

SUPPORT THE PASSAGE OF H.R. 1956 AND S. 904: THE VOLUNTARY PROTECTION PROGRAMS ACT

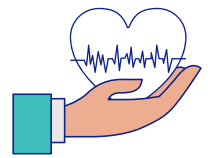
VOLUNTARY PROTECTION PROGRAMS (VPP) BRINGS LABOR, MANAGEMENT AND OSHA TOGETHER.



- VPP is a collaboration of management, labor and OSHA to promote workplace safety and health.
- Employers who apply for VPP status are evaluated by OSHA and must meet stringent VPP performance-based criteria for comprehensive safety and health management systems.

VPP SAVES LIVES AND REDUCES COSTS.

- OSHA regards VPP as its most successful, cost-efficient program in reducing injuries and illnesses.
- VPP sites have injury and illness rates that are 50 percent below industry averages.
- VPP safeguards nearly one million workers and 700 local unions at 2,200 worksites.
- VPP saves private sector employers \$257 million and public sector employers \$30 million in workers' compensation, insurance and lost time costs. This dwarfs the \$6 to \$7 million OSHA estimates spending to operate VPP.
- VPP sites have improved employee morale, attendance and productivity.



THE VPP ACT IS A BIPARTISAN BILL THAT SUPPORTS LABOR-MANAGEMENT SAFETY INITIATIVES.



- The VPP Act was introduced in the House (H.R. 1956) and the Senate (S. 904) in March 2019.
- Both bills enjoy bipartisan support from 18 co-sponsors.
- The VPP Act would require the Secretary of Labor to:
 - Establish a program of entering into cooperative agreements with employers to encourage comprehensive safety and health management systems
 - Establish and carry out a Voluntary Protection Program
 - Issue final VPP regulations within two years of enactment
- The VPP Act also authorizes federal appropriations to carry out the Act.

THE VPP ACT GIVES EMPLOYERS AND WORKERS THE ASSURANCE THEY NEED TO INVEST IN VPP.

- Today, VPP is a discretionary program that OSHA can eliminate or defund at any time. A previous OSHA administrator who wanted an enforcement-only regime considered doing just that.
- Safety is a nonpartisan issue that cannot be bargained away.
- The VPP Act would continue the VPP as it operates today and ensure its continued success by making it a permanent part of OSHA.
- Cooperative programs like VPP support employers who pursue workplace safety excellence.
- Making VPP permanent would encourage employers and workers to continue to invest millions in training and cooperative efforts with OSHA, such as private sector safety experts (called Special Government Employees) who support OSHA's VPP inspections and operations.
- The VPP Act will help VPP remain a critical part of America's workforce for generations to come.



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