

105TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 956

To amend the National Narcotics Leadership Act of 1988 to establish a program to support and encourage local communities that first demonstrate a comprehensive, long-term commitment to reduce substance abuse among youth, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 5, 1997

Mr. PORTMAN (for himself, Mr. HASTERT, Mr. LEVIN, and Mr. RANGEL) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Government Reform and Oversight, and in addition to the Committee on Commerce, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

A BILL

To amend the National Narcotics Leadership Act of 1988 to establish a program to support and encourage local communities that first demonstrate a comprehensive, long-term commitment to reduce substance abuse among youth, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Drug-Free Commu-
5 nities Act of 1997”.

1 **SEC. 2. NATIONAL DRUG CONTROL PROGRAM.**

2 (a) IN GENERAL.—The National Narcotics Leader-
3 ship Act of 1988 is amended—

4 (1) by inserting between sections 1001 and
5 1002 the following:

6 **“CHAPTER 1—OFFICE OF NATIONAL DRUG**
7 **CONTROL POLICY”;**

8 and

9 (2) by adding at the end of such chapter the
10 following:

11 **“CHAPTER 2—DRUG-FREE COMMUNITIES**

12 **“SEC. 1021. FINDINGS.**

13 “The Congress finds the following:

14 “(1) Substance abuse among youth has more
15 than doubled in the last four years, with substantial
16 increases in the use of marijuana, inhalants, cocaine,
17 methamphetamine, LSD, and heroin.

18 “(2) The most dramatic increases in substance
19 abuse over the last four years are among younger
20 Americans—13 and 14 year olds.

21 “(3) Casual or periodic substance abuse by
22 youth today will contribute to hard core or chronic
23 substance abuse by the next generation of adults.

24 “(4) Substance abuse is at the core of other
25 problems, such as rising violent teen and violent

1 gang crime, increasing health care costs, HIV infec-
2 tions, teenage pregnancy, high school dropouts, and
3 lower economic productivity.

4 “(5) Increases in substance abuse among youth
5 are due in large part to an erosion of understanding
6 among youth of the high risks associated with sub-
7 stance abuse, and to the softening of peer norms
8 against use.

9 “(6) Substance abuse is a preventable behavior
10 and a treatable disease; in fact, between 1979 and
11 1992, monthly use of illegal drugs among 12 to 17
12 year olds declined over 70 percent; and data sug-
13 gests that if parents would simply talk to their chil-
14 dren regularly about the dangers of substance abuse,
15 use among youth could be expected to decline by as
16 much as 30 percent.

17 “(7) Community anti-drug coalitions through-
18 out the Nation are successfully developing and im-
19 plementing comprehensive, long-term strategies to
20 reduce substance abuse among youth on a sustained
21 basis.

22 “(8) Intergovernmental cooperation and coordi-
23 nation through national, State, and local or tribal
24 leadership and partnerships are critical to facilitate

1 the reduction of substance abuse among youth in
2 communities throughout the Nation.

3 **“SEC. 1022. PURPOSES.**

4 “The purposes of this chapter are—

5 “(1) to help reduce substance abuse among
6 youth in communities throughout the Nation, and
7 over time, to reduce substance abuse among adults;

8 “(2) to strengthen collaboration among commu-
9 nities, the Federal Government, and State, local,
10 and tribal governments, and to enhance intergovern-
11 mental cooperation and coordination on the issue of
12 substance abuse among youth;

13 “(3) to serve as a catalyst for increased citizen
14 participation and greater collaboration among all
15 sectors and organizations of a community that first
16 demonstrates a long-term commitment to reducing
17 substance abuse among youth;

18 “(4) to rechannel existing resources from the
19 Federal drug control budget to provide technical as-
20 sistance, guidance, and financial support to commu-
21 nities that demonstrate a long-term commitment in
22 reducing substance abuse among youth;

23 “(5) to disseminate to communities timely in-
24 formation regarding the state-of-the-art practices

1 and initiatives that have proven effective to reducing
2 substance abuse among youth;

3 “(6) to enhance, not supplant, local community
4 initiatives for reducing substance abuse among
5 youth; and

6 “(7) to encourage the creation of and support
7 for community anti-drug coalitions throughout the
8 Nation.

