



U.S. CHAMBER

Institute for Legal Reform

# Restoring Balance

# Ensuring Justice

# What we do

Lawsuit abuse is rampant. Unfettered litigation inhibits the creation of new products and companies, kills jobs, and drags down our entire economy.

While the U.S. has the greatest legal system in the world, in some cases the courts have been hijacked by players who abuse the system.

The U.S. Chamber Institute for Legal Reform (ILR) is the country's most influential and successful advocate for civil justice reform, both in the U.S. and abroad.

ILR shines a light on what is wrong in the legal system. We conduct cutting-edge research and advance pragmatic solutions. We then tirelessly advocate for those solutions with Congress, state legislatures, federal regulators, international policymakers, and the courts to effect meaningful change.

ILR is a 501(c)(6) tax-exempt, separately incorporated affiliate of the U.S. Chamber of Commerce.

## Cutting-Edge Research Papers

Integral to our mission is conducting groundbreaking research on pressing legal issues that provides substantive support for advocacy efforts at the state, federal, and international levels. Recent efforts have focused on Class Actions, Data Privacy, the Foreign Corrupt Practices Act (FCPA), Litigation Financing, the False Claims Act, State Attorneys General, Asbestos Litigation, and emerging litigation trends.

**ILR's innovative advocacy and economic research features:**



## Legal and Legislative Reforms

We actively pursue our reform agenda in the courts, in various regulatory agencies, and in legislatures at the federal and state levels. Our efforts and interactions serve to raise awareness of important abuses in these key forums and to propose concrete plans of action to remedy them.

# What people are saying...

“ We have to reform our legal system. We let anybody in America sue anybody, any day, and we are all paying for it in everything that we buy. The Institute for Legal Reform (ILR) is fighting to improve our legal system by advocating for common sense legal reforms both in the U.S. and abroad. ”

– **JOHN A. BOEHNER**, Former Speaker of the United States House of Representatives

“ [I]n 2003, Mississippi was the worst state in the country for lawsuit abuse. I said I would do something about it. Well, we did, but we could have never done it without the Chamber's Institute for Legal Reform. ”

– **HALEY BARBOUR**,  
Former Mississippi Governor

“ ILR should be commended for their efforts to press forward on the need for clarity and guidance pertaining to the enforcement of the Foreign Corrupt Practices Act (FCPA) to help the business community navigate these dangerous waters. ”

– **JUDGE MICHAEL B. MUKASEY**,  
Former Attorney General of the United States

“ ILR has become the preeminent advocate for needed legal reforms in statehouses across the country, in our nation's capital, and more recently, even in international forums. Never before has ILR's role been more important or the need to support its work more vital to businesses of all shapes and sizes. ”

– **ED RUST, JR.**, Chairman and CEO, State Farm

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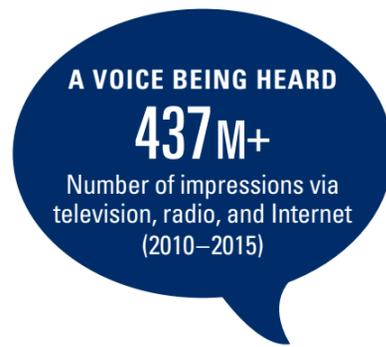
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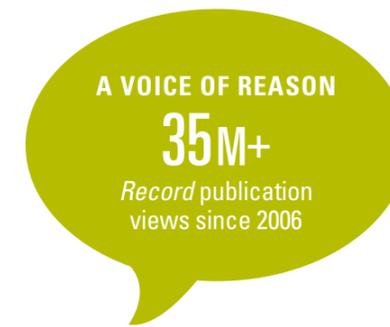


## Media Awareness

We influence the legal reform debate through a comprehensive communications strategy that reaches the media at several touch points. This includes robust and aggressive outreach to key reporters, editorial writers, and bloggers. Additionally, through unique storytelling devices, such as our award winning Faces of Lawsuit Abuse campaign, social media, and other visual media, we share with the public real-life stories of lawsuit abuse, as told by the victims themselves. These stories are bolstered by ILR's substantive, fact-based program of research, symposia, and the annual Legal Reform Summit. Our multifaceted and assertive strategy has made us the preeminent voice on legal reform in the media.

## Newspapers

Our communications efforts go beyond traditional earned and paid media. We also use alternative media outlets to elevate awareness on civil justice developments in key jurisdictions. Our nine publications include three weekly newspapers—the *Madison/St. Clair Record* (Illinois), the *West Virginia Record*, and the *Southeast Texas Record*—as well as six online news outlets—LegalNewslines.com, the *Louisiana Record*, the *Pennsylvania Record*, the *Cook County Record* (Illinois), the *Florida Record*, and the *Northern California Record*.



## Online Engagement

In our constant effort to build awareness at the grassroots level, we augment our traditional media coverage with an extensive—and growing—presence in the latest social and electronic media. Our messages are disseminated on three websites and several blogs, through Twitter, Facebook, and YouTube, as well as on mobile apps.

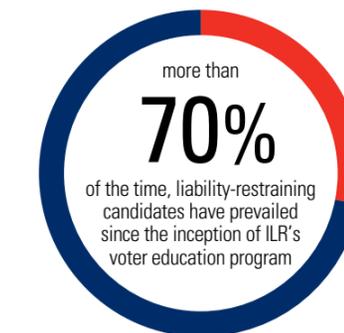
## State Attorneys General Program

As the enforcement of business-related laws and regulations come increasingly under the purview of state AGs, we engage with them regularly on both strategic and policy issues. Our efforts led to the passage of AG “sunshine” legislation in a number of states, to exposure of “pay-to-play” abuses in the awarding of plaintiffs’ contracts, and to the development of recommended AG practices in enforcement under state and federal law.



## Public and Voter Education

Our voter education program has played a prominent role in highlighting the liability stance of candidates in many key state races—largely those for state attorneys general and state supreme court justices. In addition, we advocate for judicial selection best practices in a number of jurisdictions traditionally dominated by the plaintiffs’ bar.



State

Federal

Global

## Curbing the Global Spread of U.S.-Style Litigation

Globalization is transforming the legal environment. Increasingly, other countries have adopted—or are considering adopting—practices that could bring U.S.-style litigation abuses to foreign shores. These include class action litigation and third party litigation funding.

At the same time, claimants outside the U.S. are trying to use U.S. courts to adjudicate and enforce claims involving conduct occurring outside the U.S.

ILR is actively working to curb these trends—the “export” of U.S. practices abroad and the “import” of foreign cases into U.S. courts—to prevent the global spread of lawsuit abuse.



**AMERICAS**  
Brazil  
Canada  
Mexico  
U.S.

**EUROPE**  
European Union  
France  
Germany  
Italy

**ASIA/PACIFIC**  
Australia  
China  
Japan  
Korea

Netherlands  
Poland  
United Kingdom

Alien Tort Statute  
Alternative Dispute Resolution/Arbitration  
Asbestos  
Class Actions  
Class Actions Around the Globe  
Court Underfunding  
Data Privacy  
Discovery  
False Claims Act  
Foreign Corrupt Practices Act  
Foreign Judgment Enforcement  
Judicial Selection  
Lawsuit Abuse Impact  
Lawsuit Lending  
Medical Liability  
Over-Enforcement  
Preemption/ Federalism  
Securities Litigation Reform  
State Attorneys General  
State Legal Reforms  
Telephone Consumer Protection Act  
Third Party Litigation Funding  
Unclaimed Property

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