

U.S. WORKPLACE WELLNESS ALLIANCE



August 21, 2008

The Honorable Stephanie Herseth Sandlin
331 Cannon House Office Building
United States House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Charles W. Boustany
1117 Longworth House Office Building
United States House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative Herseth Sandlin and Representative Boustany:

The undersigned members of the U.S. Workplace Wellness Alliance are writing to express our support for House Concurrent Resolution 405 (“Resolution”) recognizing the first full week of April as “National Workplace Wellness Week.” The Alliance is a broad-based, national organization of businesses, health care advocates, and nonprofit organizations dedicated to the vision that a healthier U.S. workforce will lead to a stronger and fiscally healthier U.S. economy.

The Resolution calls on private and public employers to voluntarily implement worksite health promotion programs to help maximize employees’ health and well-being, and to help mitigate rising health care costs. In addition, National Workplace Wellness Week would provide an opportunity for employers with existing workplace wellness “best practices” to share their experiences with other businesses. It further underscores that employers are vital to promoting wellness, which should lead to reducing the financial burden of the chronically ill. Employer-based wellness programs may also be used as a model by regional business communities to transform the way Americans take care of themselves and to avoid life-threatening and expensive chronic illnesses.

In summary, this Resolution is a significant first step toward creating more awareness of the value of health promotion for the employer, the employee and the health of the nation. We applaud your leadership and look forward to working with you to ensure swift passage of the Resolution and to advance our mutual goal of promoting preventive health care in the American workplace.

Sincerely,

Aetna
American Cancer Society Cancer Action Network
American College of Occupational and Environmental Medicine (ACOEM)
American College of Preventive Medicine
American Heart Association
American Stroke Association
BlueCross BlueShield Association (BCBSA)
Buffalo Supply, Inc.
CIGNA Corporation

Con-way Inc.
Deere & Company
Fox Entertainment Group, Inc.
Hepatitis Foundation International
Hewitt Associates
HCA
IHRSA, International Health, Racquet & Sportsclub Association
Ingram Industries Inc.
KCI Technologies, Inc.
Lincoln Industries
L & T Health and Fitness
Maritz Inc.
National Association of Health Underwriters
National Retail Federation
Partnership for Prevention
Pfizer Inc.
Prescient Solutions
Rockwell Collins, Inc.
Society for Human Resource Management (SHRM)
The Dow Chemical Company
The WorkCare Group, Inc.
U.S. Chamber of Commerce
UPS