



THE AMERICAN LEGION DEPARTMENT OF WISCONSIN

April 10, 2013

To whom it may concern,

The American Legion, Department of Wisconsin has legitimate concerns with SB 13 and the accompanying AB 19. Many Wisconsin veterans were exposed to asbestos during their military service. Of those who suffer the effects of Mesothelioma, thirty per cent (30%) are veterans.

Although we believe the intentions of these two pieces of legislation were not to target veterans' personal injury claims for Mesothelioma, we believe that the effect they would have upon such claims would be an unnecessary delay for their rights in state courts. As an additional consequence of this legislation additional burdens of proof and discovery will be placed on veterans suffering the effects of Mesothelioma and their family members.

Our primary concern is that the potential consequences to veterans and their families are severe and unnecessary. In particular, delay for one of our comrades suffering from the fatal effects of Mesothelioma would be unacceptable to our membership - justice delayed is justice denied.

Consequently, we respectfully urge this committee and legislative leadership to give due consideration to the unintended consequences of SB 13 and AB 19.

Please table consideration of this matter in order that that we may further review the unintended consequences of SB 13 and AB 19 and participate in the development of appropriate legislation.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Wayne W. Jensen".

Wayne W. Jensen
Commander

Commanders' Group

Congressionally Chartered Veterans Organizations of the State of Michigan

RESOLUTION

- WHEREAS,** The Michigan Commanders' Group is committed to upholding and defending the U.S. Constitution; and
- WHEREAS,** The Fourteenth Amendment guarantees the right to due process; and
- WHEREAS,** Asbestos material was installed in many Michigan factories, used in products and used in buildings; and
- WHEREAS,** Michigan Veterans who returned from service found work in those factories, working with those products and in those buildings; and
- WHEREAS,** Asbestos was found to be a cause of cancer; and
- WHEREAS,** There is no evidence that Asbestos cases filed in Michigan are fraudulent; and
- WHEREAS,** Wayne County Courts have created a fair and proper system for both the plaintiffs and defendants to maintain the due process rights, and
- WHEREAS,** 40% of Asbestos cases filed in Michigan are filed by Veterans; and
- WHEREAS,** Citizens who feel Asbestos products caused them harm have a right to file legal suits against those responsible, and
- WHEREAS,** Those legal suits should be allowed there due process in the courts; be it
- RESOLVED,** By The Michigan Commanders' Group in regular assembled in Lansing, Michigan, February 222, 2018, That The Michigan Commanders' Group, opposes House Bill 5456 language to deny Michigan Veterans and citizens their right to proper due process.





*Military Order of the Purple Heart
Department of Pennsylvania*



May 11, 2016

House Judiciary Committee Members;

The Military Order of the Purple Heart, Department of Pennsylvania, wishes to reiterate to this committee, and your colleagues in the legislature of our opposition to HB 1428, titled Fairness in Claims and Transparency Act.

With all due respect to the authors of this legislation, we believe that you may be unaware of the consequences of this legislation upon our members and the veterans' community in general. I wish to identify at this time our specific concerns with the legislation as written.

Regarding the requirement of the plaintiff to disclose no later than 90 days prior to trial of asbestos action, a statement listing all existing or potential claims the plaintiff has filed or has a reasonable basis to file against any asbestos trusts: Our veterans who suffer from Mesothelioma, if they are lucky enough to determine a specific defendant who may be liable, should not have their cause of action upon said defendant in state court delayed while they do or do not pursue a final executed proof of claim against any such personal injury trust. This places a great burden upon the veteran to identify all possible defendants before being able to take action against one. This may well result in their claim not being adjudicated in a timely manner or prior to the defendant's death or incapacity to participate on their own behalf.

Regarding the requirement that the plaintiff must provide all parties to his or her immediate suit with all documents, records, trial or discovery materials, and "other information relevant to any claim against a personal injury trust": This requirement appears to place a very onerous and burdensome requirement upon the plaintiff to proactively produce documents that are already available to defendants via current Discovery procedures and statutes under Pennsylvania law and thus are completely unnecessary. In essence, this language would take the time and effort involved by a defendant's attorney to perform due diligence on behalf of their client, and place this additional time and effort upon the plaintiff, thus resulting again in a delay that would prevent their day in court as well as the extra fees and costs involved.

For these reasons, on behalf of the Military Order of the Purple Heart, Department of Pennsylvania, I respectfully urge you to oppose HB 1428 and remove it from the House Judiciary Committee's docket.

