

F A X

2031 Arborwood Place
Escondido, California 92029

To: President Barak Obama

Fax number: 1 202 4562461

From: Sharon Kramer

Fax number: 760-746-7540

Business phone: 760-822-8026

Home phone: 760-746-8026

Date & Time: 8/10/2009 9:42:59 AM

Pages: 17

Re: URGENT ATTENTION NEEDED TO THE MOLD ISSUE

This message has been sent to the following names:

President Barack Obama

Ms. Nancy Anne DeParle

Secretary Kathleen Sebelius

The Honorable Senator Edward Kennedy

The Honorable Senator Barbara Boxer

The Honorable Congressman Henry Waxman

Then Honorable Congressman John Conyers

August 10, 2009

Mrs. Sharon Noonan Kramer
2031 Arborwood Place
Escondido, CA 92029
(760) 746-8026
Fax (760) 746-7540

The Honorable President of the United States,
Barak Obama
Fax (202) 456-2461

Dear President Obama,

This is URGENT. Evil flourishes when good men standby and do nothing. Below is a message from an average citizen of the United States whose family's life has been devastated from the deceit in US public health policy over mold issue.

"The following message has been sent to hundreds of elected officials including President Obama, all U.S. Senators, members of the U.S. House, the Governors of all 50 states, state legislators, state health departments, etc.

My family was exposed to toxic mold in our home in Johnston, Iowa. Toxic mold can happen anywhere. My name is Cheryl Wisecup, but you don't need my name to understand this issue. I am writing to you on behalf of millions of Americans who have been harmed by exposure to toxic mold.

Toxic mold causes serious health problems. We need your help to get laws passed in order to ensure that the American people can get appropriate medical care and the correct information regarding the handling and remediation of toxic mold. We need laws and regulations in regard to people who test and remediate mold in order to stop the fraud and deceit that has been occurring throughout the country.

Toxic mold can happen to anyone. My family's experience is a good example of what has been happening to families throughout the country. We had toxic mold in our home. We lost our home, our health, all of our personal belongings and our financial security. What if your family lost everything---your home, your health, your personal property, your family mementos, your financial security, and your children's sense of safety?

For 50 years, the tobacco industry denied the truth about the health effects of tobacco. How long will the insurance industry and other stakeholders be allowed to deny the truth about the health effects of toxic mold? We need to expose the truth now and educate the public about the proper way to handle mold problems in our homes, schools and businesses. If your family was exposed to toxic mold, wouldn't you want laws in place to protect your loved ones? This is all we are asking. We need your leadership and action on this very important issue.

The following information will give you a good place to start in understanding the issues that need to be addressed. These ten items are a very small sample of the thousands of documents available on this topic. I thought these items would

be most helpful in your efforts to create new laws and regulations about mold-related issues. You might also review the mold legislation that was proposed by Representative John Conyers.

1. The following paper has an insightful discussion of whether mold contamination in homes can be regulated. "Can Mold Contamination of Homes be Regulated--Lessons Learned from Radon and Lead Policies"? The answer is yes.

<http://pubs.acs.org/doi/full/10.1021/es0620585>

2. The State of California issued mold remediation guidelines. This is one of the most up-to-date reports available. It contains references to several important articles about the health effects of toxic mold. The U.S. Navy also has mold remediation guidelines.

<http://www.library.ca.gov/crb/06/01/06-001.pdf>

http://www-nelc.med.navy.mil/downloads/prevmed/katrina/ihfom_ch13-3.pdf

3. The State of Nevada recently passed legislation designating September 2009 as toxic mold awareness month, and the State of Arkansas passed legislation regarding standards and qualifications for mold investigators. You could use this information as a starting point for one part of your legislation, but you would want to get input from experts.

http://www.leg.state.nv.us/75th2009/Bills/ACR/ACR7_EN.pdf

<http://www.arkleg.state.ar.us/assembly/2009/R/Acts/Act1467.pdf>

4. The U.S. Surgeon General just announced the federal government's new Healthy Home Initiative which discusses mold and mold toxins, along with lead paint and radon, and other issues that can affect the indoor environment in homes.

