

Enrolled

Senate Memorial 3

Sponsored by Senator CARTER; Senators BEYER, BURDICK

To the President of the United States, the Secretary of State of the United States and the Senate and the House of Representatives of the United States of America, in Congress assembled:

We, your memorialists, the Senate of the State of Oregon, in legislative session assembled, respectfully represent as follows:

Whereas the illicit manufacture, distribution and use of methamphetamine is fracturing families, adversely affecting state and local resources and costing taxpayers millions of dollars for health care, treatment programs and police and fire protection; and

Whereas the State of Oregon and other states are taking steps to control access to and the sale and illicit use of ingredients for the manufacture of methamphetamine and to prevent the possession and disposal of methamphetamine manufacturing waste; and

Whereas a 2005 survey by the National Association of Counties found that methamphetamine is the number one drug problem for law enforcement agencies in nearly 60 percent of the responding counties, and that 87 percent of the responding law enforcement agencies report an increase in methamphetamine use over the past three years; and

Whereas that same survey also found that half of the counties responding estimate that one in five of their current jail inmates is incarcerated due to methamphetamine-related crimes, and that 17 percent of the counties responding report that more than half of their current jail inmates are incarcerated due to methamphetamine-related crimes; and

Whereas methamphetamine is a potentially deadly and highly addictive drug and its distribution and use is spreading rapidly throughout the United States; and

Whereas pseudoephedrine-based cold medications are used in the manufacture of methamphetamine, and methamphetamine made with such medications may constitute up to 35 percent of all methamphetamine sold in Oregon; and

Whereas private industry in the United States is making arrangements to replace pseudoephedrine-based products with phenylephrine and other alternative drugs in an effort to check the widespread distribution of precursor ingredients for methamphetamine; and

Whereas cooperating corporations include Target, Safeway, Albertsons, Rite Aid, Walgreens, ShopKo, Kmart, Kroger and CVS; and

Whereas the Congress of the United States is considering legislation that would preempt state efforts to regulate access to pseudoephedrine-based products; and

Whereas a recent investigation by *The Oregonian* newspaper found that Mexico appears to be importing inordinate amounts of pseudoephedrine, either destined for conversion into methamphetamine in "superlabs" in Mexico or to be smuggled into the United States; and

Whereas that investigation also found that cold medications manufactured by Mexico's legitimate pharmaceutical industry constitute a dominant source of pseudoephedrine used in methamphetamine manufacturing; now, therefore,

Be It Resolved by the Senate of the State of Oregon:

(1) The President and the Secretary of State of the United States are urged to encourage the President of Mexico to examine the issue of the manufacture of methamphetamine and the importation of methamphetamine and its precursor ingredients through Mexico to the United States.

(2) The Congress of the United States is urged to work in collaboration with the states to augment state and local initiatives for appropriate training for police and fire personnel, for research and for social services and treatment to curb methamphetamine manufacturing, distribution and use.

(3) The Congress of the United States is urged to work with the states to further restrict access to precursor ingredients of methamphetamine, and to avoid passing legislation that would preempt state legislation that further restricts access to precursor ingredients of methamphetamine.

(4) The Congress of the United States is urged to work to further restrict the importation of methamphetamine and its precursor ingredients.

(5) A copy of this memorial shall be sent to the President of the United States, to the Secretary of State of the United States and to each member of the Oregon Congressional Delegation.

Adopted by Senate July 27, 2005

Secretary of Senate

President of Senate