July 12, 2006

The Honorable Bill Frist Majority Leader U.S. Senate 509 Hart Senate Office Building Washington, DC 20510

Dear Majority Leader Frist:

Time is running out for the many victims of the current broken asbestos compensation system. That's why it is imperative for the Senate to act – and to act now – on replacing the current broken asbestos litigation system with a reasonable no-fault, privately financed national asbestos victims' compensation fund.

Without the relief asbestos reform legislation will provide, hundreds and perhaps thousands of asbestos victims will die without ever seeing a dollar of compensation. Sick veterans who were exposed to dangerous asbestos during their military service will continue to be frustrated in seeking fair compensation through the courts. And small businesses that never manufactured or sold asbestos will continue to be crushed under the weight of asbestos liability, as asbestos lawsuits force the businesses of Main Street into bankruptcy.

Unlike the current court system, the asbestos trust fund will compensate truly ill victims quickly and fairly while at the same time protecting innocent small and medium-sized businesses.

On behalf of the many victims of the current system, we the undersigned urge you to bring S. 3274, the FAIR Act, to the Senate floor as soon as possible and jumpstart the debate on reforming the asbestos liability system. Sick victims, veterans, seniors and small business owners simply cannot wait any longer for Congress to fix the current broken system.

We thank you for your support.

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Shannon Aldana Owner Aldana Plumbing, Nebraska

Karen Kerrigan President and CEO SBE Council

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cc: US Senate