



The Alan Reinstein Ban Asbestos Now (ARBAN) Act ([S.2811](#) & [H.R.5373](#))

A Bipartisan Legislative Solution to Ban Asbestos and Strengthen Public Health Protection

[The Alan Reinstein Ban Asbestos Now \(ARBAN\) Act](#) was first introduced in 2016 to establish a comprehensive federal ban on asbestos in the United States. Named in honor of Alan Reinstein, who died from mesothelioma caused by asbestos exposure, the legislation reflects years of bipartisan collaboration focused on prevention, regulatory certainty, and public health protection.

What the ARBAN Act Would Do

- Ban all forms of asbestos
- Ban all ongoing uses and imports of asbestos

Bipartisan and Stakeholder Support

The ARBAN Act has received bipartisan support from members of Congress, public health organizations, labor advocates, medical experts, affected families, and industry stakeholders.

ARBAN Bipartisan Sponsors:

- Sen. Jeff Merkley
- Rep. Suzanne Bonamici
- Rep. Don Bacon

Organizations and stakeholders supporting asbestos prevention and legislative action include, and are not limited to:

- Olin Corporation
- International Association of Fire Fighters
- American Public Health Association
- Public health organizations
- Labor organizations
- Medical and scientific experts
- Environmental and consumer protection advocates
- Families impacted by asbestos-related diseases

Public Health and Economic Considerations

The Asbestos Disease Awareness Organization (ADAEO), a registered 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization, does not make legal referrals.

A newly published [2026 Lancet study examining asbestos-related cancers across the Americas](#) found that asbestos remains a leading occupational carcinogen and that North America continues to carry the highest burden of asbestos-related cancers in the region. The study also identified increasing disease trends among women in parts of Latin America, underscoring the continuing public health impact of asbestos exposure.

Recent consumer product recalls also demonstrate continuing exposure risks. In May 2026, [the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission \(CPSC\) recalled more than 121,000 children's squeeze toys](#) after testing identified fibrous tremolite asbestos in the sand filling.

Why Legislative Action Matters

The ARBAN Act provides long-term legislative clarity and establishes a consistent national framework for asbestos regulation.

A comprehensive statutory ban would:

- Reduce ongoing regulatory uncertainty.
- Provide a uniform federal standard for industry and regulators.
- Avoid continued litigation surrounding asbestos regulation.
- Reduce business uncertainty associated with changing administrative and judicial outcomes.
- Allow stakeholders to focus on implementation, compliance, prevention, and transition planning.

The legislation also provides a durable policy solution that goes beyond ongoing litigation over EPA's 2024 chrysotile asbestos rule under the Toxic Substances Control Act (TSCA).

A Long-Term National Solution

For nearly a decade, stakeholders have worked to advance a comprehensive asbestos ban that prioritizes prevention, public health, regulatory certainty, and accountability.

More than 70 countries have already banned asbestos.

The ARBAN Act establishes a clear and comprehensive national policy to prevent asbestos exposure, strengthen public health protections, and provide regulatory certainty.