<http://www.surgeongeneral.gov/topics/healthyhomes/calltoactiontopromotehealthyhomes.pdf>

5. The Center for School Mold Help has a lot of valuable information about mold in schools and also has an excellent article discussing how certain stakeholders are trying to hide the truth about the health effects of toxic mold.

<http://www.schoolmoldhelp.org>

<https://www.schoolmoldhelp.org/content/view/full/1639/46/>

6. There are many books available on this subject including these two books:

"Bioaerosols: Assessment and Control" This book was published by the American Conference of Governmental Industrial Hygienists in 1999.

"Molds and Mycotoxins--Papers from an International Symposium" This book was edited by Kaye Kilburn, M.D., and was published by Heldref Publications in 2004.

7. James Craner, M.D., has published several good articles and reports on this topic, including "A Critique of the ACOEM Statement on Mold." Another leading expert is Jack Thrasher, Ph.D., who is a toxicologist.

<http://www.drcraner.com>

<http://www.drcraner.com/images/ACritiqueoftheACOEMStatementonMold.pdf>

<http://www.drthrasher.org>

8. The following links are from military textbooks. The first one is Chapter 34 on Trichothecene Mycotoxins, and the second one is Chapter 4 on Toxins (which includes information about mycotoxins). If the U.S. military can admit that mycotoxins are dangerous, then why are the insurance companies allowed to deny that mycotoxins cause health problems.

http://www.envirochex.com/Downloads/Chapter34_Military_Medicine.pdf

http://www.rand.org/pubs/monograph_reports/MR1018.5/MR1018.5.chap4.html

9. The University of Connecticut published a handbook in 2004 titled "Guidance for Clinicians on the Recognition and Management of Health Effects Related to Mold Exposure and Moisture Indoors."

<http://oehc.uchc.edu/images/PDFs/MOLDGUIDE.pdf>

10. Ritchie Shoemaker, M.D., is one of the leading doctors in the country who are helping people who have been harmed by exposure to toxic mold. This is the link for Dr. Shoemaker's website:

<http://www.biotoxin.info>

Toxic mold is a very serious health threat, and we need to do enact laws to help protect all Americans. I hope this information is helpful as you work to develop laws and regulations about mold-related issues."

In the early 80's we began to construct buildings in the US in a more airtight capacity in an effort to promote energy efficiency. We also began to use more manmade building materials that easily wick water when leaks and floods occur. This has caused our buildings to act as gigantic petri dishes that cause microbial contaminants to grow when moisture is added. As many of these buildings have experienced water damaged in the past 30 years, people have become ill with serious mycotic diseases.

As buildings are owned, built, and insured by a stakeholder; the financial liability for causation of illness has become great. Any health department across the country will tell you that concerns for health from mold growth is the number one issue of which they receive calls. Unfortunately, the health departments do NOTHING to help the sick. The physicians of America do NOTHING to help the sick.

Systematically indoctrinated in the psyche of decision makers of America is a ludicrous concept. This concept is that it has been scientifically proven the poisons of mold do not

poison. Much like we went war based on Iraq having weapons of mass destruction, this has been nothing more than a dirty trick on the American public. In 2002, the American College of Occupational and Environmental Medicine (ACOEM) brought into their organization and old Tobacco scientist, his business partner who had just retired as a high level employee of NIOSH and an immunologist from UCLA, who had a long history of generating income by expert witnessing for the defense in mold litigation.

The three men authored a paper for ACOEM titled, “Adverse Human Health Effects Associated with Molds in the Indoor Environment”. Originally deemed an evidence based statement, they have removed this claim from their website.

“<http://www.acoem.org/guidelines.aspx?id=850>

Base SOLELY on the following calculations, it was claimed to have been scientifically proven that people could not possibly be made ill from *inhaled mycotoxins* found in water damaged buildings.

In single-dose *in vivo* studies, *S. chartarum* spores have been administered intranasally to mice³¹ or intratracheally to rats.^{76,77} High doses (30×10^6 spores/kg and higher) produced pulmonary inflammation and hemorrhage in both species. A range of doses were administered in the rat studies and multiple, sensitive indices of effect were monitored, demonstrating a graded dose response with 3×10^6 spores/kg being a clear no-effect dose. Airborne *S. chartarum* spore concentrations that would deliver a comparable dose of spores can be estimated by assuming that all inhaled spores are retained and using standard default values for human subpopulations of particular interest⁷⁸ – very small infants,[†] school-age children,^{††} and adults.^{†††} The no-effect dose in rats (3×10^6 spores/kg) corresponds to continuous 24-hour exposure to 2.1×10^6 spores/m³ for infants, 6.6×10^6 spores/m³ for a school-age child, or 15.3×10^6 spores/m³ for an adult.

