

Who's Behind H.R. 982?



H.R. 982 is part of a campaign designed by the U.S. Chamber of Commerce and the American Legislative Exchange Council (ALEC) to let the asbestos industry off the hook. This strategy takes a three-pronged approach:

- **State legislation:** In 2007, ALEC adopted the “Asbestos Claims Transparency Act.” Versions of this legislation have been pushed in many states including: LA, MI, MS, NY, PA, OH, OK, SC, TX, WV, and WI.
- **Judicial Conference:** On November 22, 2010, the U.S. Chamber made a direct appeal to the Judicial Conference to change the rules governing bankruptcy law.
- **Federal legislation:** H.R.982 was introduced on March 6, 2013. In the 112th Congress, H.R.4369 / S.3076 were introduced in the House and Senate.

Asbestos diseases kill nearly 10,000 people every year. The asbestos industry knew of the dangers associated with exposure as early as 1934. Asbestos is still legal in the U.S.

Pulling back the curtain on H.R.982 shows where transparency is needed – with the asbestos industry and the front groups working on its behalf.