



April 15, 2009

Dear BWC Board of Directors Member,

As a member of the Capital Area Safety Council based in Columbus Ohio, we feel compelled to weigh in on the proposal to eliminate the Safety Council discount for those members who are in group rating.

The Safety Council monthly meetings provide valuable information on how to reduce injuries and illnesses and how to best manage our workers compensation claims. It provides resources and networking opportunities for us and the other members.

By eliminating the largest incentive for the group rated employers for participating in the Safety Council program you undermine the value and purpose of the Safety Council. Members already pay a fee to participate in the monthly meetings which demonstrates their commitment to the program. Group rated employers are seeing their premiums increase. And especially in this difficult economic time, businesses and organizations need to see a return on their safety council investment. By eliminating the discount for those members who are in group, you take away an important aspect of the program.

Prevention of injuries and illnesses in the workplace should be the focus for the Ohio BWC employer programs. Safety Councils provide the necessary educational programs to help employers improve their safety programs, and reduce those costly injuries.

Respectfully,