The conclusion reached from these calculations has NEVER been duplicated. The authors used intentionally limited data and many assumptions to profess to have proven lack of causation of poisoning from contaminants found in water damaged buildings. To form the conclusion they did, **is not science now, nor was it ever.**

“Despite its well-known ability to produce mycotoxins under appropriate growth conditions, years of intensive study have failed to establish exposure to *S. chartarum* in home, school, or office environments as a cause of adverse human health effects. Levels of exposure in the indoor environment, dose-response data in animals, and dose-rate considerations suggest that delivery by the inhalation route of a toxic dose of mycotoxins in the indoor environment is highly unlikely at best, even for the hypothetically most vulnerable subpopulations.”

Regardless of the lack of scientific foundation, the United States Chamber of Commerce Institute for Legal Reform and the Manhattan Institute think-tank hired two of the authors in 2003, who spun the matter further into the conclusion of,

“Thus, the notion that “toxic mold” is an insidious, secret “killer,” as so many media reports and trial lawyers would claim, is “junk science” unsupported by actual scientific study.

http://www.uschamber.com/NR/rdonlyres/eguxe34k6h5cggjbgodwb635xa6rpfhnx7ijzam in2bru7ycedrbvinwsazpsj2npsaalwbgljk4etpe3hibprqueqh/ilr_mold.pdf

The Chamber paper cites false authorship.

<http://www.moldwarriors.com/SK/AuthorshipUSChamber.pdf> It was simply written by two principals of a corporation that generates their income by providing expert witnessing services for the defense in toxic torts. Bruce Kelman, RJR expert witness and Bryan Hardin – Assistant Deputy Director of NIOSH, Retired.

Bruce Kelman: <http://legacy.library.ucsf.edu/tid/ati84d00/pdf>

Bryan Hardin:

http://www.defendingscience.org/public_health_regulations/upload/SKAP_P_EPA_SAB_Letter_May_22_2007.pdf

President Obama, this is an urgent matter. The injured workers of Downey, Ca, are going to be speaking out publicly on Wednesday, August 12, of the matter. They have been injured by chemical exposures and also the microbial contaminants that were spread in the soil to clean up the toxic chemicals. There is a film studio on the site and also a Kaiser hospital. They are a smart bunch who have been treated very shabbily for being unfortunate enough to acquire serious illnesses from the location. Many have been intimidated into silence. But the brave remain. <http://downey.kaiserpapers.info/>

What they are going to be speaking of, is not just their illnesses, but of all the politicians – mainly Democrats – who know what occurred on that site, who know of the deceit of ACOEM and the US Chamber, yet have not lifted one finger to help them for their toxic illnesses. They have my documents of my research into the conflicts of interest of the matter. I am in support of them exposing what has occurred. The situation, as it stands today, is not the change we were promised. Physicians, scientists, researchers and the general public still live in fear of retribution for speaking out of mass deceptions in US policies over the mold issue. This is unacceptable in the United States of America.

August 9, 2009 <http://www.pjstar.com/news/x1678044326/Bibo-Mold-in-VA-clinic-shuts-facility-for-repairs>

“A lot of employees are getting sick,” the caller said. “They’re scared to talk.”

