



# CONSUMER ATTORNEYS OF CALIFORNIA

*Seeking Justice for All*

## CAOC urges U.S. Senate to reject legislation rewarding companies that cheat or kill Americans

Consumer Attorneys president cites example in California, where wall of opposition last week killed bill favoring corporations over asbestos victims

**SACRAMENTO (Jan. 12, 2016)** – Consumer Attorneys of California called on the U.S. Senate to reject a bill that would shield the nation’s most unscrupulous corporations from accountability knowingly poisoning military veterans and others with asbestos.

“This dangerous measure is nothing more than an election year gift to companies that have killed and cheated people,” said Elise Sanguinetti, president of Consumer Attorneys of California. “It’s hard to believe Congress could support something that rewards the corporate world’s worst actors at the expense of fundamental rights.”

H.R. 1927, a Republican-backed measure dubbed the “Fairness in Class Action Litigation and Furthering Asbestos Claim Transparency Act,” won approval in the House on a strict partisan vote last week.

“Our hope now is the U.S. Senate will see the inherent deceit of H.R. 1927 and do the right thing,” Sanguinetti said. “We’re just happy that in California our own Legislature has had the wisdom to rebuff this sort of cruel corporate giveaway.”

Last week, she noted, a California Assembly member dropped his legislative push for a similar asbestos measure. AB 597 by Assemblyman Ken Cooley (D-Rancho Cordova) faced a wall of opposition from military veterans, consumer attorneys, the building trades and other groups.

The proposed federal legislation includes a provision that would strip away the privacy rights of terminally ill asbestos victims and create delays that could allow legally culpable corporations to avoid accountability for their role in what health experts call history’s worst mass industrial poisoning.

*Consumer Attorneys of California is a professional organization of plaintiffs’ attorneys representing consumers seeking accountability against wrongdoers in cases involving personal injury, product liability, environmental degradation and other causes.*

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