

# SENATE RESOLUTION 108

Designating the first week of April 2007 as 'National Asbestos Awareness Week'.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES  
110th CONGRESS  
1st Session

Designating the first week of April 2007 as 'National Asbestos Awareness Week'.

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Mr. Baucus submitted the following resolution; which was considered and agreed to

## RESOLUTION 108

Designating the first week of April 2007 as 'National Asbestos Awareness Week'.

*Whereas* dangerous asbestos fibers are invisible and cannot be smelled or tasted;

*Whereas* the inhalation of airborne asbestos fibers can cause significant damage;

*Whereas* these fibers can cause mesothelioma, asbestosis, and other health problems;

*Whereas* asbestos-related diseases can take 10 to 50 years to present themselves;

*Whereas* the expected survival time for those diagnosed with mesothelioma is between 6 and 24 months;

*Whereas* generally little is known about late stage treatment and there is no cure for asbestos-related diseases;

*Whereas* early detection of asbestos-related diseases may give some patients increased treatment options and might improve their prognosis;

*Whereas* the United States has substantially reduced its consumption of asbestos yet continues to consume almost 7,000 metric tons of the fibrous mineral for use in certain products throughout the Nation;

*Whereas* asbestos-related diseases have killed thousands of people in the United States;

*Whereas* asbestos exposures continue and safety and prevention will reduce and has reduced significantly asbestos exposure-related diseases;

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*Whereas* asbestos has been a cause of occupational cancer;

*Whereas* thousands of workers in the United States face significant asbestos exposure;

*Whereas* thousands of people in the United States die from asbestos-related diseases every year;

*Whereas* a significant percentage of all asbestos-related disease victims were exposed to asbestos on naval ships and in shipyards;

*Whereas* asbestos was used in the construction of a significant number of office buildings and public facilities built before 1975;

*Whereas* people in the small community of Libby, Montana have asbestos-related diseases at a significantly higher rate than the national average and suffer from mesothelioma at a significantly higher rate than the national average; and

*Whereas* the establishment of a "National Asbestos Awareness Week" would raise public awareness about the prevalence of asbestos-related diseases and the dangers of asbestos exposure; Now, therefore, be it

**1 Resolved, That the Senate—**

**2 (1) designates the first week of April 2007 as**

**3 "National Asbestos Awareness Week";**

**4 (2) urges the Surgeon General, as a public health**

**5 issue, to warn and educate people that**

**6 asbestos exposure may be hazardous to their health; and**

**7 (3) respectfully requests the Secretary of the**

**8 Senate to transmit a copy of this resolution to the**

**9 Surgeon General.**