All it would take to shut down the deceit that it has been scientifically proven the poisons of mold do not poison, would have been a mere three hour Congressional or Senate hearing. We have been begging for this for over three years to no avail. This is a

short video of the names of many organizations from across the country requesting this, as laughed at by Dr. Kelman: <http://blip.tv/file/1179464>

The following are names of those within the Democratic party that I, personally, can document have been told in detail of the deceit that has harmed the lives of so many, yet the deceit continues:

The Honorable Senator Edward Kennedy
The Honorable Congressman Henry Waxman
The Honorable Senator Barbara Boxer
The Honorable Congressman John Conyers
Dr. Linda Birnbaum, Director of NIEHS
(<http://www.ipetitions.com/petition/TheLemonCaper/index.html>)
Jordan Barab, Acting Director of OSHA
Ms. Kathleen Sebelius, Secretary of the Department of Health and Human Services
Ms. Nancy-Anne DeParle, White House Director of Health Reform
Secretary Hillary Clinton
Dr. Michael Hodgson, Veterans Administration (Dr. Hodgson has tried to help)
Dr. Howard Frumkin, Director of the Agency for Toxic Substance Disease Registry, Emory University (like Dr. Hardin)
Mr. Phillip Jalbert, Director of the Federal Interagency Committee on Indoor Air Quality. <http://www.epa.gov/iaq/ciaq/meetingschedule.html>
The Federal Government Accountability Office (a detailed report was delivered to them titled "CDC The Outsourcing of Environmental Medicine" August 7, 2007)

Please, President Obama, do something. This was originally a Republican deceit perpetrated by the likes of Congressman Gary Miller and his "Congressional Mold Working Group" in the Bush era. However, with the lack of response by the Democratic party to stop the deceit, it has now become a Democrat problem. While it is perfectly acceptable to say we do not know everything of these illnesses, it is a mass fraud on the American public to allow it to remain health policy that these illnesses have been scientifically proven not to be. Yet, that is exactly what is still health policy in the physician offices of America.

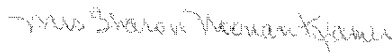
We all want healthcare reform. We all want the insurance industry to stop controlling our lives and our economy. But it appears that the Democrats have not been able to see the trees through the forest while lives of many have been unnecessarily destroyed – not by mold – but by lack of action on the part of our elected officials. We are at a crisis point. Thousands of US citizens have been and continue to be harmed. The Federal agencies are focusing their research of allergy, asthma and cleaning up the buildings. People are being ruined by the more toxic components of the matter and NO ONE is doing ANYTHING to help them. ALL seem to want to turn a blind eye to the deceit in US public health policy perpetrated by ACOEM and the US Chamber, that has caused this situation.

This is not politics. It is thousands of people's lives. Shamefully, all it would take to stop this deceit is a mere 3 hours of hearing by our elected officials - involving those that are the biggest advisaries of health care reform. These hearings by our leaders and proponents of healthcare reform on behalf of US citizens, have not come.

My apologies for being so direct. However, the situation is not acceptable. This is not the change we were promised.

Thank you for your prompt attention to this dire situation.

Respectfully yours,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Mrs. Sharon Noonan Kramer".

Mrs. Sharon Noonan Kramer



THE SECRETARY OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20201

JUN 23 2009

Ms. Sharon Kramer
2031 Arborwood Place
Escondido, CA 92029

Dear Ms. Kramer:

Thank you for your letter outlining your ideas for reforming our health care system. I share the President's conviction that "health care reform cannot wait, it must not wait, and it will not wait another year." Inaction is not an option. The status quo is unacceptable, and unsustainable.

Your ideas and recommendations for addressing these challenges are most welcome and indicate the thought you have given this issue. Health reform is one of the President's most important priorities, and we appreciate and welcome these ideas. Our goal is to provide affordable, accessible health care for all Americans, reduce costs, and improve quality.

If you would like more information on the Administration's approach to health care reform, please visit the White House website at <http://healthreform.gov/>.

Again, thank you for your letter. I appreciate hearing from you and welcome your ideas.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, reading "Kathleen Sebelius".

Kathleen Sebelius

Subj: **Re: Hi Ben, Is the mold audit coming out soon? WR, Sharon**
 Date: 9/3/2008 6:27:40 A.M. Pacific Daylight Time
 From: SNK 1955
 To: SlossN@gao.gov

In a message dated 9/3/2008 6:17:00 A.M. Pacific Daylight Time, SlossN@gao.gov writes:

Hi Sharon,

I work with Ben on the mold audit. Currently, we expect to issue the report in the September/October time frame. I am sorry that I cannot provide a specific date but rest assured that we will send you an electronic copy immediately upon its release to the public.

