

Supported by: Mesothelioma Applied Research Foundation, International Association of Heat and Frost Insulators and Allied Workers

Co-Sponsor the Mary Jo Lawyer-Spano Mesothelioma Patient Registry Act of 2015

Current Cosponsors: Jan Schakowsky (IL), Chris Collins (NY), Pete King (NY)

Dear Colleague,

Please join us in the fight against mesothelioma by supporting the “Mary Jo Lawyer-Spano Mesothelioma Patient Registry Act of 2015,” to create the **National Mesothelioma Patient Registry** at the Agency for Toxic Substances and Disease Registry (ATSDR). The National Mesothelioma Patient Registry, a self-enrolled database, will collect health information of mesothelioma patients to help scientists better understand how to treat and ultimately cure mesothelioma.

Each year 3,000 or more Americans develop Mesothelioma, a deadly form of cancer linked to exposure to asbestos. Across the country, millions of Americans are exposed to asbestos, including military personnel and employees of construction and general industry. There is no safe level of exposure to asbestos – even limited exposure over a short period of time can lead to mesothelioma decades later.

Currently, there is no formal federal registry to keep track of mesothelioma patients. The National Mesothelioma Patient Registry is for mesothelioma patients to self-enroll their data with the ultimate goal to find causality, treatment and a cure for mesothelioma patients. The registry provides clinical trial information, mesothelioma clinic information, fact sheets, reports and journal articles.

Specifically, information collected from the registry would be used to:

- **Establish priorities for successful outcomes**
- **Develop and revise standards of care and treatment best practices for patients with mesothelioma**
- **Share evidence-based information between physicians across the country**
- **Implement benchmarks to improve care in mesothelioma clinics**
- **Identify centers that provide the most beneficial care to patients**

I urge you to cosponsor the “Mary Jo Lawyer-Spano Mesothelioma Patient Registry Act of 2015,” to establish the national mesothelioma patient registry. For any

questions, please contact Erin Boyle in my office at erin.boyle@mail.house.gov or (202)225-3701

Sincerely,

John Katko
Member of Congress