



HEALTHIER WORKPLACES | A HEALTHIER WORLD

July 13, 2022

Senator Jason Rarick
District 11
Chair of Labor and Industry Policy Committee
Minnesota State Senate

Senator Gene Dornink
District 27
Vice Chair of Labor and Industry Policy Committee
Minnesota State Senate

AIHA Support for MN SF 4420, Minnesota Nursing Home Workforce Standards Board Act

Dear Senators Rarick and Dornink:

AIHA, the association for scientists and professionals committed to preserving and ensuring occupational and environmental health and safety for thousands of members throughout the nation, commends the Assembly for focusing on legislation to protect the health and safety of nursing home workers. **We urge you to reintroduce MN SF 4420, Minnesota Nursing Home Workforce Standards Board Act and encourage your colleagues to enact the bill into law in the next legislative session.**

This legislation would establish a nursing home workforce standards board that will set minimum standards that will protect the health and safety of nursing home workers. The [Occupational Health and Safety Administration](#) reports that some of the biggest risks that home health workers face include tuberculosis, musculoskeletal injuries, exposure to blood-borne passages, and workplace violence. Furthermore, a [Scientific American](#) analysis of the Center for Medicare and Medicaid Services and the Bureau of Labor Statistics showed that nursing home staff had the highest death rates among other industries in the United States. Particularly, the report highlighted that from May 2020 to December 2020, there were at least 80 deaths per 100,000 full-time staff members at nursing home facilities in the United States.

If you have any questions about AIHA's support for this legislation or other matters, please contact me at rquazi@aiha.org or 703-846-0794

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Ryanna Quazi', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Ryanna Quazi
Advocacy Associate, Government Relations
AIHA

About AIHA

AIHA is the association for scientists and professionals committed to preserving and ensuring occupational and environmental health and safety in the workplace and community. Founded in 1939, we support our members with our expertise, networks, comprehensive education programs, and other products and services that help them maintain the highest professional and competency standards. More than half of AIHA's nearly 8,500 members are Certified Industrial Hygienists and many hold other professional designations. AIHA serves as a resource for those employed across the public and private sectors as well as to the communities in which they work. For more information, please visit www.aiha.org.

Cc:

Senator John Hoffman, District 36

Senator Jim Abeler, District 35

Senator Erin Murphy, District 64