Thank you,

Michael J. Mescavage

Commander
MOPH Department of Pennsylvania



*Military Order of the Purple Heart
Department of New York*



May 23, 2016

To the Members of the NYS Legislature.

Re: A5978 (Schimminger)

The Military Order of the Purple Heart, Department of New York, wishes to express to this committee, and your colleagues in the legislature, of our opposition to A 5978/S 5504 regarding asbestos actions.

With all due respect to the authors of this legislation, we believe that you may be unaware of the consequences of this legislation upon our members and the veterans' community in general. Veterans may only represent 8% of the nation's population, but they comprise an astonishing 30% of all known mesothelioma deaths that have occurred in this country. Many veterans and active service members were exposed to asbestos while actively serving their country. This legislation will significantly impede the ability of veterans in New York to receive justice and hold these companies accountable.

Veterans, who suffer from mesothelioma, if they are lucky enough to determine a specific defendant who may be liable, should be allowed to expeditiously proceed against any defendant responsible for their asbestos disease. Most veterans diagnosed with mesothelioma are told they have less than 18 months to live. Yet, instead of expediting the veteran's claim against those who harmed him and thus providing the needed financial resources to pay for medical bills and provide for their families after they are gone this legislation requires veterans to disclose a statement listing all existing or potential trust claims 30 days after filing and at least 180 days before any trial date. This places a great burden upon the veteran to identify all possible defendants before being able to take action against one. A burden that is already very difficult given the fact that the defendants possess all the employee personnel records of the veteran, as well as the dates and locations that the veteran was likely exposed to asbestos in the workplace. In addition, if a veteran was exposed to asbestos while in uniform they are barred from filing suit against the Department of Defense and without access to the military's internal and often sensitive documents they are also unable to show the nexus needed to receive medical care and treatment at a VA facility.

This burden is made unbearable by the provision giving an asbestos defendant the absolute power to force a plaintiff to file a trust claim, or defend their decision not to file a trust claim, at any time during the proceeding. There is no limit set in the statute on the number of times the asbestos defendant can force a plaintiff to do this. It is clear that this language will result in a New York veteran's claim being repeatedly delayed until the plaintiff's death or incapacity to participate on his or her own behalf.

In addition to delaying (and ultimately denying) access to the courts for our veterans prior to their death, this language also makes those delays unnecessarily burdensome by requiring the plaintiff to provide all parties with all documents and information "relevant or relating to pending or potential claims against asbestos trusts." This requirement appears to place a very onerous and burdensome requirement upon veterans during their last year or two of life to gather and produce documents that are *already available to asbestos defendants under current law* and thus are completely unnecessary. In essence, this language would take the time and effort involved by a defendant's attorney to perform due diligence on behalf of their client, and place this additional time and effort upon the plaintiff and their family during their last years of life.

Finally, as some of you may know, I am a practicing attorney who is intimately familiar with the court system of New York. As such, I wish to state that the Military Order of the Purple Heart-Department of New York

clearly sees the detrimental effects A 5978/S 5504 would have on access to justice for our men and woman who have honorably served our country then suffer from these terrible diseases.

For these reasons, on behalf of the Military Order of the Purple Heart, Department of New York, I respectfully urge you to oppose A 5978/S 5504 and remove it from the Assembly Judiciary Committee's docket.

Thank you,

Mathew B. Tully, Esq.

**Commander
Military Order of the Purple Heart- Department of New York**



Military Order of the Purple Heart of the USA

John D. Dimer

Commander, Department of Missouri

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e-mail: jdimerjd@aol.com



Dear Chairman Lant and the Members of the Committee:

1. We would like to bring to your attention what we believe the unintended consequences of this legislation upon our members and the veterans' community in general. Veterans may only represent 8% of the nation's population, but they comprise an astonishing 30% of all known mesothelioma deaths that have occurred in this country. Exposure to asbestos is the only known cause of mesothelioma. Given the disproportionate impact this legislation will have on the veteran's community, I wish to identify our specific concerns.

This legislation robs veterans of their constitutional rights by giving asbestos corporations the power to delay and deny a claim until a veteran dies. Our veterans who suffer from mesothelioma, if they are lucky enough to determine a specific defendant who may be liable, should not have their cause of action delayed while they do or do not pursue claim against a personal injury trust. This places a great burden upon the veteran to identify all possible defendants before being able to act against one. This also forces veterans to wait indefinitely while their attorney files a claim with little, or no, chance for a meaningful recovery. This legislation may well result in a suit not being adjudicated prior to the veteran's death or incapacity to participate in their own trial.