9 **“SEC. 1023. DEFINITIONS.**

10 “For purposes of this chapter—

11 “(1) the term ‘Administrator’ means the Ad-
12 ministrator appointed by the Director pursuant to
13 section 1031(c); and

14 “(2) the term ‘Director’ means the Director of
15 the Office of National Drug Control Policy.

16 **“SEC. 1024. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**

17 “(a) IN GENERAL.—

18 “(1) IN GENERAL.—There are authorized to be
19 appropriated to the Office of National Drug Control
20 Policy to carry out this chapter, \$10,000,000 for fis-
21 cal year 1998, \$20,000,000 for fiscal year 1999,
22 \$30,000,000 for fiscal year 2000, \$40,000,000 for
23 fiscal year 2001, and \$43,500,000 for fiscal year
24 2002.

1 “(2) OFFICE OF NATIONAL DRUG CONTROL
2 POLICY.—The authorizations provided in paragraph
3 (1) shall be effective only to the extent that amounts
4 are appropriated for each fiscal year for the Office
5 of National Drug Control Policy.

6 “(b) ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS.—Not more than the
7 following percentages of the amounts authorized under
8 subsection (a) may be used to pay administrative costs:
9 10 percent for fiscal year 1998; six percent for fiscal year
10 1999; four percent for fiscal year 2000; three percent for
11 fiscal year 2001; and three percent for fiscal year 2002.

12 **“Subchapter I—Drug-Free Communities**

13 **Support Program**

14 **“SEC. 1031. ESTABLISHMENT OF DRUG-FREE COMMUNITIES**

15 **SUPPORT PROGRAM.**

16 “(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Director of the Office
17 of National Drug Control Policy shall establish a program
18 to support communities in the development and implemen-
19 tation of comprehensive, long-term plans and programs to
20 prevent and treat substance abuse among youth (referred
21 to in this chapter as the ‘Program’).

22 “(b) PROGRAM.—The Program shall include grant
23 making and tracking, technical assistance and training,

1 data collection and dissemination on state-of-the-art prac-
2 tices which have proven effective in reducing substance
3 abuse, and general administration.

4 “(c) ADMINISTRATION.—Not later than 30 days after
5 receiving recommendations from the Advisory Commission
6 established under title II, the Director shall appoint an
7 Administrator to carry out the Program.

8 **“SEC. 1032. PROGRAM AUTHORIZATION.**

9 “(a) GRANT ELIGIBILITY.—To be eligible to receive
10 a grant under this chapter, a coalition shall meet the fol-
11 lowing criteria:

12 “(1) APPLICATION.—A coalition that desires to
13 receive a grant or to renew a grant under this chap-
14 ter shall submit an application at such time and in
15 such manner and form as the Administrator shall
16 reasonably require.

17 “(2) MAJOR SECTOR INVOLVEMENT.—A coali-
18 tion shall consist of one or more representatives of
19 youth, parents, businesses, the media, schools, orga-
20 nizations serving youth, law enforcement, the faith
21 community, civic and fraternal groups, health care
22 professionals, State and local or tribal government
23 agencies with expertise in the field of substance
24 abuse, including, if applicable, the single State au-
25 thority for substance abuse, and other organizations

1 involved in reducing substance abuse, and, if fea-
2 sible, an elected official from each of local or tribal,
3 State, and the Federal Government.

4 “(3) COMMITMENT.—A coalition shall also dem-
5 onstrate that its representatives have worked to-
6 gether on substance abuse reduction initiatives for
7 not less than six months through entities such as
8 task forces, subcommittees, or community boards
9 and shall demonstrate substantial participation from
10 volunteer leaders in the community, especially
11 among individuals involved with youth such as par-
12 ents, teachers, coaches, youth workers, and clergy.

