OSHSPA is working with OSHA to address these deficiencies. While Congress envisioned that the partnership between federal OSHA and the state plans would include federal funding of 50 percent of the costs, the state plans have remained stagnant at about $91 million per year. In order to fund the same level of services in FY 2009, the budget would need to increase to $111 million. (Chart 6)

In FY 2009, the total OSHA budget (including state plan funding) was increased to $515 million (Chart 4). The increase in federal OSHA budgeting to $363 million − yet state plans gained only $1.5 million. (This extra funding was designated for a new public-sector program in Illinois.) The state plan portion of OSHA's budget dropped to 18.0 percent, an all-time low. (Charts 1 & 3)

Federal OSHA estimates employers realize a $4 − $6 return on every $1 invested in federal OSHA inspections, and health − with the primary goal that workers across the country more than $170 billion per year. Since the federal Government run OSHA, State Plan Programs continually identify new ways to encourage employer investment in workplace safety and health. Federal OSHA estimates employers realize a $4 − $6 return on every $1 invested in workplace safety and health − with the primary goal that workers across the country more than $170 billion per year. Since the federal

2009 SPECIAL REPORT: Impact and Funding of State Occupational Safety and Health Programs

The purpose of this document is to provide information to Congress and others on the impact and funding of state-operated programs for occupational safety and health. State Plan Programs are highly successful, but have experienced significant funding deficiencies. OSHSPA is working with OSHA to address these deficiencies.

States choosing to operate a State Plan Program contribute a significant portion of federal OSHA's budget. In FY 2008 and 2009, the state plan portion of federal OSHA's budget was 18.0 percent and 19.3 percent, respectively. (Charts 4 & 5)

OSHPA states are a Congressional success story, and are efficient and effective users of state and federal tax dollars. The strong partnership between OSHA and the state plans has placed State Plan Programs in a perfect position to develop successful grassroots solutions. At a minimum, State Plan Programs should be currently funded at an amount that would have placed the state plan budget line with federal OSHA funding over the last several years.

Federal agency budgets contain automatic cost-of-living adjustments (COLAs), including federal OSHA. State Plan Programs perform the same functions as federal OSHA, and should receive the same budget adjustments. Based on the original intent of Congress and the output of the state plans, the long-term goal should be to reach full 50 percent funding. President Obama's proposed 2010 budget increase of 15 percent for State Plan States goes a long way to meet this goal.

State Plan Programs bring unique strengths and flexibility to the administration of occupational safety and health programs in this nation. The OSHSPA states serve as laboratories of innovation. Because the programs are locally based, it is easier to develop and implement new programs and innovations, pilot alternative approaches, and experiment with new methods for achieving a safe and healthy work environment.

Although the number of employers and employees continue to increase in most states, the net resources to address workplace hazards in state plans have declined due to inflation and untapped mandates from OSHA. The potential impacts if this trend continues are reduced enforcement and outreach, which can lead to fewer inspections, more injuries, illnesses and fatalities. Without more resources, it may become very difficult for some states to maintain a program that is at least as effective as federal OSHA, which is a mandatory requirement for State Plan Programs.

Federal OSHA has long recognized State Plan Programs for their innovative approaches to protecting workers and women across America. Today, OSHSPA states serve as “laboratories of innovation.” Federal OSHA will continue to share the message that it pays to invest in safety and health − with the primary goal of workers across the country return home from work safe and healthy at the end of the day.

In establishing OSHA, Congress specifically encouraged states to develop their own safety and health plans, which would provide innovative and comprehensive alternative programs. Section 18 of the Occupational Safety and Health Act, signed into law on December 29, 1970, authorized states to develop and submit state plans for occupational safety and health, provided the plans are “at least as effective as” federal OSHA. Congress envisioned a comprehensive national program that would provide safety and health protection in all U.S. states and territories.

OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY AND HEALTH ADMINISTRATION (OSHA) is the bureau within the Department of Labor that implements and enforces the Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1970 (OSHA). OSHA's jurisdiction covers the private sector, which includes state and local governments, municipalities, colleges and universities. In all, it’s estimated the OSHSPA states cover more than 2.9 million workplaces and 58 million workers. In FY 2008, state plans conducted 37,000 inspections, identified over $122 million hazards and assessed over $70 million in penalties. (Charts 5 & 6)

In FY 2009, the total OSHA budget (including state plan funding) was increased to $515 million (Chart 4). The increase in federal OSHA budgeting to $363 million − yet state plans gained only $1.5 million. (This extra funding was designated for a new public-sector program in Illinois.) The state plan portion of OSHA's budget dropped to 18.0 percent, an all-time low.

Federal OSHA states are a Congressional success story, and are efficient and effective users of state and federal tax dollars. The strong partnership between OSHA and the state plans has placed State Plan Programs in a perfect position to develop successful grassroots solutions. At a minimum, State Plan Programs should be currently funded at an amount that would have placed the state plan budget line with federal OSHA funding over the last several years.

Federal agency budgets contain automatic cost-of-living adjustments (COLAs), including federal OSHA. State Plan Programs perform the same functions as federal OSHA, and should receive the same budget adjustments. Based on the original intent of Congress and the output of the state plans, the long-term goal should be to reach full 50 percent funding. President Obama's proposed 2010 budget increase of 15 percent for State Plan States goes a long way to meet this goal.

Impact of State Plan Programs

State Plan Programs cover a great variety of private-sector workers nationally. In addition to covering more than 3 million workers in the public sector, which includes state and local governments, municipalities, colleges and universities, in all, it’s estimated the OSHSPA states cover more than 2.9 million workplaces and 58 million workers. In FY 2008, state plans conducted 37,000 inspections, identified over $122 million hazards and assessed over $70 million in penalties. (Charts 5 & 6)

Federal OSHA has long recognized State Plan Programs for their innovative approaches to protecting workers and women across America. Today, OSHSPA states serve as “laboratories of innovation.” Federal OSHA will continue to share the message that it pays to invest in safety and health − with the primary goal of workers across the country return home from work safe and healthy at the end of the day.

Although the number of employers and employees continue to increase in most states, the net resources to address workplace hazards in state plans have declined due to inflation and untapped mandates from OSHA. The potential impacts if this trend continues are reduced enforcement and outreach, which can lead to fewer inspections, more injuries, illnesses and fatalities. Without more resources, it may become very difficult for some states to maintain a program that is at least as effective as federal OSHA, which is a mandatory requirement for State Plan Programs.

Federal OSHA has long recognized State Plan Programs for their innovative approaches to protecting workers and women across America. Today, OSHSPA states serve as “laboratories of innovation.” Federal OSHA will continue to share the message that it pays to invest in safety and health − with the primary goal of workers across the country return home from work safe and healthy at the end of the day.

Although the number of employers and employees continue to increase in most states, the net resources to address workplace hazards in state plans have declined due to inflation and untapped mandates from OSHA. The potential impacts if this trend continues are reduced enforcement and outreach, which can lead to fewer inspections, more injuries, illnesses and fatalities. Without more resources, it may become very difficult for some states to maintain a program that is at least as effective as federal OSHA, which is a mandatory requirement for State Plan Programs.

Federal OSHA has long recognized State Plan Programs for their innovative approaches to protecting workers and women across America. Today, OSHSPA states serve as “laboratories of innovation.” Federal OSHA will continue to share the message that it pays to invest in safety and health − with the primary goal of workers across the country return home from work safe and healthy at the end of the day.

Although the number of employers and employees continue to increase in most states, the net resources to address workplace hazards in state plans have declined due to inflation and untapped mandates from OSHA. The potential impacts if this trend continues are reduced enforcement and outreach, which can lead to fewer inspections, more injuries, illnesses and fatalities. Without more resources, it may become very difficult for some states to maintain a program that is at least as effective as federal OSHA, which is a mandatory requirement for State Plan Programs.

