



# SPEAK OUT *for* SAFE JOBS

## PROTECT WORKERS NOW!

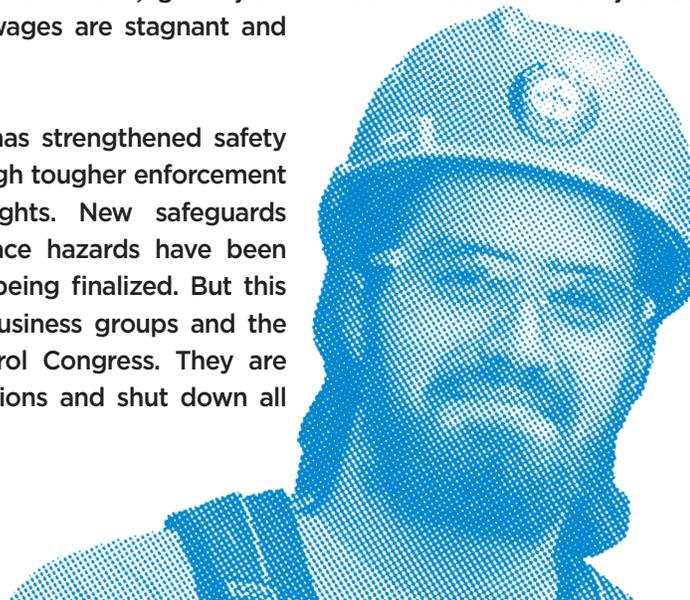
Four decades ago, Congress passed the Occupational Safety and Health Act, promising every worker the right to a safe job. Unions and our allies have fought hard to make that promise a reality—winning protections that have made jobs safer and saved workers' lives.

But our work is not done. Each year thousands of workers are killed and millions more injured or diseased because of their jobs. Many job hazards are unregulated and uncontrolled. Workers who report hazards or injuries are fired or disciplined. Employers contract out dangerous work to try to avoid responsibility. At the same time, good jobs are disappearing, workers' wages are stagnant and inequality is growing.

The Obama administration has strengthened safety and health protections through tougher enforcement and expanded workers' rights. New safeguards on silica and other workplace hazards have been proposed and are close to being finalized. But this progress is threatened by business groups and the Republicans who now control Congress. They are trying to stop these protections and shut down all future regulations.

We cannot let them succeed—workers' lives are at stake.

On April 28, the unions of the AFL-CIO observe Workers Memorial Day to remember those who have suffered and died on the job and to renew the fight for safe workplaces. **This year we will come together to call for jobs in this country that keep workers safe and healthy, and pay fair wages.** We will seek stronger safeguards to prevent injuries and save lives. We will stand for the right of all workers to raise job safety concerns without fear of retaliation, and for the freedom to form unions and bargain for respect and a better future. Please join us. Speak out for safe jobs.



**OBSERVE  
WORKERS  
MEMORIAL  
DAY.  
APRIL 28.  
AFL-CIO**

# WORKERS MEMORIAL DAY. APRIL 28.

## AFL-CIO

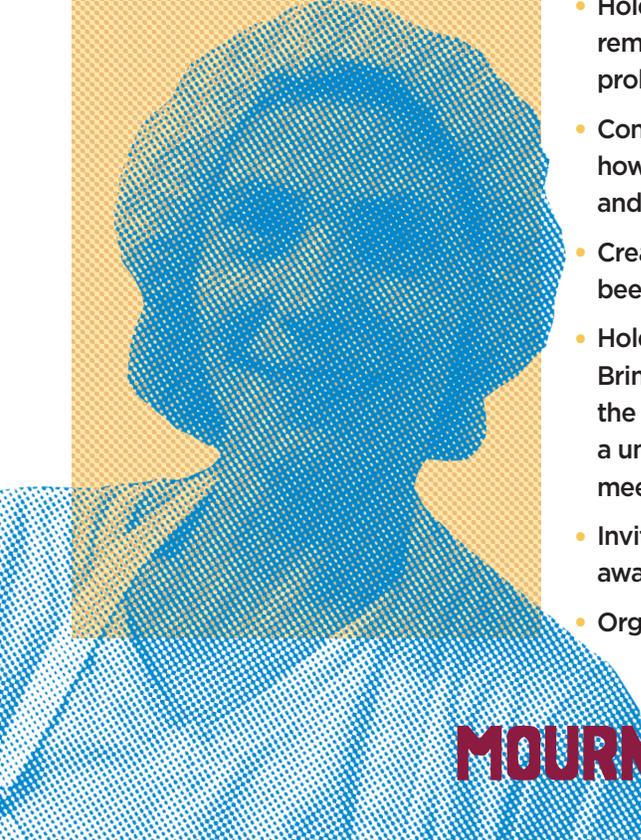
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website: [www.afclcio.org/Issues/Job-Safety/WorkersMemorialDay](http://www.afclcio.org/Issues/Job-Safety/WorkersMemorialDay)

DECADES OF STRUGGLE by workers and their unions have resulted in significant improvements in working conditions. But progress is threatened as employers seek to cut corners and shirk responsibility, and politicians and their business allies try to block needed safeguards and stronger workers' rights. It is time to organize, take action and speak out for safe jobs for workers, including:

- defending safety and health protections and workers' rights from industry attacks;
- winning new workplace safeguards for silica, combustible dust and infectious diseases;
- prohibiting employer policies and practices that discourage the reporting of workplace injuries;
- increasing attention to the safety and health of Latino and immigrant workers who are at much greater risk of death and injury;
- passing the Protecting America's Workers Act to provide OSHA protection for the millions of workers without coverage, stronger criminal and civil penalties for companies that seriously violate job safety laws, and improved anti-retaliation protections for workers who raise job safety concerns;
- ensuring workers' right to have a voice on the job, and to freely choose to join a union without employer interference or intimidation; and
- demanding higher wages for workers through organizing, mobilizing, collective bargaining and legislative action.

## What You Can Do on Workers Memorial Day

- Organize a rally to demand creation of good jobs and safe jobs in your community.
- Hold a candlelight vigil, memorial service or moment of silence to remember those who have died on the job and to highlight job safety problems in your community and at your workplace.
- Conduct workshops to educate workers about job safety hazards and how to exercise job safety rights. Invite union members, nonunion workers and community allies to participate.
- Create a memorial at a workplace or in a community where workers have been killed on the job.
- Hold a public meeting with members of Congress in their home districts. Bring injured workers and family members who can talk firsthand about the need for strong safety and health protections and the freedom to join a union. Invite local religious leaders and other allies to participate in the meeting.
- Invite the press to your Workers Memorial Day events to increase public awareness of the dangers workers face on the job.
- Organize, organize, organize!



**MOURN** FOR THE DEAD. **FIGHT** FOR THE LIVING.