

Governmental and Regulatory Affairs

July 15, 1994

NIOSH Docket Office Robert A. Taft Laboratories Mail Stop C34 4676 Columbia Parkway Cincinnati, Ohio 45226

To Whom It May Concern:

The purpose of this letter is to register the Detroit Medical Center's support of a NIOSH proposed rule on respiratory protective devices (42 CFR Part 84 Federal Register Vol. 59, No. 99, pp. 26850-26893). The proposed rule addresses current certification requirements for respiratory protective devices.

The Detroit Medical Center is the academic health center for Wayne State University and operates seven hospitals, a nursing/convalescent center and a variety of outpatient centers throughout metropolitan Detroit.

The Detroit Medical Center supports the proposed standard as a first step toward improving the certification process for respiratory devices to protect against tuberculosis and other biologic hazards in the health care setting. Through this approach the health care setting is appropriately addressed and the 95 percent filter efficiency should be acceptable for most health care worker needs.

It is the Detroit Medical Center's position that these new testing and certification procedures should be implemented as soon as possible in order to open up the market for more practical and economical respiratory protection for health care workers against tuberculosis.

Sincerely,

Robert J. Yellan Vice President

Legal and Governmental Affairs

cc: Judene Bartley, Michigan Society For Infection Control

Nancy Struthers, Michigan Hospital Association