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Dear Leaders of Environmental Non-Profits & Employees of the UC,

In 2003, the US Chamber of Commerce issued a medico-legal publication regarding the scientific understanding of mold induced illnesses. Their publication is titled "A Scientific View of the Health Effects of Mold." It professes that it is scientifically established that all claims of illness from the toxic components of mold are only being made because of "trial lawyers, media, and Junk Science".

The "Scientific View" of the US Chamber carries the imprimatur of the University of California by making the claim right on the publication that it is co-authored by a UCLA physician. However, the UCLA physician, Dr. Andrew Saxon (now emeritus) states under oath that he had no knowledge of being named as authoring this paper for the US Chamber in 2003; and that he had not even read this widely distributed medico-legal paper as late as three years after its publication.

Dr. Saxon is a co-author of the American College of Occupational and Environmental Medicine ("ACOEM") Adverse Human Health Effects Associated with Mold in the Indoor Environment". (2002). He is also an author of the American Academy of Allergy, Asthma and Immunology ("AAAAI") "Position Paper, The Health Effects of Mold" (2006)

The other listed authors of the US Chamber's "Scientific View", Bruce Kelman and Bryan Hardin, are also authors of the ACOEM mold statement along with Dr. Saxon. None of them acknowledge authoring this substantive medico-legal paper on behalf of the US Chamber of Commerce on their curriculum vitae.

Bruce Kelman has stated under oath that the Chamber paper is based on the same science as ACOEM's. Bryan Hardin refers to the Chamber paper as a "derivative" of ACOEM's. Andrew Saxon refers to the Chamber paper as a "translation" of ACOEM's. With regard to illnesses caused by the toxic components of mold, the AAAAI mold medico-legal paper of 2006 makes the statement, "thus we agree with American College of Occupational and Environmental Medicine" -, which the authors themselves deem is the same science as the US Chamber of Commerce's.

Several influential members of the Association of Occupational and Environmental Clinics ("AOEC") and the Pediatric Environmental Health Specialty Units ("PEHSU") are cross over members with ACOEM and AAAAI. Within some AOEC/PEHSU Clinics, the science of ACOEM and AAAAI are taught with regard to illnesses caused by the toxic components of microbes found in water damaged buildings; and thus, the science of the US Chamber of Commerce is being taught in some AOEC/PEHSU clinics.

This means federal funds that you lobby for and direct to advance the understanding of environmental illnesses – are being misapplied to teach the science of the US Chamber to the detriment of the injured workers and sick children who you seek to help. This situation is to the benefit of the insurance (property casualty & workers comp), building and real estate industries to be able to deny financial responsibility for these illnesses. This situation is causing children experiencing symptoms that are indicative of chronic inflammation from toxicity brought on by exposure in moldy schools, etc, to be deemed as liars by school districts and insurers. This is leaving these poor children with nowhere to turn for medical help.

Many of you have spent your lives working to advance the understanding of environmental illnesses in our children. Others of you have spent your lives working to keep integrity in science and in litigation. When you lobby for funding for the PEHSU, is it your intent to assist to federally fund the science of the US Chamber to be used against the mold sick and injured children? I do not believe that is the case. As such, please take efforts to correct this dire situation so you are not inadvertently aiding and abetting the US Chamber of Commerce to be able to unduly influence what is evidence of an environmental illness brought on by exposure to microbial contaminants in water damaged buildings.

The "science" of mold as marketed to the courts and into teaching hospitals in the words of the US Chamber of Commerce Institute for Legal Reform and the Manhattan Institute Center for Legal Policy; listed authors of VeriTox owners, Bryan Hardin, Bruce Kelman, and Coreen Robbins; along with non-VeriTox owner, Andrew Saxon, University of California Los Angeles:

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. “A Scientific View of the Health Effects of Mold” by the US Chamber of Commerce Institute for Legal Reform (ILR) & the Manhattan Institute Center for Legal Policy (CLP) (2003)

It is a violation of the California Constitution under Article IX, Section 9 (f) for the University of California imprimatur to be on such a paper penned on behalf of the US Chamber of Commerce that makes such an outrageous medico-legal claim, detrimental to the citizens of California and to all US citizens who find themselves ill from exposure to water damaged building. Article IX, Section 9(f) of the California Constitution states that the UC shall be:

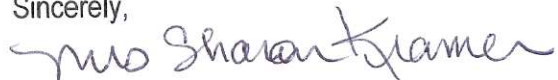
“entirely independent of all political and sectarian influence”

Please take measures to encourage the Regents of the University of California to demand that their (and thus vicariously your) imprimatur be removed from the US Chamber medico-legal paper, “A Scientific View of the Health Effects of Mold”; and that the false scientific concept it promotes along with its sister papers for ACOEM and AAAAI no longer be permitted to be taught at AOEC/PEHSU locations. Otherwise, when you lobby for funding for the AOEC/PEHSU that is meant to benefit injured works and children; what you are inadvertently doing is asking our federal government to fund the science of the US Chamber of Commerce to the detriment of the injured workers and children.

Attached is a notarized letter sent to Dr. Andrew Saxon regarding the matter in more detail. It will be live on the web as of April 28, 2010. At that point, one will be able to view the reference documents for the Saxon letter and this letter I am sending to you, the leaders of advancing understanding of environmental illnesses in our children and keeper of integrity in science and in litigation.

Thank you for your assistance with this very serious matter.

Sincerely,



Mrs. Sharon Kramer

Enclosure (1)