

2006 Colorado House Joint Resolution No. 1017, Colorado Second Regular Session
of the Sixty-Fifth General Assembly

COLORADO BILL TEXT

Adopted
March 30, 2006

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 06-1017

CONCERNING URGING THE UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT TO ENGAGE THE GOVERNMENT OF MEXICO TO ABATE THE FLOW OF METHAMPHETAMINE FROM MEXICO INTO THE UNITED STATES.

WHEREAS, Methamphetamine use is a clear and present crisis in communities across Colorado, exacting a heavy toll on families, neighborhoods, taxpayer-funded social services, and the criminal justice system; and

WHEREAS, The annual number of methamphetamine-related emergency room visits have significantly increased around the state; and

WHEREAS, Methamphetamine-related violent crimes have dramatically risen; and

WHEREAS, The Mesa County Methamphetamine Task Force recently uncovered alarming information about the impact of methamphetamine on the Western Slope community. In 2004, 75% of social services cases associated with children under 12 years of age involved methamphetamine; and 50% of cases involving children over 12 years of age were methamphetamine-related. Moreover, 80% of the cases in district courts involved methamphetamine usage; 63% of methamphetamine users reportedly started using as teenagers and 20% of users began using before 15 years of age; and

WHEREAS, Eighty-two percent of Coloradans who indicated that methamphetamine was present in their communities said it is widely available; and

WHEREAS, According to recent estimates, between 80% and 90% of methamphetamine in Colorado is illegally trafficked from Mexico; and

WHEREAS, According to one account in 2004, the country of Mexico received nearly 100% more pseudoephedrine, the necessary base ingredient in methamphetamine, than necessary to meet the legitimate and legal needs of the Mexican population; and

WHEREAS, This surplus pseudoephedrine in Mexico is responsible for the explosive growth in Mexico's illicit methamphetamine industry; and

WHEREAS, The United States and the state of Colorado cannot make meaningful headway against the massive proliferation of methamphetamine activity and all its myriad harmful

consequences until we successfully reduce trafficking of methamphetamine from Mexico; now, therefore,

Be It Resolved by the House of Representatives of the Sixty-fifth General Assembly of the State of Colorado, the Senate concurring herein:

(1) That we, the members of the Sixty-fifth General Assembly, urge the President of the United States and the United States Secretary of State to immediately engage the President of Mexico, Vicente Fox, and other top-ranking officials in the Mexican government regarding Mexican methamphetamine trafficking, using all reasonable means to convince Mexico to partner with the United States in an aggressive effort to stop the illegal flow of methamphetamine into the United States.

(2) That we, the members of the Sixty-fifth General Assembly, urge appropriate committees in the United States Congress to hold oversight hearings to determine the adequacy of the United States' law enforcement and diplomatic efforts to slow the inflow of methamphetamine from Mexico, as well as to probe the extent to which Mexico is cooperating with the United States in its effort to obstruct methamphetamine trafficking. As part of that oversight, we urge the United States Congress to initiate an analysis by the General Accounting Office to determine the adequacy of the federal government's diplomatic, law enforcement, and border control efforts as they pertain to methamphetamine trafficking from Mexico.

(3) That we, the members of the Sixty-fifth General Assembly, urge the United States Congress and the President of the United States to immediately enact laws that would substantially increase security on American borders and in ports of entry to obstruct the trafficking of methamphetamine and pseudoephedrine from Mexico into the United States.

(4) That we, the members of the Sixty-fifth General Assembly, urge the United States Congress and the President of the United States to engage foreign nations within the borders of which pseudoephedrine is produced and establish measures to ensure that no excess pseudoephedrine is sold to Mexico or other countries known to traffic pseudoephedrine into the United States or other countries.

Be It Further Resolved, That copies of this Joint Resolution be sent to the President of the United States, the chairpersons of the committees of the United States House of Representatives and Senate, the President of Mexico, the United States Secretary of State, the United States Attorney General, the Secretary of the Department of Homeland Security, the members of Colorado's Congressional Delegation, the Western Governors' Association, the Council of State Governments Western Region, the Border Legislative Conference, and the Mexican Consul General in Denver, Colorado.

Andrew Romanoff

SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Joan Fitz-Gerald

PRESIDENT OF THE SENATE

Marilyn Eddins

CHIEF CLERK OF THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Karen Goldman

SECRETARY OF THE SENATE