



To: **The Honorable Rod Wright**
Member of the California Senate
Sacramento, CA 95814

From: **Kevin Campbell, Executive Director**
Oregon Association Chiefs of Police

Raul Ramirez, Executive Director
Oregon State Sheriffs' Association

Date: **April 26, 2009**

RE: **Support for California Senate Bill 484**
Meth Labs and Pseudoephedrine

Senator Wright,

The Oregon Association of Chiefs of Police and Oregon State Sheriffs' Association applaud your introduction of Senate Bill 484. We strongly endorse this measure and encourage the California Legislative Assembly to make pseudoephedrine a prescription drug by adopting this legislation.

Pseudoephedrine is the key ingredient necessary to make d-methamphetamine, commonly known as meth. In addition to the devastating nature of this addicting drug, the meth production process and meth labs are extremely dangerous and pose unacceptable risks to neighborhoods, the environment, and drug endangered children.

In 2006, Congress passed legislation restricting pseudoephedrine by requiring the logging of sales and placement of the drug behind-the-counter. The passage and implementation of this legislation, known as the Combat Methamphetamine Epidemic Act (CMEA), dramatically reduced the incidence of meth labs throughout the nation. However, as we predicted, meth addicts quickly found a way around the CMEA through 'smurfing.' A recent resurgence of meth labs, and a resurgence of 'superlabs' in California, is the tragic result.

In contrast, Oregon passed legislation making pseudoephedrine a prescription drug. Passage of this legislation resulted in very few complaints and little to no public outcry. The legislation, which went into effect in 2006, eliminated smurfing and virtually eliminated meth labs from Oregon. We no longer have to guess what works and what doesn't. California should pass legislation making pseudoephedrine a prescription drug. We strongly support your sponsorship of Senate Bill 484, and encourage the rest of the California legislature to join in your efforts to pass this effective and proven legislation.