



AFL-CIO

AMERICA'S UNIONS

**American Federation
of Labor and
Congress of Industrial
Organizations**

815 16th St., NW
Washington, DC 20006

202-637-5000

www.aflcio.org

EXECUTIVE COUNCIL

RICHARD L. TRUMKA
PRESIDENT

ELIZABETH H. SHULER
SECRETARY-TREASURER

TEFERE GEBRE
EXECUTIVE VICE PRESIDENT

Michael Sacco
Robert A. Scardelletti
Harold Schaitberger
Clyde Rivers
Cecil Roberts
Leo W. Gerard
William Hite
Gregory J. Junemann
Nancy Wohlforth
Rose Ann DeMoro
Fred Redmond
Matthew Loeb
Randi Weingarten
Rogello "Roy" A. Flores
Fredric V. Rolando
Diann Woodard
Newton B. Jones
D. Michael Langford
Baldemar Velasquez
James Boland
Bruce R. Smith
Lee A. Saunders
Terry O'Sullivan
Lawrence J. Hanley
Loretta Johnson
James Callahan
DeMaurice Smith
Sean McGarvey
Laura Reyes
J. David Cox
David Durkee
D. Taylor
Kenneth Rigmaiden
Stuart Appelbaum
Harold Daggett
Bhairav Desai
Paul Rinaldi
Mark Dimondstein
Harry Lombardo
Dennis D. Williams
Cindy Estrada
Capt. Timothy Canoll
Sara Nelson
Lori Pelletier
Marc Perrone
Jorge Ramirez
Eric Dean
Joseph Sellers Jr.
Christopher Shelton
Lonnie R. Stephenson
Richard Lanigan
Robert Martinez
Gabrielle Carteris

March 3, 2017

Dear Trade Unionist:

On April 28, 2017, the labor movement will once again observe Workers Memorial Day to remember workers who have been killed or injured on the job and to renew the fight for strong safety and health protections.

The Occupational Safety and Health Act and Mine Safety and Health Act promise workers the right to a safe job. Unions and our allies have fought hard to make that promise a reality - winning protections that have made jobs safer and saved lives.

After years of struggle we have won new rules to protect workers from deadly silica dust and beryllium, a tougher coal dust standard for miners and stronger anti-retaliation protections for workers who report job injuries.

All of these hard-won gains are now threatened. The Trump administration has launched an all-out assault on regulations. The president has ordered that for every new protection, two existing safeguards must be removed from the books. At the same time Republicans in Congress have moved quickly to overturn new rules issued by the Obama administration. Agency budgets and enforcement programs are on the chopping block. The safety and health of workers and the public are in danger.

We must fight back. We cannot and will not let them turn back the clock and destroy the progress we have made to make jobs safer and save lives.

The theme of this year's Workers Memorial Day is "Safe Jobs. Every Worker's Right." We urge you to get involved and organize actions, activities, or observances in your workplaces and communities to highlight the toll of job injuries and deaths. Demand that elected officials put workers' well-being above corporate interests. And demand jobs that are safe, healthy and pay fair wages. Make it clear that the labor movement will defend the right of every worker to a safe job and fight until that promise is fulfilled.

SAFE JOBS

EVERY

WORKER'S

RIGHT

AFL-CIO



More than four decades ago, Congress passed the Occupational Safety and Health Act, promising every worker the right to a safe job. Unions and our allies have fought hard to make that promise a reality—winning protections that have made jobs safer and saved lives.

After years of struggle, we have won new rules to protect workers from deadly silica dust and beryllium, a stronger coal dust standard for miners and stronger anti-retaliation protections for workers who report job injuries.

But our work is not done. Each year, thousands of workers are killed and millions more suffer injury or illness because of their jobs.

All of these hard-won gains now are threatened. The Trump administration has launched an all-out assault on regulations. The president has ordered that for every new protection, two existing safeguards must be removed from the books. At the same

time, Republicans in Congress have moved quickly to overturn new rules issued by the Obama administration. Agency budgets and enforcement programs are on the chopping block. The safety and health of workers and the public are in danger.

We must fight back. We cannot and will not let them turn back the clock and destroy the progress we have made to make jobs safer and save lives.

On April 28, the unions of the AFL-CIO observe Workers Memorial Day to remember those who have suffered and died on the job, and to renew the fight for safe jobs. This year we will come together to stand united against the attacks on workers' rights and protections. We will demand that elected officials put workers' well-being above corporate interests, and demand jobs that are safe and healthy, and pay fair wages. We will defend the right of every worker to a safe job and fight until that promise is fulfilled.

APRIL 28

OBSERVE WORKERS MEMORIAL DAY

