

12/15/2005 Moran Supports House Passage of Measures to Fight Methamphetamine

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WASHINGTON, D.C. - Congressman Jerry Moran announced House passage of legislation to combat methamphetamine production, trafficking and use. Yesterday's passage sets a federal standard for addressing this epidemic on all levels across the country.

"The fight against meth has been on the Kansas radar for years," Moran said. "But the meth epidemic knows no state boundaries. It is time for a comprehensive federal approach."

This passage increases restrictions on obtaining the major ingredients used to produce meth, toughens criminal penalties against trafficking and smuggling, provides assistance to state and local agencies dealing with the epidemic and helps protect children from the harmful environment surrounding meth use and production.

"Meth has been identified as the leading drug-related law enforcement problem in the country," Moran said. "Kansans are working hard to combat this drug and its production, but the majority of meth comes from across the border. By addressing the international supply, we will ultimately help efforts in communities across the nation."

To bring attention to meth on a national level, Moran joined other members of Congress earlier this year in asking President Bush and the Administration to take action. He has also sponsored legislation that provides funding for law enforcement and makes ingredients used in the production of meth harder to obtain, as well as the CLEAN-UP Act, which is designed to aid local officials in the clean up of meth labs.

In 2005, the Kansas Bureau of Investigation reported Kansas law enforcement officials seized 337 meth labs. Kansas has historically been among the top states in the nation in number of meth lab seizures. Moran is a member of the Congressional Caucus to Fight and Control Methamphetamine, which is comprised of lawmakers dedicated to combating the spread of meth in the United States.

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