The injustice this would be to our veterans is magnified by the fact that this legislation is unnecessary. Under current law, injured victims are already required to disclose their complete work histories and exposure information; in fact, victims are required to turn over any and all information a judge deems relevant to court proceeding. Accordingly, asbestos corporations already they have the tools they need to defend themselves.

Missouri House Bill 333 will make it much harder for veterans and their families to hold the asbestos companies accountable. For these reasons, I respectfully urge you not to oppose House Bill 333.

John D. Dimer

MOPH Department of Missouri State Commander



MILITARY ORDER OF THE PURPLE HEART
CHARTERED BY CONGRESS

DEPARTMENT OF IOWA

P.O. Box 572

Killduff, IA 50137

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Website: www.purpleheartiowa.com

21 February 2017

Dear Representative Rizer,

We would like to bring to your attention the unintended consequences H.S.B. 104 will have upon our members and the veterans' community in general. Veterans may only represent 8% of the nation's population, but they comprise an astonishing 30% of all known mesothelioma deaths that have occurred in this country. Exposure to asbestos is the only known cause of mesothelioma. Given the disproportionate impact this legislation will have on the veteran's community, it is important that we address our specific concerns with you, as a fellow veteran.

This legislation robs veterans of their constitutional right to a trial by jury by giving asbestos corporations the power to run out the clock on sick and dying veterans. Our veterans who suffer from mesothelioma, if they are lucky enough to determine a specific defendant who may be liable, should not have their cause of action delayed while they do or do not pursue claim against a personal injury trust. This places a great burden upon the veteran to identify all possible defendants before being able to act against one. This also forces veterans to wait indefinitely while their attorney files a claim with little, or no, chance for a meaningful recovery. This legislation may well result in a suit not being adjudicated prior to the veteran's death or incapacity to participate in their own trial.

The injustice this would be to our veterans is magnified by the fact that this legislation is unnecessary. Under current law, injured victims are already required to disclose their complete work histories and exposure information; in fact, victims are required to turn over any and all information a judge deems relevant to court proceeding. This is more than enough information for an asbestos defendant to implicate asbestos companies that were not included on a complaint at trial. Accordingly, asbestos corporations already they have the tools they need to defend themselves.

Further, this legislation also effectively takes away a veteran's rights to hold an asbestos company accountable for their asbestosis or silicosis diseases. This legislation would require a veteran's treating physician to draft a report stating that the veteran's asbestosis or silicosis disease meets some arbitrary thresholds established by the asbestos defendants before a veteran can bring a claim in court. Veterans, who often receive care from the overworked VA, are put at an even greater disadvantage as their physicians may be unable to perform the tests required to bring a claim on the veteran's behalf at all. If the veteran was forced to abandon their physician, or pay out of pocket for care, just to be able to bring a claim, this would effectively take away their constitutional right to a jury trial against the companies that caused them harm.

H.S.B 104 is unnecessary and will make it much harder for veterans and their families to hold the asbestos companies accountable. For these reasons, I respectfully urge you to oppose H.S.B. 104.

Yours in Patriotism,

Robert E. Suesakul

Commander

Department of Iowa

Military Order of the Purple Heart



MILITARY ORDER OF THE PURPLE HEART
Robert Callahan Commander
Department of Kansas
404 W. Walnut Salina Kansas 67401

Dear Senate Judiciary Committee Chairman Rick Wilborn and members of the Senate Judiciary Committee,

With all due respect to the authors of this legislation, we believe that you may be unaware of the consequences of this legislation upon our members and the veterans' community in general. Veterans may only represent 8% of the nation's population, but they comprise an astonishing 30% of all known mesothelioma deaths that have occurred in this country. Exposure to asbestos is the only known cause of mesothelioma. Given the disproportionate impact this legislation will have on the veteran's community, I wish to identify our specific concerns.

This legislation robs veterans of their constitutional right to a trial by jury by giving asbestos corporations the power to run out the clock on sick and dying veterans. Our veterans who suffer from mesothelioma, if they are lucky enough to determine a specific defendant who may be liable, should not have their cause of action delayed while they do or do not pursue claim against a personal injury trust. This places a great burden upon the veteran to identify all possible defendants before being able to act against one. This also forces veterans to wait indefinitely while their attorney files a claim with little, or no, chance for a meaningful recovery. This legislation may well result in a suit not being adjudicated prior to the veteran's death or incapacity to participate in their own trial.

