Policy Changes, Updates, and Grassroots Engagement

Yuma Pacific Southwest Section
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3 Key Takeaways

• AIHA government relations has had a successful 2019!
• The foundation of our success is our members.
• To be successful in 2020, we’re focusing on unlocking the hidden power of AIHA members through grassroots government relations.
AIHA’s 2019 GR Accomplishments

• 1st ever Public Policy Agenda issued.
• Sections have created new positions – Government Relations Points of Contact.
• Conducted 2 media trainings.
• 2 Days on the Hill (Georgia & Michigan).
AIHA’s 2019 GR Accomplishments

• AIHA & PSS Past President Tom Grumbles testified before Congress on TSCA.
• ACTIONS Cmte Sec. Anthony Oliveri testified before Michigan House Ed Cmte on young worker safety & workforce development.
• Continue indirectly supporting 2 State lobbyists (CA & GA).
• Launched first-ever public engagement campaign, focusing on wildfires.
AIHA’s 2019 GR Accomplishments

• Legislative success
  – US House passed OSHA, MSHA, NIOSH funding bill w/AIHA’s recommended levels.
AIHA’s 2019 GR Accompilishments

• Legislative success
  – CA enacted AB 1596 (fentanyl contaminated property cleanup).
  – MI House Ed Cmte passed HB 4282 (encouraging HS students to take an OSHA 30-hour course as an option to meet their graduation reqs).
AIHA’s 2019 GR Accomplishments

• Agency work
  – Withdrawn: US DOL proposed rule on independent operation of powered patient lifts by 16- and 17-year-old workers. (AIHA expressed concern w/this proposed rule.)
  – AIHA invited to participate in first-ever combined workshop of public & private partners to discuss supply chain issues related to the Strategic Nat’l Stockpile for pandemics.
  – Invited to become of the first members of OSHA’s new Ambassador Program.
  – Participated in OSHA’s Safe Summer Jobs campaign, Safe + Sound Week, Construction Roundtable, etc.
AIHA's 2019 GR Accomplishments

• Agency work
  – Comments to NIOSH on their RFI on State-based occupational health surveillance.
  – Comments to OSHA on RFI on updates to Table 1 of silica standard.
  – Comments on EPA’s Antimicrobial Performance Evaluation Program (APEP): A (Draft) Risk-Based Strategy to Ensure the Effectiveness of Hospital-Level Disinfectants.
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Preparing for the Future: AIHA’s New Grassroots Engagement Strategy
Preparing for the Future

• ACTIONS Cmte approved a new grassroots engagement strategy.
  – Keeping it simple & straightforward.
  – Each Section asked to set one GR goal for 2020.
  – Progress is tracked & volunteers are accountable to each other via a live online spreadsheet.
  – Monthly + quarterly calls featuring brief talks from policymakers, the media & GR pros.
  – Involves Sections & 300+ ACTIONS Cmte members.
Recap

- AIHA government relations has had a successful 2019!
- AIHA members are energized and eager to help.
- Policymakers are willing (and in some cases have committed) to introduce legislation in support of AIHA’s recommendations.
- Many gov’t & NGOs excited to work w/us.
- Next steps = channeling that potential via the grassroots & celebrating successes.
THANK YOU FOR YOUR VOLUNTEERISM!

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