--Nico

Thanks, Nico...and nice to meet you. I am sooooo hoping you all nail the deceit that needs to be stopped so the science and appropriate governmental and public policy may move forward.

Below is the podcast that aired on National Public Radio on Monday. They are discussing the ACOEM mold statement that was used against the sick Fort Sill family to defeat their claims of illness from mold. The show even mentions the expert the DOJ hired in the case, Bruce Kelman. They call it a "phoney" paper.

Podcast of the Leonard Lopate Show with guests Dr. Johanning and Ms. Rossol.

<http://www.wnyc.org/shows/lopate/episodes/2008/09/01>

Again, the video of Kelman discussing the Ft. Sill case.

[Part 5 of 8 What a difference a day makes!](#)

In detail: What stakeholders of moldy buildings, including the Department of Justice, want kept quiet is that Dr. Kelman, who is an old tobacco scientist, simply applied math to a single inhalation study of rodents to conclude (spin) that it is implausible people could ever be exposed to enough mold toxins in a water damaged building to cause human illness. This conclusion has NEVER been duplicated. It belongs in the Journal of Irreproducible Results. He knows better than to form this conclusion based on such limited info as he used to oversee rodent inhalation studies for Big Tobacco. See 1987 letter from RJ Reynolds, Chief of Toxicology to Dr. Kelman.
<http://legacy.library.ucsf.edu/tid/ati84d00/pdf>

In 2002, the American College of Occupational and Environmental Medicine, (ACOEM) which is a medical association with a long and dubious history of being in service to industry (read "Doubt is their product, how industry's assault on science threatens your health" by Dr. David Michaels) legitimized Kelman's little feat of scientific magic by making it a position statement of their org. Position statements carry much weight in the eyes of the court because they are portrayed to be the scientific opinion of thousands of physicians.

They specifically brought Kelman, his business partner Hardin and another old expert defense witness, Saxon, into their org to write this position paper. [A paper I co-authored about ACOEM for the International Journal of Occupational and Environmental Health: "ACOEM A professional association in service to industry"http://www.moldwarriors.com/SK/IJOEH_Oct07_LaDou.pdf . One of my co-authors for the above paper is Dr. Huff, assistant director of chemical carcinogen, National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences.]

From there, the conservative think tank, the Manhattan Institute (that also has a history in Big Tobacco) spun the "not plausible" stance based on never duplicated science of Kelman and Hardin, to mean all claims of mold induced illness were just a result of "trial lawyers, media hype and Junk science."

The US Chamber and a Congressman with strong ties to the building industry - who is currently under FBI Investigation (Gary Miller)- promoted it, used it to lobby and to "educate" judges. *Voila! Instant current accepted science...with no scientific foundation.*

This is why your sick soldiers at Walter Reed and such, and many average US citizens are not able to be heard or receive proper diagnoses, when claiming they are being made ill from the mold. And that is the bottleneck that controls the issue.

Sharon

It's only a deal if it's where *you* want to go. Find your travel deal [here](#).

Subj: **IS CONGRESSMAN CONYERS INTENDING TO ACT ON THE MOLD ISSUE?**
Date: 5/21/2008 8:17:29 A.M. Pacific Daylight Time
From: SNK 1955
To: rinia.shelby@mail.house.gov, cynthia.martin@mail.house.gov, joel.segal@mail.house.gov

Dear Renia, Cynthia and Joel,

Below is a link to Congressman Conyers' website. One of the issues of which his website indicates he champions, is the mold issue. As you are aware, with the assistant of Mustafa Ali while employed in the Congressman's office, we drafted a new, noncontroversial, small bill that will help to move this issue in the right direction. I was under the impression that this was done with the direction of the Congressman and his staff. Was I incorrect in my understanding?

As you are aware, there is much occurring over this issue. A Federal GAO audit over the issue is due out in August. Congressman Waxman's office is beginning to look into the conflicts of interest in medicine that have caused much confusion and contention over this issue.

For over two months, leading national mold advocate Mary Mulvey Jacobson and myself have been requesting a 5 minute conference call with Congressman Conyers to discuss the current state of the issue. Not only has this call not been scheduled to date, no questions have been asked of us regarding this bill. This causes me to believe no one is actually reading or acting on the information. Am I wrong with this perception?

