATION AND INFRASTRUCTURE.
02/25/2009 Additionally referred to HOUSE Committee on HOMELAND SECURITY.
03/02/2009 In HOUSE Committee on HOMELAND SECURITY: Referred to Subcmt. on EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS, PREPAREDNESS AND RESPONSE.

US H 1176 **SPONSOR:** Kline (R)
TITLE: National Labor Relations Act and Secret Ballots
DISPOSITION: Pending
LOCATION: House Education and Labor Committee
SUMMARY:
Amends the National Labor Relations Act to ensure the right of employees to a secret-ballot election conducted by the National Labor Relations Board.
STATUS:
02/25/2009 INTRODUCED.
02/25/2009 To HOUSE Committee on EDUCATION AND LABOR.

US H 1355 **SPONSOR:** Sestak (D)
TITLE: National Labor Relations Act
DISPOSITION: Pending
LOCATION: House Education and Labor Committee
SUMMARY:
Amends the National Labor Relations Act to require employers to provide labor organizations with equal access to employees prior to an election regarding representation, to prevent delays in initial collective bargaining, and to strengthen enforcement against intimidation of employees by employers.
STATUS:
03/05/2009 INTRODUCED.
03/05/2009 To HOUSE Committee on EDUCATION AND LABOR.

US H 2067 **SPONSOR:** Woolsey (D)
TITLE: Occupational Safety and Health Act
DISPOSITION: Pending
LOCATION: House Education and Labor Committee
SUMMARY:
Amends the Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1970 to expand coverage under the Act, to increase protections for whistleblowers, to increase penalties

for certain violators, and for other purposes.

STATUS:

04/23/2009

INTRODUCED.

04/23/2009

To HOUSE Committee on EDUCATION AND LABOR.

**MAJOR OSHA REFORM BILL. AIHA NATIONAL
SUBMITTED COMMENTS.**

US H 2113 **SPONSOR:** Hare (D)
TITLE: Secretary of Labor to Prescribe Regulations Requiring E
DISPOSITION: Pending
LOCATION: House Education and Labor Committee
SUMMARY:
Requires the Secretary of Labor to prescribe regulations requiring employers with more than one establishment and not fewer than 500 employees to report work-related deaths, injuries, and illnesses.
STATUS:
04/27/2009 INTRODUCED.
04/27/2009 To HOUSE Committee on EDUCATION AND LABOR.

US H 2199 **SPONSOR:** Bishop T (D)
TITLE: Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1970
DISPOSITION: Pending
LOCATION: House Education and Labor Committee
SUMMARY:
Amends the Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1970 to authorize the Secretary of Labor to prevent employee exposure to imminent dangers.
STATUS:
04/30/2009 INTRODUCED.
04/30/2009 To HOUSE Committee on EDUCATION AND LABOR.

US H 2381 **SPONSOR:** Conyers (D)
TITLE: Occupational Safety and Health Standard
DISPOSITION: Pending
LOCATION: Multiple Committees
SUMMARY:
Directs the Secretary of Labor to issue an occupational safety and health standard to reduce injuries to patients, direct-care registered nurses, and all other health care workers by establishing a safe patient handling and injury prevention standard, and for other purposes.
STATUS:
05/13/2009 INTRODUCED.
05/13/2009 To HOUSE Committee on EDUCATION AND LABOR.
05/13/2009 Additionally referred to HOUSE Committee on ENERGY AND COMMERCE.
05/13/2009 Additionally referred to HOUSE Committee on WAYS AND MEANS.
AIHA Sent a Letter of Support

US H 3094 **SPONSOR:** Edwards D (D)
TITLE: Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1970
DISPOSITION: Pending
LOCATION: House Education and Labor Committee
SUMMARY:
Strengthens the Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1970 by revising regulations to increase worker safety on construction sites and, consequently,

to protect child trespassers from unforeseen dangers.

STATUS:

06/26/2009

INTRODUCED.

06/26/2009

To HOUSE Committee on EDUCATION AND LABOR.

AIHA Reviewing.

US HRES
510

SPONSOR:

McCarthy C (D)

TITLE:

Need for Safe Patient Handling and Movement

DISPOSITION:

Pending

LOCATION:

Multiple Committees

SUMMARY:

Recognizes the need for safe patient handling and movement.

STATUS:

06/04/2009

INTRODUCED.

06/04/2009

To HOUSE Committee on EDUCATION AND LABOR.

06/04/2009

Additionally referred to HOUSE Committee on ENERGY AND COMMERCE.

US S 8

SPONSOR:

Reid (D)

TITLE:

Midnight Regulations

DISPOSITION:

Pending

LOCATION:

SENATE

SUMMARY:

Returns the Government to the people by reviewing controversial "midnight regulations" issued in the waning days of the Bush Administration.

STATUS:

01/06/2009

INTRODUCED.

01/06/2009

In SENATE. Placed on SENATE Legislative Calendar.

01/07/2009

In SENATE. Read second time.

01/07/2009

In SENATE. Placed on SENATE Legislative Calendar.

US S 478

SPONSOR:

DeMint (R)

TITLE:

National Labor Relations Act Secret Ballot

DISPOSITION:

Pending

LOCATION:

SENATE

SUMMARY:

Amends the National Labor Relations Act to ensure the right of employees to a secret-ballot election conducted by the National Labor Relations Board.

STATUS:

02/25/2009

INTRODUCED.

02/25/2009

In SENATE. Placed on SENATE Legislative Calendar.

02/26/2009

In SENATE. Read second time.

02/26/2009

In SENATE. Placed on SENATE Legislative Calendar.

US S 893

SPONSOR:

Schumer (D)

TITLE:

Office of Imported and Domestic Product Safety

DISPOSITION:

Pending

LOCATION:

Senate Commerce, Science & Transportation Committee

SUMMARY:

Establishes the Office of Imported and Domestic Product Safety in the Department of Commerce and the Product Safety Coordinating Council to improve the management, coordination, promotion, and oversight of food and product safety responsibilities, to improve consumer and business access to

food and product safety information.

STATUS:

04/23/2009 INTRODUCED.
04/23/2009 In SENATE. Read second time.
04/23/2009 To SENATE Committee on COMMERCE, SCIENCE, AND
TRANSPORTATION.

US S 1299 **SPONSOR:** Menendez (D)
TITLE: Health Care Workers and First Responders
DISPOSITION: Pending
LOCATION: Senate Health, Education, Labor and Pensions Committee
SUMMARY:
Creates the Worker Infection Protection Act; provides for the development and issue of workplace standards, recommendations, and plans to protect health care workers and first responders, including police, firefighters, emergency medical personnel, and other workers at risk of workplace exposure to infectious agents and drug resistant infections such as MRSA.
STATUS:
06/18/2009 INTRODUCED.
06/18/2009 In SENATE. Read second time.
06/18/2009 To SENATE Committee on HEALTH, EDUCATION, LABOR AND PENSIONS.

ISSUES COMPLETED

- **EPA – Health and Safety Data reporting**

<http://edocket.access.gpo.gov/2009/E9-13589.htm>

Federal Register Notice: June 10, 2009

RESULTS:

No Interest Expressed

- **OSHA – Hexavalent Chromium Standard**

<http://edocket.access.gpo.gov/2009/E9-14578.htm>

Federal Register Notice: June 22, 2009

RESULTS:

No Interest Expressed

For information on any of the items in this report, please contact Aaron Tripler.