

# 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

- 1<sup>st</sup> 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 The Workplace Violence Prevention for Health Care and Social Service Workers Act.
  - US House passed Pandemic and All-Hazards Preparedness and Advancing Innovation Act.
  - US House passed OSHA, MSHA, NIOSH funding bill w/AIHA's recommended levels.

# AIHA's 2019 GR Accomplishments

- 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  - Withdrawn: US DOL proposed rule on independent operation of powered patient lifts by 16- and 17-year-old workers.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.



# AIHA's 2019 GR Accomplishments

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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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