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**NAM SAYS SENATOR'S PLAN CLOUDING CLEAN AIR BILL;
URGES SENATE TO REJECT HOUSE LANGUAGE ON NONATTAINMENT**

WASHINGTON, D.C., July 27, 1990 -- The National Association of Manufacturers today sharply rejected Senator David Durenberger's, (R-MN) latest proposals on clean air permitting and toxics.

"This will absolutely gut industrial modernization and productivity by cutting flexibility, adding costs and will discourage companies from making process changes that could improve their overall environmental compliance," says NAM President Jerry Jasinowski.

"This proposal will mean even minor factory process modifications will trigger not just new permit review," says Jasinowski, "but new source review controls and new Maximum Achievable Control Technology (MACT) requirements."

Jasinowski says NAM is also urging Senate conferees to fight to keep their own nonattainment title and reject the House offer. He adds NAM is also disturbed at the evolution of the whole clean air process.

"One year ago this week, President Bush offered his clean air plan. NAM applauded the President for, "allowing both environmental protection and economic growth, two long-standing concerns often at odds with each other. Industry also hailed the President for citing the importance of flexibility." Jasinowski says NAM had concerns about the Bush bill, but believes it was far more workable than the clean air legislation that has evolved since.

"We entered this process a year ago in good faith. Then, the Senate Environment and Public works Committee, followed by the House Subcommittee

on Health and Environment adopted provisions making this bill less workable and less acceptable to industry. The Senate bipartisan agreement reached behind closed doors was far from perfect, but we still felt the process was basically fair."

Jasinowski says Senator Durenberger and Congressional staff are, "dragging everyone back to the original Committee proposal the Senate abandoned last January. NAM feels strongly this is unfair to all who worked in good faith to craft a bill acceptable to all parties. This new permitting proposal is bad," he adds, "it does not incorporate many of the provisions of the Nickles-Heflin-Dole permitting amendment industry fought so hard for. Nor does it reflect improvements the House Energy and Commerce Committee agreed to."

Jasinowski says NAM is distressed that "the whole clean air process has drifted far from its original framework and intent, and says, "it has become dangerously polluted by blatant extremism. Americans deserve leadership, not pandering on such an important issue."

NAM is urging conferees in the thirty remaining business days to, look back to the original intent and framework of clean air reauthorization and is urging the Senate to fight to keep its own workable language on nonattainment, and to accept the House permitting language.

"One year ago NAM was optimistic that the principles of environmental protection and economic growth, could both be served in this legislation. We continue to support these goals and urge conferees to be guided by them.

"NAM wants an effective and workable Clean Air Act which protects human health," says Jasinowski. "But, it must also allow enough flexibility to enable U.S. industry to both continue to make products essential to consumers, and to compete effectively in the world market."