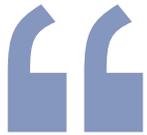


INSTITUTE FOR LEGAL REFORM

What We Believe: A growing economy brings much-needed jobs and wage growth, but it also provides opportunity for entrepreneurial trial lawyers to exploit flaws in America's lawsuit system for their own gain. The U.S. Chamber and its Institute for Legal Reform believe that the key to correcting those flaws and paving the way to a freer, fairer economy lies in repairing our broken class action lawsuit system, eliminating the fraud that permeates asbestos litigation, and curbing the rising trend of over-enforcement—particularly from certain state attorneys general, who are too often engaging in inconsistent, duplicative, and politically motivated enforcement actions.

Priorities for 2018



We must continue our efforts to curtail lawsuit abuse and an overzealous plaintiffs bar, which are major drags on business growth.



- Continue to implement a comprehensive campaign on the issue of over-enforcement, with a focus on raising awareness around over-reaching, duplicative, and costly enforcement actions from state attorneys general (AGs), as well as at the federal level.
- Advocate for reforms to practices by state attorneys general, including procedures limiting the retention of outside contingency fee counsel and ensuring that lawsuits as well as any settlement funds, fines, and penalties are directed toward actual consumer relief, rather than pure shakedowns designed to fund specific AG projects or AG office budgets.
- Curb asbestos litigation abuses by continuing to expose fraud and abuse by the plaintiffs' bar, and work to reform and limit abuses associated with Section 524(g) asbestos bankruptcy trusts.
- Work to pass in the Senate:
 - The Fairness in Class Action Litigation Act (FICALA); and
 - The Furthering Asbestos Claim Transparency (FACT) Act
- Prevent or limit efforts to expand liability under the federal False Claims Act.
- Fight to preserve the availability of arbitration and other alternative dispute resolution mechanisms.
- Strive to enact legal reforms at the state level, particularly in West Virginia, Missouri, Kentucky, and Wisconsin.
- Engage with the EU and member countries to curb the export of U.S.-style class action litigation.



U.S. CHAMBER OF COMMERCE