The injustice this would be to our veterans is magnified by the fact that this legislation is unnecessary. Under current law, injured victims are already required to disclose their complete work histories and exposure information; in fact, victims are required to turn over any and all information a judge deems relevant to court proceeding. Accordingly, asbestos corporations already they have the tools they need to defend themselves.

Kansas Senate Bill 73 will make it much harder for veterans and their families to hold the asbestos companies accountable. For these reasons, the Military Order of the Purple Heart, Department of Kansas, respectfully urge you to not pass SB 73 out of committee.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Robert Callahan", is written over a printed name.

Robert Callahan

Commander

Military Order of the Purple Heart, Department of Kansas



Military Order of the Purple Heart

Department of The Dakotas



February 7, 2017

House Judiciary Committee Rep. Kim Koppelman, Chair,

We would like to bring to your attention what we believe the unintended consequences of North Dakota House Bill 1197 upon our members and the veterans' community in general. Veterans may only represent 8% of the nation's population, but they comprise an astonishing 30% of all known mesothelioma deaths that have occurred in this country. Exposure to asbestos is the only known cause of mesothelioma. Given the disproportionate impact this legislation will have on the veteran's community, I wish to identify our specific concerns.

This legislation robs veterans of their constitutional rights by giving asbestos corporations the power to delay and deny a claim until a veteran dies. Our veterans who suffer from mesothelioma, if they are lucky enough to determine a specific defendant who may be liable, should not have their cause of action delayed while they do or do not pursue claim against a personal injury trust. This places a great burden upon the veteran to identify all possible defendants before being able to act against one. This also forces veterans to wait indefinitely while their attorney files a claim with little, or no, chance for a meaningful recovery. This legislation may well result in a suit not being adjudicated prior to the veteran's death or incapacity to participate in their own trial.

The injustice this would be to our veterans is magnified by the fact that this legislation is unnecessary. Under current law, injured victims are already required to disclose their complete work histories and exposure information; in fact, victims are required to turn over any and all information a judge deems relevant to court proceeding. Accordingly, asbestos corporations already they have the tools they need to defend themselves.

Finally, this legislation also effectively takes away a veteran's rights to hold an asbestos company accountable for an asbestosis or silicosis diseases. This legislation requires a veteran's treating physician to draft a report—for free—stating that the veteran's asbestosis or silicosis disease meet certain arbitrary thresholds established by the asbestos defendants before the veteran can exercise their constitutional rights. Veterans, who often receive care from overworked Veterans Administration physicians, are put at an even greater disadvantage as their physicians may be unable to perform the tests required or fill out the report necessary for the veteran to bring a claim at all. If the veteran was forced to abandon their physician, or pay out of pocket for care, this effectively takes

away their constitutional right to a jury trial against the companies that caused them harm.

North Dakota House Bill 1197 will make it much harder for veterans and their families to hold the asbestos companies accountable. For these reasons, I respectfully urge you to oppose North Dakota House Bill 1197.

Thank you,

Mark Williamson

Commander

Military Order of the Purple Heart-Department of The Dakotas



Military Order of the Purple Heart

Department of The Dakotas



February 7, 2017

Dear Senator Nelson,

We would like to bring to your attention what we believe the unintended consequences of Senate Bill 138 upon our members and the veterans' community in general. Veterans may only represent 8% of the nation's population, but they comprise an astonishing 30% of all known mesothelioma deaths that have occurred in this country. Exposure to asbestos is the only known cause of mesothelioma. Given the disproportionate impact this legislation will have on the veteran's community, I wish to identify our specific concerns.

This legislation allows asbestos defendants to delay and deny compensation to veterans until they die. Those suffering from mesothelioma, on average, have 12 to 18 months to live. Our veterans who suffer from mesothelioma, if they are lucky enough to determine a specific defendant who may be liable, should not have their cause of action delayed while they do or do not pursue claim against a personal injury trust. This legislation places a great burden upon a veteran to identify all possible defendants before being able to act against one. This also forces veterans to wait indefinitely for a trial date while their attorney is forced files claims with little, or no, chance for a meaningful recovery. This legislation may well result in a suit not being adjudicated prior to the veteran's death or incapacity to participate in their own trial.

