

ASSEMBLY STANDING COMMITTEE ON LABOR ASSEMBLY SUBCOMMITTEE ON WORKPLACE SAFETY ASSEMBLY COMMISSION ON SKILLS DEVELOPMENT AND CAREER EDUCATION

NOTICE OF PUBLIC HEARING

SUBJECT: Worker Safety Programs in New York State

PURPOSE: To examine best practices for workplace safety programs and evaluate

opportunities for additional worker training.

Assembly Hearing Room 250 Broadway, Room 1923, 19th Floor New York, New York 10007

> Wednesday April 27, 2016 12:00 PM

ORAL TESTIMONY BY INVITATION ONLY

Every person who goes to work should expect to return home unharmed. Effective workplace safety programs can help realize this expectation. These programs also lead to reduced staff turnover, reduced absenteeism, reduced risk of fines, and increased productivity. To that end, New York incentivizes employers to implement workplace safety programs that identify and mitigate hazards. Still, employers across the state often fail to provide adequate safety mechanisms and proper training to ensure that workers are safe. Unscrupulous employers circumvent safety standards by hiring untrained workers, who may not speak up about workplace safety violations because of fear of retaliation. Occupational Safety and Health Act (OSHA) investigations have revealed that the overwhelming majority of workplace accidents and injuries across the state are preventable and could have been avoided had the employer been more vigilant in their responsibility to maintain a safe working environment. The purpose of this hearing is to hear testimony regarding the utilization of workplace training and safety programs and suggestions on ways to encourage and increase their use. The New York State Assembly Committee on Labor, Subcommittee on Workplace Safety, and the Commission on Skills Development and Career Education would like to examine best practices for workplace safety programs and evaluate opportunities for additional worker training.

Persons invited to present pertinent testimony to the Committees and Commission at the above hearing should complete and return the enclosed reply form as soon as possible. It is important that the reply form be fully completed and returned so that persons may be notified in the event of emergency postponement or cancellation.

Oral testimony will be limited to 10 minutes duration. In preparing the order of witnesses, the Committees will attempt to accommodate individual requests to speak at particular times in view of special circumstances. These requests should be made on the attached reply form or communicated to Committee staff as early as possible. Ten copies of any prepared testimony should be submitted at the hearing registration desk. The Committee would appreciate advance receipt of prepared statements.

In order to meet the needs of those who may have a disability, the Assembly, in accordance with its policy of non-discrimination on the basis of disability, as well as the 1990 Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), has made its facilities and services available to all individuals with disabilities. For individuals with disabilities, accommodations will be provided, upon reasonable request, to afford such individuals access and admission to Assembly facilities and activities.

Michele Titus Michel Lotus

Member of Assembly Chair

Committee on Labor

Francisco Moya

Member of Assembly

Chair Subcommittee on Workplace Safety

Harry Bronson

Member of Assembly

Chair

Harry B. Browson

Commission on Skills Development and Career Education

PUBLIC HEARING REPLY FORM

Persons invited to present testimony at the public hearing on Worker Safety Programs in New York State are requested to complete this reply form as soon as possible, but no later than Monday, April 25, 2016 and mail, email, or fax it to:

Omar McGill
Committee Assistant
Assembly Committee on Labor
Room 520 - Capitol
Albany, New York 12248
Email: mcgillo@assembly.state.ny.us

Phone: (518) 455-4311 Fax: (518) 455-7095

	I plan to attend the following public hearing on Worker Safety Programs in New York State to be conducted by the New York State Assembly Committee on Labor Subcommittee on Workplace Safety, and the Commission on Skills Development and Career Education on Wednesday, April 27, 2016.
	I have been invited to make a public statement at the hearing. My statement will be limited to 10 minutes, and I will answer any questions which may arise. I will provide 10 copies of my prepared statement.
	I will address my remarks to the following subjects:
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	I do not plan to attend the above hearing.
	I would like to be added to the Committee mailing list for notices and reports.
	I would like to be removed from the Committee mailing list.
	I will require assistance and/or handicapped accessibility information. Please specify the type of assistance required:
NAM	E:
TITL	E:
ORG	SANIZATION:
ADD	RESS:
E-MA	AIL:
TELE	EPHONE:
FAX:	