

THE COUNCIL OF STATE GOVERNMENTS

RESOLUTION ON METHAMPHETAMINE ANTI-PROLIFERATION

WHEREAS, the epidemic of methamphetamine abuse is a growing problem across this country. Methamphetamine is a highly addictive and dangerous substance, causing violent behavior, psychosis, and delusions among its abusers;

WHEREAS, methamphetamine (meth) is a powerful, addictive stimulant that is illegally manufactured in super labs and small clandestine laboratories throughout the United States;

WHEREAS, methamphetamine abuse is a serious law enforcement and public health problem that affects entire communities;

WHEREAS, illegal production of methamphetamine should be eliminated through strict law enforcement, tough penalties for violators, patient and community education, and precursor chemical supply restrictions at all levels including our national borders and retail distribution;

WHEREAS, all legislation should allocate appropriate funding to implement law enforcement mechanisms, education and supply provisions contained in legislation, regulations and guidelines;

WHEREAS, increasing enforcement of existing state laws would go a long way toward eliminating illegal Meth production;

WHEREAS, patients and the distribution chain should be educated about product abuse and how to prevent it;

WHEREAS, state legislative initiatives should strike a balance between reasonable consumer access to cold and allergy medicine and access limitations that effectively interfere with small-time Meth production;

WHEREAS, more than 140 million consumers annually purchase over-the-counter medicines to self treat cold, flu and allergy symptoms;

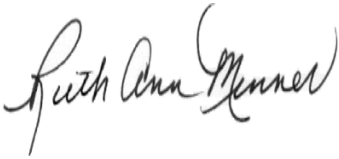
WHEREAS, patients have a right to access FDA-approved self-medication products to treat cough, cold and allergy symptoms;

WHEREAS, patients must have unobstructed physical access to OTC medications and labeling information to ensure that consumers can make an appropriate selection based on products' uses, dosages, safety, contraindications, side effects and health risks;

BE IT NOW THEREFORE RESOLVED that The Council of State Governments believes that methamphetamine abuse is a serious problem, and supports the need for a comprehensive, multi-faceted approach and solution, including strict law enforcement, appropriate funding for law enforcement and education programs; tough penalties for violators who illegally use, produce and distribute meth; programs focusing on demand reduction, education, and treatment; restrictions on the sale of precursor chemicals; and respectfully urges Congress and all state legislatures to balance sales restrictions of precursor chemicals to discourage inappropriate use of self-medication products with preserving access to self medication products for millions of patients

who legitimately use over-the-counter products to treat cold and allergy symptoms. There is no single solution to the meth problem. Legislators should pass comprehensive measures that discourage individuals from making methamphetamine through support for law enforcement, lab cleanup, demand reduction, education, and treatment.

Adopted this 8th Day of June, 2005, at the
CSG Spring Task Force and Committee Meeting
In Lake Tahoe, California



Governor Ruth Ann Minner
2005 CSG President



Assemblyman Lynn Hettrick
2005 CSG Chair