

Viewpoint: Toxic torts — Taxpayers each pay over \$1000 a year to subsidize ambulance-chasing lawyers targeting agriculture products

We've all seen the ads, declaring that we or a loved one may be entitled to financial compensation, soliciting claims alleging that various products are responsible for medical conditions that either have a range of potential causes or an entirely unknown cause.

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Since plaintiffs' lawyers have earned billions of dollars on the handful of Roundup® claims that have gone to trial, showing a good return on their advertising investment, they've now started their latest ad campaign for claims involving paraquat.

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The trial lawyers' playbook is chock full of clever maneuvers to create more business for themselves, but they can't do it alone. Third-party investors provide the necessary money upfront to initiate these tactics. Hedge funds, institutional investors, and public and private companies have poured [billions of dollars](#) into funding litigation.

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We all pay the price in higher costs on goods and services. Research shows that lawsuit abuse across the U.S. results in nearly [\\$285 billion](#) in excessive tort costs, meaning every American pays approximately \$1,303 each year in a "tort tax." Excessive tort costs affect 4,244,960 jobs across the country, with an estimated loss of \$143.8 million in wages.

[**This is an excerpt. Read the original post here**](#)