

May 15, 2017

The Honorable Mark Takano US House of Representatives 1507 Longworth Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Joe Courtney US House of Representatives 2348 Rayburn Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Bobby Scott US House of Representatives 1201 Longworth Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representatives Takano, Courtney, and Scott:

I write to you on behalf of the members of the United Steelworkers (USW) in support of the "Accurate Workplace Injury and Illness Records Restoration Act" to reinstate the Occupational Safety and Health Administration's (OSHA's) authority to require employers to create and maintain accurate workplace injury records as an ongoing obligation.

For over 40 years, OSHA practice had required employers to maintain records. OSHA clarified this continuing obligation in the "Volks Rule." The 115<sup>th</sup> Congress hastily passed a resolution of disapproval (H.J. Res 83) under the Congressional Review Act which wiped away this important regulation. This poses a real threat to the many USW members who work in highly hazardous industries.

This legislation will reinstate OSHA's ability to enforce recordkeeping requirements and will not create an additional burden for employers. Accurate records

for workplace safety are integral to identifying and correcting workplace hazards that cause injuries in individual workplaces, companies, and across industries. They are also used by scientists and safety professionals to study preventive actions and further prevent injury and disease.

Our union applauds you and the cosponsors for your leadership in protecting workers. This bill is a common-sense response to this year's rollbacks to worker safety regulations. We are eager to work with you to ensure that all workers return home each day without injury or illness.

Sincerely,

Holly R. Hart

Assistant to the International President Legislative Director