Needless to say, I am becoming extremely frustrated and concerned. One of my primary concerns is that the findings of the GAO audit will be significant and Congressman Conyers will be caught completely off guard and unaware of the advancements over the issue when the audit breaks.

We need some direction from your office. If the Congressman is no longer interested in advancing this issue that is devastating the lives of so many American citizens, can you please let us know? Currently, by receiving no direction as to the intended path from this office, it is causing a detriment to the issue. We are unable to move forward in any other direction with any other Congressional office introducing a new bill as it would be perceived that it is us who have decided not to work with this office. Nothing could be further from truth. We have the utmost respect for Congressman Conyers and would love to see him introduce the new bill that was drafted, at the direction of his staff.

PLEASE, let us know the Congressman's intent. Thousands of lives are being negatively impacted by the delay that is currently occurring because of lack of

communication and direction. We are concerned that the Congressman will be caught off guard over an issue he has championed because of lack of communication.

We are sincerely appreciative of the Congressman's past efforts over this issue. But we need to know his intent for the future. Without knowing this, the matter is stymied from moving forward. I am certain that would never be the Congressman's wishes or intent.

On what date and at what time may we have a five minute conference call with Congressman Conyers?

Thank you,
Sharon Kramer
760-746-8026

Congressman John Conyers, Jr. Representing Michigan's 14th District

Toxic Mold

The growth of "toxic mold" is becoming a problem of monumental proportions. This critical health care issue has recently been highlighted in the news in the cases of black mold infestation at Walter Reed Hospital and its effects on soldiers who may have impaired immune systems. Hurricane Katrina, one of our countries major catastrophes is now exacerbated by the devastating long term residual effects that toxic black mold is having on the residents effected by the storm. Exposure to mold growth in residential, public and commercial buildings is believed to cause serious medical conditions which include bleeding lungs, digestive problems, hair loss, nausea, loss of memory, severe asthma attacks, reduced cognitive skills, and in extreme cases death. Property damage from mold growth has destroyed millions of dollars in real estate and forced homeowners to the curb. We cannot eliminate mold. However, there are steps that can be taken to minimize the dangers of indoor mold growth.

Wondering what's for Dinner Tonight? [Get new twists on family favorites at AOL Food.](#)

Subj: **RE: Merry Christmas, Robin**
Date: 1/10/2008 10:36:03 A.M. Pacific Standard Time
From: Robin.Appleberry@mail.house.gov
To: SNK1955@aol.com

Sharon,

This is very impressive!

Take care,
Robin

Robin Appleberry
Committee on Oversight and Government Reform
226-5863

From: SNK1955@aol.com [mailto:SNK1955@aol.com]
Sent: Monday, December 24, 2007 1:08 PM
To: Appleberry, Robin
Subject: Merry Christmas, Robin

T'was the day before Christmas when all on chatboards,
agreed that true science was simply ignored.
The juries were hung up on garbage they heard
They were hoping for clarity, just even one word.

The insurers were nestled all snug in their chairs
While paid defensors peddled their wares.
And Ma with one lung and I with memory gap
Had just settled in to hear expert witness crap.

When out in DC there arose such a clatter,
Finally! Someone was listening to see what was the matter.
Away to the GAO info flew in a flash,
Tore open the deceit, got rid of the trash.

The truth on the breast of the now fallen lies
Gave a luster of mid-day to industry ties.
When what to my wondering eyes should appear,
But a Federal hearing, Justice was near!

With a little rat study and math misapplied,
It soon became obvious many had lied.
More rapid than eagles their denials came,
And they back peddled, shouted and called people names.

Now ACOEM! now AAAAI! now ACMT and ACPM!
On Chamber! on AOEC! on NIOSH and NORA!
The word from committees in Congressional halls
Said dash away! Dash away! Dash away all!

As dry heaves before wild lies fly,

When they meet with an obstacle, mount to deny.
So up to the House their attorneys flew,
With a bag full of tricks and some lobbyists, too.

And then in a twinkling, I heard on the Floor
The hemming and hawing of each little whore.
As I drew in my breath and was turning around,
Down the Oversight Committee came with a bound.

