



HEALTHIER WORKPLACES | A HEALTHIER WORLD

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August 27, 2020

Senator Jill Schupp
District 24
Missouri State Senate

Support and Recommended Clarification for SB 12, the Smart and Safe Schools Act

Dear Senator Schupp:

AIHA, representing approximately 8,500 occupational and environmental health and safety (OEHS) professionals, strongly supports SB 12, the Smart and Safe Schools Act, and urges the Senate and House to quickly pass this important bill, which would help protect students, their families, teachers and other school personnel during the COVID-19 pandemic.

To strengthen this bill, AIHA recommends that it be amended to specify that an occupational and environmental health and safety professional is a required member of the Smart and Safe Schools Task Force, which would be established under this act. OEHS professionals help protect the public, workers, and their communities. As part of AIHA's Back to Work Safely campaign, the association released four guidance documents for safely reopening America's schools: K-12 schools, institutions of higher education, libraries, and amateur sports.

These documents, which can be found at www.BackToWorkSafely.org, provide clear, targeted recommendations for parents, guardians, and caregivers, school leaders, other school personnel, and students to help reduce the transmission of COVID-19. The 25 Back to Work Safely guidance documents have been downloaded more than 1 million times, are complimentary, and are referenced by the CDC, U.S. Occupational Health and Safety Administration (OSHA), and various State reopening plans.

Background on 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.

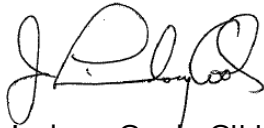
For additional information please visit www.aiha.org.

Next Actions

On behalf of AIHA, I recommend that SB 12 be amended to specify that an occupational health and safety professional is a required member of the Smart and Safe Schools Task Force, which would be established under this act. Following this amendment, I urge the Senate and House to quickly pass this important bill, which will help protect students, their families, teachers and other school personnel during the COVID-19 pandemic.

AIHA looks forward to working together to advance this bill and related health and safety issues. Please feel free to reach out to Mark Ames, AIHA's director of government relations, at mames@aiha.org or (703) 846-0730.

Sincerely,

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

Lindsay Cook, CIH, CSP, FAIHA
President
AIHA