

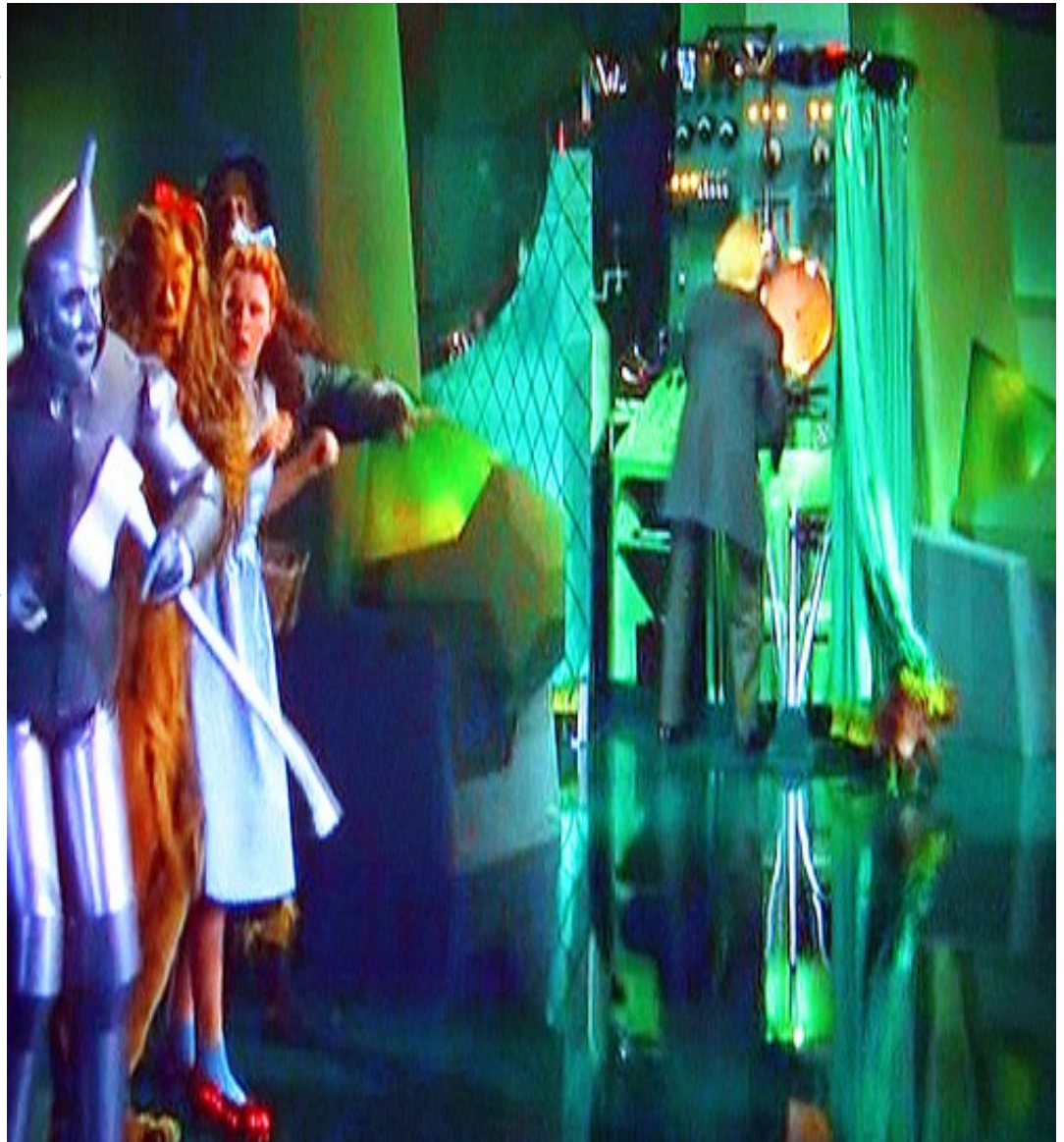
U.S. Chamber "Lawsuit Abuse" Campaign Bankrolled By Negligent Corporations

Washington, DC—U.S. Chamber today spoke of "faceless corporations" that have apparently been victimized by so-called "abusive suits." In reality, they are not so faceless: U.S. Chamber's own financial disclosures reveal that its Institute for Legal Reform is funded by corporations notorious for their negligence and misconduct.

Examples of major corporations that sit on the front group's board include Wal-Mart, Citigroup, AIG, Bank of America, and a slew of insurance and drug companies. ILR's board of directors includes corporations that earned a combined \$1.4 trillion in 2007.

"When you are bankrolled by giant multi-billion dollar corporations, it's laughable to claim you're also protecting the interests of small businesses," said American Association for Justice CEO Jon Haber. "This campaign is just a new phase of their longstanding credo: negligent corporations should never be held accountable."

The National Federation of Independent Business released a survey just this summer that showed "costs and frequency of lawsuits" ranked at the bottom of small businesses' list of concerns. Prior surveys of small businesses from BusinessWeek and National Association of Manufacturers also showed litigation was not a concern.



Who is REALLY behind the US Chamber "Lawsuit Abuse" campaign? Wal-Mart, Citigroup, AIG, Bank of America, and a slew of insurance and drug companies.