

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

June 22, 2006

The Honorable Dennis Hastert
Speaker of the House
U.S. House of Representatives
H232 U.S. Capitol
Washington, D.C. 20515-0001

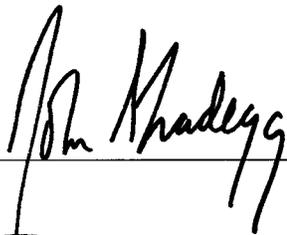
Dear Speaker Hastert:

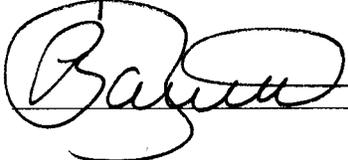
Earlier this month, the Senate Judiciary Committee held a hearing on the latest version of the deeply flawed asbestos trust fund bill – the FAIR Act. Along with many small and mid-size businesses, most insurers, and many victims groups, we had grave reservations regarding the first version, S. 852. This bill, S. 3274, is even worse.

The new version does nothing to address the underlying flaws of the trust fund. In fact, the new language expands eligibility provisions in the bill to include 9/11 and Hurricane Katrina workers regardless of actual asbestos exposure, thereby making the legislation even more costly. This bloated \$140 billion trust fund scheme, with new taxes and increased bureaucracy, simply is not needed today.

The Specter/Leahy trust fund bill is a bad bill that just got worse. We believe that H.R. 1957, the Medical Criteria bill, which now enjoys over 60 co-sponsors, including a majority of the Republican Members of the House Judiciary Committee, represents a more equitable, cost-effective, and constitutional solution to the asbestos litigation problem. We ask that the House have the opportunity to work its will on this issue rather than being asked to accept a flawed Senate product.

Sincerely,









Todd Tichot
Jack Higgins

Don Lee

John R. Cross

Wally Henger

MORT. McCall

Gary Mill

Jeff Allen

Paul Ryan

Jeff Mansfield

Sam Johnson

Marsha Blackman

Bob Bitt

Ronie Lehman

~~AMM III~~

Tom Fied

Heran Pearce

K. Michalsky

Phil Singrey

Ge. Pelt

Joe Wilson

Tom Drury

Phil Gutknecht

Tom Feeney

Frank Franks
Marilyn Musgrave