

NAII Files Brief to Accelerate Suits for Sickest Asbestos Claimants

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The National Association of Independent Insurers (NAII) has joined several other manufacturer and insurer groups with a petition to the Michigan Supreme Court that would ensure the cases of the most ill asbestos claimants are heard first.

"The petition argues that the mass asbestos litigation situation in the state must be addressed. NAII urges the court to adopt a statewide asbestos docketing system to provide an effective and appropriate solution to the asbestos litigation problems in Michigan," said Robert Hurns, NAII counsel.

Under an inactive docket plan, claimants who present credible medical evidence of impairment or sickness from exposure to asbestos would be moved to the top of the list of cases to be heard. Individuals who cannot meet the medical criteria are placed on an inactive docket with their rights to pursue their claim preserved if they should later develop an asbestos-related disease.