Date: May 19, 2021

To: Christina Shupe, Executive Officer
Occupational Safety and Health Standards Board

From: Eric Berg, Deputy Chief
Division of Occupational Safety and Health

Subject: COVID-19 Prevention Emergency Regulations Set for Re-Adoption at May 20, 2021 Business Meeting

On May 13th, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) updated its guidance to allow fully vaccinated persons to go without masks in some settings. In light of that update, California Health & Human Services Agency Secretary Dr. Mark Ghaly announced on May 17th that “California plans to implement the CDC’s guidelines around masking to allow fully vaccinated Californians to go without a mask in most indoor settings” starting June 15.

The Division has consulted with Board staff and the California Department of Public Health (CDPH), and believes it is important to revisit the proposed COVID-19 prevention emergency regulations in light of this new guidance. The Division is thus requesting that the Board not vote to approve the current proposal before it, and instead allow us to present a new proposal at a future meeting. The Division will limit any potential changes to consideration of the recent guidance, in order to make possible a targeted effective date of June 15, 2021.