They were armed with the truth, and the injured afoot.
They were bound and determined to cut thru the soot.
A bundle of documents they had flung on their backs,
They could care less who contributed to what PACs.

Their eyes—how they focused, their questions quite hairy
For all paid defenders it was really quite scary
Their droll little mouths were drawn up to say “no”
But their beards were outdone by knowledgeable foe

The clinching of jaws and the grinding of teeth,
And their smoke screen unveiled to show what lied beneath
They had broad influences and rounds of pork belly
That stunk as they lied like something quite smelly

They were chubby and plump, a self righteous group
And I cried for the families who all had been duped
And then in an instant I heard the words said,
That soon gave me to know I had nothing to dread.

Congress heard many truths and went right to their works
The motions were filed turning tables on jerks
And laying their thumbs aside of their noses
The sick families’ truths told smelled just like some roses

They sang to physicians, and were heard like a whistle
And away the lies flew like the down of a thistle.

And I heard them exclaim as their truths came to light,
Happy Christmas to all, we’ve put up a Great Fight!!!

“October 20, 2006

The Honorable David M. Walker
Comptroller General
United States Government Accountability Office..
Washington, DC 20548

Dear Mr. Walker,

I am writing to request a study of the U.S. government’s efforts to minimize and mitigate illnesses

associated with human exposure to molds in housing and other indoor environments....

Please consider in your study:...

What medical and scientific standards are used in determining the admissibility of evidence of both acute and persistent health consequences resulting from exposure to mold? Which individuals and organizations have promulgated these standards and what, if any, conflicts of interest exist regarding these standards?

With great respect and appreciation,

Sincerely,
Edward M. Kennedy"

"September 27, 2007

The Hon. Henry A. Waxman
Chair, Committee on Oversight and Government Reform
U.S. House of Representatives
2157 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chairman Waxman:

We are writing to call your attention to the widespread and ongoing promulgation of medical misinformation regarding the seriousness of mold induced illnesses. The misinformation is being promoted by private, yet federally funded medical associations and the government agencies with whom they partner. The Department of Health and Human Services, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, NIOSH, ASTDR and OSHA have outsourced the study of mold induced illnesses to those private medical associations with close ties to insurance and other stakeholder industries. As a result the interests of industry have taken precedence over the lives and safety of the American public....

...We therefore request that as Chair of the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, you conduct an investigation into the genesis, usage, proliferation and ramifications of the ACOEM mold statement.

Thank you for your leadership in assuring that the scientific integrity of our nation's health and environmental agencies remains uncompromised, and thank you for your attention to this important matter...

Sincerely,

Ms. Mary Mulvey Jacobson
Mrs. Sharon Noonan Kramer"

From the Dec edition of Indoor Environment Connections newspaper - trade newspaper with a readership of 55,000 in the Indoor Air Quality industry:

Carl Grimes, President, Healthy Habitats LLC, Denver, Colo.

WORST ..The top of my Worst list is ACOEM [American College of Occupational and Environmental Health]. They continue their defense, despite increasing protest, of their questionable Oct. 27, 2002, "Adverse Human Health Effects Associated with Molds in the Indoor Environment."

...Although I consider these issues quite important, they are "small potatoes" compared to the medical harm being reported from the misuse of the ACOEM paper.

BEST – The Best of 2007 includes those who took the risk, often at great cost, of breaking their silence. Those who deliberately and publicly spoke out against what they saw as wrong.

At the top is Sharon Kramer, private citizen, who is definitely not afraid to speak out. She was the subject of an interview in this paper last November, revealing her discoveries about the shenanigans of ACOEM's mold position statement. She was the inspiration behind the Wall Street Journal front page story two months later. Ms. Kramer has been forced to defend herself in a related libel suit, despite the anti-SLAPP legislation in California. Yet she persists in increasingly powerful ways. She is one of the authors of the explosive expose published in the November 7 issue of the International Journal of Occupational Environmental Health, titled American College of Occupational and Environmental Medicine (ACOEM): A Professional Association in Service to Industry. A free download is available at: http://www.ijoe.com/pdfs/IJOEH_1304_LaDou02.pdf...

Merry Christmas,
Sharon

See AOL's [top rated recipes](#) and [easy ways to stay in shape](#) for winter.