

U.S. WORKPLACE WELLNESS ALLIANCE



March 2, 2009

The Honorable Barack H. Obama
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue
Washington, DC 20500-0003

Dear Mr. President:

The undersigned members of the U.S. Workplace Wellness Alliance are writing to express our support for a Presidential Proclamation 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 healthier U.S. economy.

During the 110th Congress, the House passed H. Con. Res. 405, a bipartisan resolution sponsored by Rep. Stephanie Herseth Sandlin and Rep. Charles Boustany, MD to designate the first full week of April as “National Workplace Wellness Week.” A similar resolution introduced by Senator Tom Harkin passed the Senate on September 22, 2008. These resolutions called 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” provides an opportunity for employers with existing workplace wellness programs to share “best practices” with other businesses. It further underscores that employers are vital to promoting wellness, which should lead to reducing the financial burden of chronic disease.

In summary, “National Workplace Wellness Week” 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 hope that you will sign a Presidential Proclamation in honor of workplace wellness to advance our mutual goal of promoting preventive health care in the American workplace.

Sincerely,

Aetna Inc.
Alegent Health
American College of Occupational and Environmental Medicine
American College of Preventive Medicine
American Diabetes Association
American Heart Association
American Hospital Association
American Journal of Health Promotion

American Stroke Association
BlueCrossBlueShield Association (BCBSA)
Club One, Inc.
Con-Way Inc.
DMAA: The Care Continuum Alliance
Deere & Company
Fox Entertainment Group, Inc.
GlaxoSmithKline
Health Promotion Advocates
Hepatitis Foundation International
Hewitt Associates
HCA
HpCareer.Net, llc
IHRSA, International Health, Racquet & Sportsclub Association
Ingram Industries Inc.
KCI Technologies, Inc.
Kentucky Department of Public Health
L & T Health and Fitness
Lincoln Industries
Maritz Inc.
National Association of Health Underwriters (NAHU)
National Business Coalition on Health (NBCH)
National Safety Council
Navistar, Inc.
Nevada Cancer Institute
Partnership for Prevention
Pfizer Inc.
Research!America
Rockwell Collins, Inc.
Society for Human Resource Management (SHRM)
State of Indiana-Personnel Department
The Dow Chemical Company
UPS
The WorkCare Group, Inc.
U.S. Chamber of Commerce
Zimmer, Inc.