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COMMITTEE ON EDUCATION AND LABOR  
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HEALTH, EMPLOYMENT, LABOR, AND PENSIONS

[www.shea-porter.house.gov](http://www.shea-porter.house.gov)

April 25, 2017

Dear Friends:

Thank you for inviting me to your annual Workers' Memorial Day. I regret that I cannot be with you in person on this important night of remembrance.

The loss of life on the job is a profound tragedy. I would like to honor those being remembered tonight and the families of those we've lost.

Workers' Memorial Week is a time to honor and remember those who lost their lives while working on the job. The very idea that an honest day's work could jeopardize or end one's life runs counter to our fundamental values as a nation: that if you work hard you can get ahead – and certainly, that you will return safely to your family at the end of the workday.

This right to a safe work environment is fundamental. As a Member of Congress, and as member of the House Committee on Education and the Workforce – but also as a wife, a sister, and a mother – I understand the importance of our workplace safety laws. These are key to protecting people's lives – our colleagues, our neighbors, and our families. Though much work remains to improve workplace safety, I am committed to this work, as I know you are.

I want to thank the NH Coalition for Occupational Safety and Health (NH-COSH) for all the work they do to raise awareness for workplace safety and to tell the stories of good people who can't tell us themselves because they needlessly died on the job.

I also want to thank the family members in attendance for your strength and your courage. You have my deepest sympathies, and also my commitment to continue working so that other families do not have to face the loss of a loved one the way you have.

With Warm Wishes and Gratitude,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Carol Shea-Porter".

Carol Shea-Porter  
Member of Congress