

## CALIFORNIA INDUSTRIAL HYGIENE COUNCIL



February 18, 2010

Honorable Dianne Feinstein  
331 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Feinstein:

**By way of background**-- the California Industrial Hygiene Council (CIHC) was founded in 1990 to establish a legislative presence in California to represent the Industrial Hygiene profession. CIHC, representing the five Local Sections of AIHA in California, views its mission as bringing good science to the legislative and/or regulatory table which impacts the health of both workers and the public. It is affiliated with the National American Industrial Hygiene Association (AIHA), a 12,000 member organization, as well as the International Occupational Hygiene Association (IOHA), which represents the global community of Occupational Hygiene organizations in over 26 countries. Additional information about our organization and its mission is available at [www.cihconline.com](http://www.cihconline.com). Briefly, the field of Industrial Hygiene is dedicated to the anticipation, recognition, evaluation, and control of occupational and environmental health hazards.

**Issue**--A new international partnership to eliminate lead in paint was launched under the United Nations' International Conference on Chemicals Management (ICCM-2) in May 2009. Although this effort is being housed jointly at the United Nations Environment Program and the World Health Organization, it is entirely dependent on member countries for funding.

CIHC is concerned that, despite wide recognition of the inherent danger of lead in residential paint, several recent studies have shown that these dangerous products continue to be manufactured and sold in many countries. Despite a ban in the U.S. on the use of lead paint on toys and children's products, many goods imported from developing countries continue to be made with lead-based paint, which may be elevated. Substitutes for lead-based paints have been available for many years.

Therefore, we are contacting you now to seek your support to provide funding for education and outreach activities in support of this partnership's efforts targeted to countries with substantial lead paint production. In your position as the Chair of the Interior, Environment and Related Agencies Appropriations Subcommittee, we urge you to include funding for the Environmental Protection Agency to fund U.S. nonprofit organizations to conduct outreach efforts in targeted countries under this partnership.

Grant funds should be directed for the following activities:

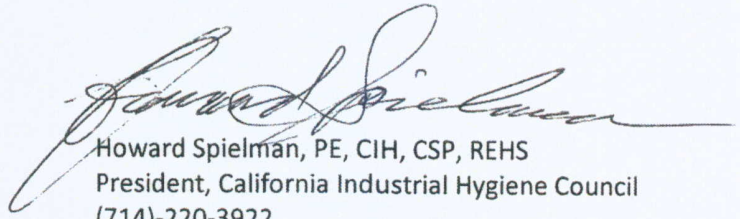
- Consultations with industry to establish a labeling and certification system on the presence and concentrations of lead concentrations in paint;
- Technical assistance and educational outreach programs; and
- Information exchange and support to strengthen and harmonize national laws to promote the phase-out of lead paint.

Please contact us if you have any questions. We look forward to working with you.

Respectfully submitted,



Chris Laszcz-Davis, MS, CIH, REA  
VP, California Industrial Hygiene Council  
(925)-330-1774  
[ChrisLD@EQ-Organization.com](mailto:ChrisLD@EQ-Organization.com)



Howard Spielman, PE, CIH, CSP, REHS  
President, California Industrial Hygiene Council  
(714)-220-3922  
[Hspielman@healthscience.com](mailto:Hspielman@healthscience.com)

cc: Leah Russin ([leah\\_russin@feinstein.senate.gov](mailto:leah_russin@feinstein.senate.gov))