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Asbestos Disease Awareness Organization Applauds US Senate for Rejecting S. 2290

Organization Calls for Independent Commission to Determine Fair Funding Levels for Potential National Asbestos Compensation Fund

Washington, DC ... April 22, 2004 --- The Asbestos Disease Awareness Organization (ADAO), an organization dedicated to serving as the voice of asbestos victims, today praised the United State Senate for rejecting S. 2290.

ADAO has been meeting with legislators to share victims' concerns about S. 2290 and is calling for an independent commission to determine fair funding levels. According to ADAO, the bill has numerous inequities – including inadequate compensation, awards not based on the merits of individual cases, no opt-out clause ensuring a person's right to file a lawsuit, debts against the value of insurance coverage, and more.

“We applaud the United States Senate for rejecting S. 2290 in today's session,” said Linda Reinstein, Executive Director, Asbestos Disease Awareness Organization. “This bill does not fairly represent asbestos victims and we look forward to continuing to work with Congress to help find the right solution.”

The occurrence of asbestos-related diseases, including mesothelioma, lung cancer and asbestosis, is growing out of control. Studies estimate that during the next decade, 100,000 victims in the United States will die of an asbestos related disease – equaling 30 deaths per day.

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About Asbestos Disease Awareness Organization

Asbestos Disease Awareness Organization (ADAO) was founded by asbestos victims and their families. We seek to give asbestos victims a united voice to help ensure that our rights are fairly represented and protected. This includes our right to medical research and treatments aimed at early detection, prevention and a cure for asbestos related diseases; our right to file suit based on the merits of our individual asbestos related injustice; and the right to fair compensation. In addition, ADAO strives to implement an asbestos-caused disease national database registry to help unite victims of these tragic asbestos-related diseases. ADAO also works to support efforts to ban the use of asbestos and help protect future generations. As an independent organization, Asbestos Disease Awareness Organization will not be influenced by outside sources such as drug companies, law firms or companies that manufacture or use asbestos. ADAO is fully funded through voluntary contributions and staffed by volunteers.

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