



April 16, 2020

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi, Speaker
United States House of Representatives
1236 Longworth House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Mitch McConnell, Leader
United States Senate
317 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Kevin McCarthy, Leader
United States House of Representatives
2468 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Charles Schumer, Leader
United States Senate
322 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Critically Needed Support for Associations During Coronavirus Pandemic

Dear Speaker Pelosi and Leaders McConnell, McCarthy and Schumer:

The American Industrial Hygiene Association (AIHA®), urges you to include associations and other Section 501(c)(6) organizations like AIHA in the Paycheck Protection Program (PPP) or similar relief programs within COVID-19 aid packages now under consideration. The association community, alongside workers, businesses, and nonprofits across the country, continue to suffer immense harm from this crisis.

AIHA is grateful Congress is supporting many Americans and businesses throughout this pandemic. However, associations such as AIHA, were excluded from significant portions of the most recent legislation, the Coronavirus Aid, Relief and Economic Security (CARES) Act. Without support – specifically access to the PPP – associations will be forced to reduce staff and could even cease operations as a result of insurmountable revenue loss from event cancellations while continuing contracted educational programs – all amidst sharp membership declines. Associations are depleting precious reserve funds as you read these words.

In AIHA's case alone, our lost revenue is estimated to be \$4.4 million, or 26.6% of our total operating budget. Already, this is having a significant impact on our operations.

Thank you for considering my urgent appeal and for your continued service to our country during this challenging time. If you have questions, please contact Mark Ames at mames@aiha.org or (703) 846-0730.

Respectfully,

Kathleen S. Murphy, CIH
President
AIHA

Background on AIHA

Founded 81 years ago, AIHA is a nonprofit organization serving professionals dedicated to the anticipation, recognition, evaluation, control, and confirmation of environmental stressors in or arising from the workplace that may result in injury, illness, impairment, or affect the well-being of workers and members of the community.

More than half of AIHA's nearly 8,500 members are Certified Industrial Hygienists (CIHs) and many hold other professional designations. AIHA serves as a resource for those employed in the industrial, consulting, academic, and government sectors. AIHA has Local Sections located throughout the United States. Collectively, AIHA's members impact millions of American workers.

AIHA provides comprehensive education programs and other products and services that help its members maintain the highest professional standards. We maintain more than 50 volunteer groups and have partnership agreements with governmental and nongovernmental organizations representing the full spectrum of worker health and safety vocations. AIHA also produces several award-winning publications, including the Journal of Occupational and Environmental Hygiene (JOEH). The JOEH, which is jointly published by AIHA and the American Conference of Governmental Industrial Hygienists (ACGIH®), is a peer-reviewed publication that provides a written medium for the communication of ideas, methods, processes and research in the areas of occupational, industrial and environmental hygiene; exposure assessment; engineering controls; occupational and environmental epidemiology, medicine, and toxicology; ergonomics; and other related disciplines. For additional information on AIHA, please visit www.aiha.org. To learn more about the profession of industrial hygiene, please visit <https://www.aiha.org/ih-careers/discover-industrial-hygiene>.