The injustice this would be to our veterans is magnified by the fact that this legislation is unnecessary. Under current law, injured victims are already required to disclose their complete work histories and exposure information; in fact, victims are required to turn over any and all information a judge deems relevant to court proceeding. Accordingly, asbestos corporations already they have the tools they need to defend themselves in court.

Senate Bill 138 will make it much harder for veterans and their families to hold the asbestos companies to justice. There is absolutely nothing about this bill that would make it easier for veterans to recover for their injuries. For these reasons, we respectfully urge you to oppose Senate Bill 138.

Sincerely,

Mark Williamson

Commander

Military Order of the Purple Heart-Department of The Dakotas



Military Order of the Purple Heart

Department of North Carolina



May 22, 2017

Dear House Judiciary Committee Members,

The Military Order of the Purple Heart-Department of North Carolina, would like to bring to your attention what we believe the unintended consequences of SB 470 upon our members and the veterans' community in general. Veterans may only represent 8% of the nation's population, but they comprise an astonishing 30% of all known mesothelioma deaths that have occurred in this country. Exposure to asbestos is the only known cause of mesothelioma. Given the disproportionate impact this legislation will have on the veteran's community, I wish to identify our specific concerns.

This legislation robs veterans of their constitutional right to a trial by jury by giving asbestos corporations the power to run out the clock on sick and dying veterans. Our veterans who suffer from mesothelioma, if they are lucky enough to determine a specific defendant who may be liable, should not have their cause of action delayed while they do or do not pursue claim against a personal injury trust. This legislation places a great burden upon the veteran to identify all possible defendants before being able to act against one. This also forces veterans to wait indefinitely while their attorney files a claim with little, or no, chance for a meaningful recovery. This legislation may well result in a suit not being adjudicated prior to the veteran's death or incapacity to participate in their own trial.

This injustice to our veterans is magnified by the fact that this legislation is unnecessary. Under current law, injured victims are already required to disclose their complete work histories and exposure information; in fact, victims are required to turn over all information a judge deems relevant to court proceeding. Procedures are in place to ensure each asbestos defendant only pays its share of the harm it has caused. Accordingly, asbestos corporations already they have the tools they need to defend themselves. North Carolina Senate Bill 470 will make it much harder for veterans and their families to hold the asbestos companies accountable. For these reasons, I respectfully urge you to vote NO on SB 470.

Sincerely,

Leonard Lazzara
Commander
Military Order of the Purple Heart-Department of North Carolina



**PENNSYLVANIA
WAR VETERANS COUNCIL, INC.**



**PO Box 2324, Harrisburg, PA 17105-2324
717-730-9100**

November 13, 2013

The Honorable Bryan Cutler
51A East Wing
PO Box 202100
Harrisburg, PA 17120-2100

Dear Representative Cutler,

The Pennsylvania War Veterans Council in a meeting held on October 3, 2013 voted (The PA American Legion abstained) to oppose HB 1150, an act providing for transparency of claims made against asbestos-related bankruptcy trusts for compensation and allocation of responsibility, for the preservation of resources and for the imposition of liabilities.

If you have any questions regarding this matter, please contact me at 717-730-9100.

Sincerely,

Kit D. Watson
Secretary
PA War Veterans Council

Cc: BG (Ret) Jerry Beck, DMVA
Col. Gilbert Durand

February 14, 2017

Honorable Paul Ryan
Speaker of the House
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington DC

Honorable Nancy Pelosi
Minority Leader
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington DC

Honorable Kevin McCarthy
Majority Leader
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington DC

Honorable Steny Hoyer
Minority Whip
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington DC

Honorable Bob Goodlatte
Chairman, House Judiciary Committee
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington DC

Honorable John Conyers
Ranking Member, House Judiciary
Committee
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington DC

**Re: Veterans Service Organization oppose the “Furthering Asbestos Claims
Transparency (FACT) Act”**

Dear Speaker Ryan, Leader McCarthy, Leader Pelosi, Whip Hoyer, Chairman Goodlatte, and
Ranking Member Conyers:

We, the undersigned Veterans Service Organizations oppose the “Furthering Asbestos Claims
Transparency (FACT) Act.” We have continuously expressed our united opposition to this
legislation via written testimony to the House Judiciary Committee, House Leadership, in-person
meetings and phone calls with members of Congress. It is extremely disappointing that even with
our combined opposition, the FACT Act will be marked up in the House Judiciary Committee
later this week.

