

May 2, 2024

To the Members of the United States Senate and House of Representatives:

The 61 undersigned organizations strongly oppose the Warehouse Worker Protection Act, which would impose long discarded and unworkable regulations on warehouse distribution centers, curtail employers' due process rights when challenging citations from the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA), and hamstringing a critical part of our national supply chain. Despite its narrow sounding title, the legislation would impact workplaces in nearly every industry sector nationwide. Protecting workers is a priority for all employers, but this bill would only impede efficient operations without improving workplace safety.

The Warehouse Worker Protection Act would resurrect OSHA's long-discarded ergonomics standard. When this regulation was first promulgated a quarter century ago, it was found to be so unworkable that a strong bipartisan majority of Congress voided it in the first-ever use of the Congressional Review Act. Congress was right then and should not revisit this issue now. In addition, the bill would force employers to implement costly remedial measures even before OSHA has proven any violation.

The bill would also establish a highly burdensome system to micromanage the warehousing and distribution industry, which would undermine the efficiency of this vital part of American supply chains.

Finally, the Warehouse Worker Protection Act is opposed by a wide variety of employers and industries, demonstrating the breadth of the bill's impact and the serious consequences it would have on the economy.

We urge Congress to reject this bill.

Sincerely,

Alliance for Chemical Distribution
American Bakers Association
American Supply Association
American Trucking Associations
Associated Builders and Contractors
Associated Equipment Distributors
Associated General Contractors of America
Associated Wire Rope Fabricators
CAWA – Representing the Automotive Parts Industry
Ceramic Tile Distributors Association
Convenience Distribution Association
Education Market Association

FMI – The Food Industry Association
Foodservice Equipment Distributors Association
Global Cold Chain Alliance
Heating, Air-conditioning, & Refrigeration Distributors International
HR Policy Association
Independent Electrical Contractors
Independent Lubricant Manufacturers Association
International Foodservice Distributors Association
International Housewares Association
International Warehouse Logistics Association
Irrigation Association
Kentucky Wholesale Distributors Association
Manufacturer & Business Association
Metals Service Center Institute
Michigan Distributors and Vendors Association
Minnesota Wholesale Marketers Association
National Armored Car Association
National Association of Electrical Distributors
National Association of Home Builders
National Association of Manufacturers
National Association of Sporting Goods Wholesalers
National Association of Wholesaler-Distributors
National Cotton Ginners Association
National Council of Chain Restaurants
National Federation of Independent Business
National Fisheries Institute
National Grocers Association
National Marine Distributors Association
National Retail Federation
Non-Ferrous Founders' Society
North Carolina Wholesalers Association
Ohio Council of Retail Merchants
Ohio Wholesale Marketers Association
Outdoor Power Equipment and Engine Service Association
Pennsylvania Food Marketers Association
Pennsylvania Food Merchants Association
Pet Industry Distributors Association
Retail Council of New York State
Small Business & Entrepreneurship Council
Southern Cotton Ginners Association
Technology & Manufacturing Association
Texas Cotton Ginners' Association
Tile Roofing Industry Alliance
Tire Industry Association
U.S. Chamber of Commerce
Virginia Wholesalers and Distributors Association

Wisconsin Association of Distributors
Workplace Policy Institute
World Millwork Alliance