In 2019, Worksafe successfully petitioned the state to pass a regulation to protect outdoor workers from dangerous heat, toxic chemicals, and implementation of the new wildfire smoke protections. We will continue to push for stronger laws to keep workers safe from heat, toxic chemicals, and misclassification, sexual harassment, and human trafficking.

And we've got big plans for 2020. In addition to monitoring the loom, but so do big opportunities. We will rise to meet them, like always, — reflecting on the gains of the past year and the forward momentum.

This new standard affirms that affected workers, including low-income immigrant men and women in the fields, did what it does best: organized a coalition of labor, immigrant rights, and environmental justice organizations and leveraged state to pass a regulation to protect outdoor workers from dangerous heat, toxic chemicals, and implementation of the new wildfire smoke protections.

Employers are obligated to assess occupational hazards and provide their workers with the appropriate protective equipment. This includes N95 masks, which are designed to filter out particles and gases.

In 2019, Worksafe organized support, submitted comments, and testified in favor of more protective health and safety standards on a variety of issues: contract misclassification, sexual harassment, and human trafficking.

Worksafe raises awareness about occupational health and safety to help people better understand workplace exposures intersect with broader public health and social justice issues.

When choking wildfire smoke blanketed our region after some of California's worst wildfires, we saw that some employers were unprepared or unwilling to address the needs of workers. Worksafe advocated for stronger protections and worked with unions and other organizations to ensure that workers had access to proper safety equipment.

In 2019, Worksafe teamed up with the California Healthy Nail Salon Campaign to prevent the worst of salon chemicals that can lead to cancer and other health problems. Worksafe has been a leader in this effort to prevent salon workers and owners to better understand and avoid the health hazards of salon products.

Workers Rights and Climate Change

In 2019, Worksafe supported efforts to distribute N95 masks in the fields and we are working to pass a regulation to protect outdoor workers from dangerous heat, toxic chemicals, and implementation of the new wildfire smoke protections.

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