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LRB104 21647 LAW 37169 r

1 HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, The annual observance of Workers Memorial Day
3 falls on April 28, 2026, a day dedicated to honoring those who
4 have lost their lives, suffered injuries, or developed chronic
5 illnesses due to preventable workplace hazards; and

6 WHEREAS, April 28 also commemorates the 55th anniversary
7 of the Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1971, which
8 established the Occupational Safety and Health Administration
9 (OSHA) and the National Institute for Occupational Safety and
10 Health (NIOSH); and

11 WHEREAS, These agencies were created as a result of the
12 tireless advocacy of working Americans and the labor movement,
13 which fought to ensure that every worker has the fundamental
14 right to a safe job and a workplace free from recognized
15 hazards; and

16 WHEREAS, Despite these foundational protections, the
17 current landscape of workplace safety is dire, with more than
18 380 workers killed and more than 8,600 suffering injury or
19 illness daily due to preventable working conditions; and

20 WHEREAS, Federal oversight is at an historic low, with the
21 fewest number of OSHA inspectors in the agency's 55-year

1 history, resulting in a reality where it would take 191 years
2 for the federal OSHA to inspect every workplace once, and
3 where Congress allows only \$3.85 per worker in funding for
4 safety protection; and

5 WHEREAS, Black, Latino, and immigrant workers continue to
6 face higher job fatality rates, disproportionate exposure to
7 hazards, and increased risks of retaliation, highlighting the
8 urgent need for equitable safety standards; and

9 WHEREAS, Workers are currently facing accelerated attacks,
10 including the removal of safety coverage, the weakening of
11 silica protections for mineworkers, and the erosion of
12 workplace safety processes in order to prioritize corporate
13 profit and executive compensation over human life; and

14 WHEREAS, Workers have earned the right to safe workplaces
15 that protect them against heat illness, workplace violence,
16 and toxic chemical exposures; and

17 WHEREAS, All workers, regardless of race, background, or
18 immigration status, deserve to have a voice on the job and the
19 right to advocate for their safety without fear of
20 retaliation; therefore, be it

21 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE

1 HUNDRED FOURTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that
2 we declare April 28, 2026 as Workers Memorial Day in the State
3 of Illinois, and we mourn those lost to unsafe working
4 conditions; and be it further

5 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
6 presented to the Illinois AFL-CIO as a symbol of our
7 commitment to safe jobs for all working people.