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NIOSH Docket Office
Robert A. Taft Laboratories
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Cincinnati, Ohio 45226

RE: 42 CFR PART 84 Fed Register Vol. 59, No 99 pp. 26850-26893

To whom it may concern:

I wanted to voice my support for the proposed change in performance standards of respiratory protective devices. I agree with the removal of earlier NIOSH recommendations to use PAPR's and to allow options other than the currently mandated HEPA particulate respirators.

I am both certified in Infectious Diseases and Infection Control. I believe that the 95% filter efficiency should be acceptable for most health care worker needs. I feel that the major difficulty in controlling the spread of Tuberculosis in the health care setting has not been the lack of efficacy of the masks but the failure of health care workers to use the masks in the appropriate setting.

I feel that the new proposed standard is an important first step towards actually addressing the health care settings and the needs of the HCW.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "J Silvers M.D.".

Jeffrey Silvers, M.D.

cc: Jackie Bryan, Chairperson of APIC GAC

JUL 18 1994