

115TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. RES. 850

Supporting the goals and ideals of Workers' Memorial Day, honoring workers who have been killed or injured in the workplace, and recognizing the importance of strengthening worker health and safety protections.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APRIL 26, 2018

Mr. COURTNEY (for himself, Mr. TAKANO, Mr. SCOTT of Virginia, Ms. DELAURO, Ms. BONAMICI, Mr. SABLAN, Ms. WILSON of Florida, Mr. NOLAN, Mr. DESAULNIER, Mr. LARSON of Connecticut, Ms. NORTON, Ms. MOORE, Ms. SCHAKOWSKY, Ms. SHEA-PORTER, Mr. NORCROSS, Ms. JUDY CHU of California, Mr. KHANNA, Mr. BRENDAN F. BOYLE of Pennsylvania, Mr. ESPAILLAT, and Ms. BLUNT ROCHESTER) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Education and the Workforce

RESOLUTION

Supporting the goals and ideals of Workers' Memorial Day, honoring workers who have been killed or injured in the workplace, and recognizing the importance of strengthening worker health and safety protections.

Whereas 5,190 workers were killed due to workplace-related injuries in the United States in 2016, and each year more than 2,700,000 workers across the world die of workplace-related accidents and diseases;

Whereas each day, an average of 14 workers are killed due to workplace injuries in the United States;

Whereas there are more than 3,500,000 occupational injuries and illnesses in the United States annually;

Whereas workers in the health care and social assistance industry suffered the highest prevalence of nonfatal injuries in 2016 with 585,800 incidents, and 70 percent of all nonfatal workplace assaults in 2016 occurred in these two sectors;

Whereas tens of thousands of Americans with workplace injuries or illness become permanently disabled;

Whereas the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA), the primary Federal agency which establishes and enforces workplace health and safety standards, only has sufficient resources to inspect each establishment within its jurisdiction once every 159 years, and must be fully resourced to adequately protect workers health and safety;

Whereas the current administration has blocked OSHA's efforts to adopt many protections for workers, including those exposed to toxic chemicals, infectious diseases, violence in health care and social service settings, and the risk of industrial catastrophes caused by chemicals, explosive gases, or combustible dusts;

Whereas the current administration has limited OSHA press releases on enforcement actions that can raise employer awareness regarding hazards and help act as a deterrent against safety violations by employers;

Whereas the current administration has removed the names of workers killed on the job from its fatality reports, despite the requests of family members to include their names to call attention to these preventable deaths;

Whereas observing Workers' Memorial Day allows us to honor and remember victims of workplace injuries and disease; and

Whereas observing Workers' Memorial Day reminds us to strive for better worker safety and health protections: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved*, That the House of Representatives—

2 (1) supports the goals and ideals of Workers'
3 Memorial Day to honor and remember workers who
4 have been killed or injured in the workplace;

5 (2) recognizes the importance of strengthening
6 worker health and safety standards to secure the
7 safe workplaces workers deserve, including enforce-
8 able standards to prevent violence in health care and
9 social service settings;

10 (3) encourages the Occupational Safety and
11 Health Administration, employers, community and
12 worker organizations, professional associations, and
13 academic institutions to support activities increasing
14 awareness of the importance of preventing illness,
15 injury, and death in the workplace; and

16 (4) calls upon the people of the United States
17 to observe such a day with appropriate ceremonies
18 and respect.

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