Federal OSHA has long recognized State Plan Programs for their innovative approaches to protecting workers and women across America. Today, OSHSPA states serve as “laboratories of innovation.” Federal OSHA will continue to share the message that it pays to invest in safety and health − with the primary goal of workers across the country return home from work safe and healthy at the end of the day.
OCCUPATIONAL SAFETY AND HEALTH STATE PLAN ASSOCIATION (OSHSPA)

2009 SPECIAL REPORT

STATE PROGRAMS

Currently, there are 27 states and territories with state-operated programs for worker safety and health. Twenty-one of these states and territories have plans covering the public and private sectors. Four states and one territory have programs covering the public sector only. OSHSPA links the 27 state-plan jurisdictions, federal OSHA jurisdictions, and Congress.

State Plans Programs Currently, there are 27 states and territories with state-operated programs for worker safety and health. Twenty-one of these states and territories have plans covering the public and private sectors. Four states and one territory have programs covering the public sector only. OSHSPA links the 27 state-plan jurisdictions, federal OSHA jurisdictions and Congress.

State Plan Programs Covering Private and Public Sectors

- Alaska
- Arizona
- California
- Connecticut
- Hawaii
- Illinois
- Indiana
- Iowa
- Kentucky
- Maryland
- Michigan
- Minnesota
- Nevada
- New Mexico
- New Jersey
- New York
- North Carolina
- Oregon
- Puerto Rico
- South Carolina
- Tennessee
- Utah
- Vermont
- Virginia
- Washington
- Wyoming

State Plans Programs Covering Public Sector Only

- Connecticut
- New Jersey
- New York
- New Jersey
- New York
- North Carolina
- Oregon
- Puerto Rico
- South Carolina
- Tennessee
- Utah

State Programs

- District of Columbia
- Illinois
- Michigan
- Minnesota
- Nevada
- New Mexico
- New Jersey
- New York
- North Carolina
- Ohio
- Oregon
- Pennsylvania
- Rhode Island
- South Carolina
- South Dakota
- Texas
- Utah
- Virginia
- Washington
- West Virginia
- Wisconsin
- Wyoming

OSHSPA

The OSHSPA states have established a strategic planning process that measures program outcomes based on each state’s unique knowledge of local work activity and hazards. This approach is consistent with the requirements of the Government Performance and Results Act (GPRA). Each state’s strategic plan provides objective information for determining budget levels, and enhances public confidence by showing program activities and results.

2009 Board of Directors

Chairperson

- Butch Tongate
  Director
  Division of Occupational Safety and Health
  New York State Department of Labor
  State Office Building 2, Campus Room 522
  Albany, NY 12260
  Phone: 518.476.3216
  E-mail: butch.tongate@state.ny.us

Vice Chairperson

- Kevin Beauregard
  Assistant Deputy Commissioner
  Division of Occupational Safety and Health
  North Carolina Department of Labor
  1015 Mail Service Center
  Raleigh, NC 27699-1101
  Phone: 919.807.2863
  E-mail: kevin.beauregard@labor.nc.gov

Past Chairperson

- Kevin Brittain
  Assistant Director
  Division of Occupational Safety and Health
  Washington Department of Labor and Industries
  P.O. Box 44809
  Olympia, WA 98504-4480
  Phone: 360.902.5495
  E-mail: kevin.brittain@dol.wa.gov

OSHSPA

The OSHSPA states have established a strategic planning process that measures program outcomes based on each state’s unique knowledge of local work activity and hazards. This approach is consistent with the requirements of the Government Performance and Results Act (GPRA). Each state’s strategic plan provides objective information for determining budget levels, and enhances public confidence by showing program activities and results.

2009 Special Report

Impact and Funding of State Occupational Health and Safety Programs

OSHSPA

The OSHSPA states have established a strategic planning process that measures program outcomes based on each state’s unique knowledge of local work activity and hazards. This approach is consistent with the requirements of the Government Performance and Results Act (GPRA). Each state’s strategic plan provides objective information for determining budget levels, and enhances public confidence by showing program activities and results.