Veterans across the country disproportionately make up those who are dying and afflicted with
mesothelioma and other asbestos related illnesses and injuries. Although veterans represent only
8% of the nation’s population, they comprise 30% of all known mesothelioma deaths.

When our veterans and their family members file claims with the asbestos bankruptcy trusts to
receive compensation for harm caused by asbestos companies, they submit personal, highly
sensitive information such as how and when they were exposed to the deadly product, sensitive
health information, and more. The FACT Act would require asbestos trusts to publish their
sensitive information on a public database, and include how much money they received for their
claim as well as other private information. Forcing our veterans to publicize their work histories,
medical conditions, majority of their social security numbers, and information about their
children and families is an offensive invasion of privacy to the men and women who have
honorably served, and it does nothing to assure their adequate compensation or to prevent future
asbestos exposures and deaths.

Additionally, the FACT Act helps asbestos companies add significant time and delay paying trust
claims to our veterans and their families by putting burdensome and costly reporting requirements
on trusts, including those that already exist. Trusts will instead spend valuable time and resources
complying with these additional and unnecessary requirements delaying desperately needed
compensation for our veterans and their families to cover medical bills and end of life care.

The FACT Act is a bill that its supporters claim will help asbestos victims, but the reality is that this bill only helps companies and manufacturers who knowingly exposed asbestos to our honorable men and women who have made sacrifices for our country.

We urgently ask on behalf of our members across the nation that you oppose the FACT Act.

Please contact Aleks Morosky, National Legislative Director, Military Order of the Purple Heart at (703) 642-5360 or “aleksmorosky@purpleheart.org” with any questions.

Signed:

Air Force Association

Air Force Sergeants Association

Air Force Women Officers Association

AMVETS

AMSUS, the Society of Federal Health Professionals

Association of the United States Navy

Commissioned Officers Association of the US Public Health Service, Inc.

Fleet Reserve Association

Jewish War Veterans of the USA

Military Officers Association of America

Military Order of the Purple Heart of the U.S.A.

National Defense Council

Naval Enlisted Reserve Association

Non Commissioned Officers Association of the United States of America

The Retired Enlisted Association

USCG Chief Petty Officers Association

US Army Warrant Officers Association

Vietnam Veterans of America



01May 2018

Senator Ron Richard
President Pro Tem
201 W Capitol Ave., Rm. 326
Jefferson City, Missouri 65101
(573) 751-2173
Ronald.Richard@senate.mo.gov

Representative Todd Richardson
Speaker of the Missouri House of Delegates
201 W Capitol Ave., Rm. 308
Jefferson City, Missouri 65101
(573) 751-4039
Todd.Richardson@house.mo.gov

Dear Senator Richard, Speaker Richardson and all members of the Missouri Senate and Assembly,

We would like to bring to your attention what we believe the unintended consequences that House Bill 1645 would have upon our members and the veterans' community in general. Veterans may only represent 8% of the nation's population, but they comprise an astonishing 30% of all known mesothelioma deaths that have occurred in this country. Exposure to asbestos is the only known cause of mesothelioma. Given the disproportionate impact this legislation will have on the veteran's community, I wish to identify our specific concerns.

This legislation robs veterans of their constitutional rights by giving asbestos corporations the power to delay and deny a claim until a veteran dies. Our veterans who suffer from mesothelioma, if they are lucky enough to determine a specific defendant who may be liable, should not have their cause of action delayed while they do or do not pursue claim against a personal injury trust. This places a great burden upon the veteran to identify all possible defendants before being able to act against one. This also forces veterans to wait indefinitely while they file a trust claim with little, or no, chance for a meaningful recovery. This legislation may well result in a suit not being brought, or adjudicated, prior to the veteran's death or incapacity to participate in their own trial.

The injustice this would be to our veterans is magnified by the fact that this legislation is unnecessary. Under current law, injured victims are already required to disclose their complete work histories and exposure information; in fact, victims are required to turn over any and all



information a judge deems relevant to court proceeding. Accordingly, asbestos corporations already they have the tools they need to defend themselves.

Missouri House Bill 1645 will make it much harder for veterans and their families to hold the asbestos companies accountable. For these reasons, I respectfully urge you to oppose House Bill 1645.

Sincerely,

101st Airborne Division Association
Blue Water Navy Vietnam Veterans Association
Gateway Chapter, Paralyzed Veterans of America
Korean War Veterans Association
Military Veterans Advocacy
The United States Submarine Veterans Association