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ADAO Attends Key Asbestos Hearings July 31 and August 1

Increased Congressional Attention Underscores Need for Accelerated Asbestos Awareness and Education

WASHINGTON, DC...July 31, 2007 --- The Asbestos Disease Awareness Organization (ADAO), an organization dedicated to serving as the voice of asbestos victims, announced that the organization's leadership will attend key Congressional hearings on asbestos today and tomorrow. Today's hearing before the Senate Environment and Public Works Committee will include a full mark up of Senator Patty Murray (D-WA)'s Ban Asbestos in America Act of 2007; ADAO supports the bill in its current format. Tomorrow's hearing before the Legislative Subcommittee of the House Appropriations Committee will examine the Capitol Power Plant Utility Tunnels and will include testimony from workers who have been adversely affected by related asbestos exposure; ADAO supports these workers and their families.

The Ban Asbestos in America Act is an effort to ban all production and use of asbestos in America, launch public education campaigns to raise awareness about its dangers and expand research and treatment of diseases caused by asbestos. Murray's legislation, which was first introduced in the 107th Congress, will also authorize additional studies to determine which commercial products today still contain asbestos, increase funding for asbestos-related diseases, and call for a national mesothelioma registry to help public health professionals track this deadly asbestos-related disease. ADAO fully supports the stringent call for a ban on asbestos and applauds Senator Murray for her important work to help keep America free from this deadly mineral and meeting an important global standard.

Asbestos exposure continues to adversely affect individuals and families across the globe, including workers in the U.S. Capitol Tunnels, who continue to fight for their rights as asbestos victims. Nearly a decade ago, the Architect of the Capitol (AoC)'s investigations documented deadly airborne asbestos in the utility tunnels housing the systems that keep Congress warm in winter and cool in summer.

"It is an intense statement from Congress when hearings are held back to back in both chambers that address the deadly nature of asbestos," said Linda Reinstein, Executive Director and Cofounder of Asbestos Disease Awareness Organization (ADAO). "ADAO is pleased to have the opportunity to show our support for increased education and awareness about this critical issue. Senator Murray continues to show great strength and leadership as she leads the fight to have this deadly substance banned forever. Her efforts and the rising voice of victims is helping to keep everyone – from Capitol tunnel workers to children who hugged their fathers after work – safe from the future effects of asbestos. We look forward to the day when asbestos disease will no longer needlessly claim lives."

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 in 2004. ADAO seeks to give asbestos victims a united voice to help ensure that their rights are fairly represented and protected, and raise public awareness about the dangers of asbestos exposure and the often deadly asbestos related

diseases. ADAO is funded through voluntary contributions and staffed by volunteers. For more information visit www.asbestosdiseaseawareness.org.

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