

Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

June 22, 2005

Congressional Briefing on Methamphetamine Addiction: Cause for Concern – Hope for the Future

Dear Colleague,

You and your staff should have received an invitation to a briefing on the Hill sponsored by the Friends of the National Institute on Drug Abuse (NIDA), in cooperation with the Co-Chairs of the Congressional Caucus to Fight and Control Methamphetamine (Meth Caucus) and the Co-Chairs of the Addiction, Treatment and Recovery Caucus (ATRC). Speakers will be presenting useful and educational information from their research on methamphetamine addiction and effective methods of treatment. We encourage you and your staff to make time for this very important briefing. For additional information about the briefing, please do not hesitate to contact Deena Contreras with Congressman Calvert (5-1986).

Methamphetamine dependence has become a pervasive public health problem because it is easy to make and it is highly addictive. Policy-makers and the general public are asking how we can decrease the toll methamphetamine is taking on our society. Come hear about NIDA's approach. By translating research results into effective community treatment interventions, we can now implement what we know is working to help methamphetamine addicted individuals return to productive and fulfilling lives.

Briefing Details:

Tuesday, June 28, 2005

Noon – 2:00 pm

(Lunch will be served)

Rayburn House Office Building, Room B-339

Speakers:

Nora Volkow, MD, Director of NIDA, will provide an overview of the NIDA methamphetamine research portfolio.

Richard Rawson, PhD, Associate Director, UCLA Integrated Substance Abuse Programs, Department of Psychiatry and Biobehavioral Science, University of California – Los Angeles, will discuss results from his NIDA-funded Matrix treatment research.

Vicki Sickels, A counselor for a methamphetamine research program at Iowa Lutheran Hospital in Des Moines, Iowa will provide her personal perspective on recovering from methamphetamine addiction.

Positive RSVPs only to Sara Robinson with the American Psychological Association,
by phone (202.336.5935) or email (srobinson@apa.org)

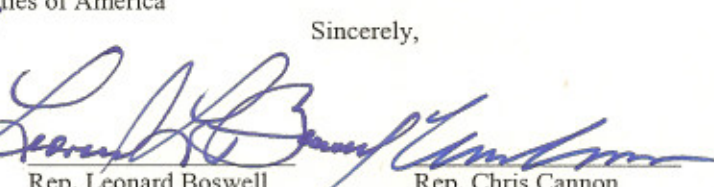
The Friends of NIDA are:

American Academy of Addiction Psychiatry – American Psychiatric Association – American Psychological Association – American Society for Pharmacology & Experimental Therapeutics – American Society of Addiction Medicine – American Sociological Association – Community Anti-Drug Coalitions of America – Entertainment Industries Council – Join Together – Legal Action Center – National Association of State Alcohol and Drug Abuse Directors – National TASC – State Associations of Addiction Services – Therapeutic Communities of America


Sincerely,



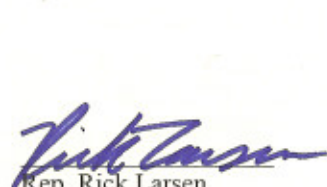
Rep. Ken Calvert
Meth Caucus, Co-Chair



Rep. Leonard Boswell
Meth Caucus, Co-Chair



Rep. Chris Cannon
Meth Caucus, Co-Chair



Rep. Rick Larsen
Meth Caucus, Co-Chair



Rep. Jim Ramstad
ATR Caucus, Co-Chair



Rep. Patrick Kennedy
ATR Caucus, Co-Chair