13 “(4) MISSION AND STRATEGIES.—A coalition
14 shall—

15 “(A) have as its principal mission the re-
16 duction of substance abuse in a comprehensive
17 and long-term fashion, with a primary focus on
18 youth in the community;

19 “(B) describe and document the nature
20 and extent of the substance abuse problem in
21 the community;

22 “(C) provide a description of existing sub-
23 stance abuse prevention and treatment pro-
24 grams and activities and identify substance

1 abuse program and service gaps in the commu-
2 nity;

3 “(D) develop a strategic plan to reduce
4 substance abuse among youth in a comprehen-
5 sive and long-term fashion; and

6 “(E) work to develop a consensus regard-
7 ing the priorities of the community to combat
8 substance abuse among youth.

9 “(5) SUSTAINABILITY.—A coalition shall dem-
10 onstrate that it is an ongoing concern, by having a
11 structure (such as a 501(c)(3) organization de-
12 scribed in title 26, United States Code or a division
13 of an existing entity), non-Federal financial support
14 (including, within the discretion of the Adminis-
15 trator, in-kind contributions), and a strategy to
16 identify and solicit substantial non-Federal funding
17 sources to ensure that the coalition and its programs
18 are self-sustaining.

19 “(6) ACCOUNTABILITY.—The coalition shall—

20 “(A) establish a system approved by the
21 Administrator to measure and report outcomes
22 consistent with common indicators and evalua-
23 tion protocols established by the Administrator,
24 in consultation with the Advisory Commission;

1 “(B) conduct an initial benchmark survey
2 of drug use among youth (or use local surveys
3 or performance measures already available or
4 accessible in the community) and conduct sur-
5 veys (or incorporate existing local surveys into
6 its evaluation) to measure the progress and ef-
7 fectiveness of the coalition on a biennial basis;
8 and

9 “(C) provide assurances that the entity
10 conducting the evaluation, or upon which the
11 coalition is relying for its information, has expe-
12 rience in gathering data related to substance
13 abuse among youth or in evaluating the effec-
14 tiveness of community anti-drug coalitions.

15 “(b) GRANT AMOUNTS.—

16 “(1) IN GENERAL.—

17 “(A) GRANTS.—The Administrator is au-
18 thorized to provide an amount not to exceed the
19 amount of non-Federal funds raised by the coa-
20 lition, including in-kind contributions, in any
21 fiscal year and is authorized to renew such
22 grant awards annually for a period not to ex-
23 ceed four years. Each such grant award may
24 not exceed \$100,000 in any fiscal year.

1 “(B) COALITION AWARDS.—The Adminis-
2 trator is authorized to make grants to not more
3 than one eligible coalition representing a com-
4 munity, except that the Administrator has the
5 discretion to make grants to more than one eli-
6 gible coalition in each community that has a
7 population that exceeds 2,000,000 people, ex-
8 cept that coalitions receiving such grants shall
9 demonstrate that they are collaborating with
10 one another and have independently met the re-
11 quirements set forth in section 1022(a).

12 “(2) RURAL COALITION GRANTS.—In order to
13 stimulate the development of coalitions in sparsely
14 populated and rural areas and to any tribal govern-
15 ment, the Administrator is authorized to provide
16 grants, not to exceed \$50,000 in any fiscal year, to
17 coalitions representing a county, a parish, a bor-
18 ough, or a census area that has a population that
19 does not exceed 30,000 people and is authorized to
20 renew such grant awards annually for a period not
21 to exceed four years. The Administrator is author-
22 ized to make grants to not more than one coalition
23 representing a county, a parish, a borough, or a cen-
24 sus area.

1 **“SEC. 1033. INFORMATION COLLECTION AND DISSEMINA-**
2 **TION WITH RESPECT TO GRANTEES.**

3 “(a) COALITION INFORMATION.—

4 “(1) GENERAL AUDITING AUTHORITY.—The
5 Administrator shall have access for the purpose of
6 audit and examination to any books, documents, pa-
7 pers, and records that are pertinent to any grant or
8 grant renewal request under this title and may peri-
9 odically request information from a grantee to en-
10 sure that the criteria set forth in section 1022(a) are
11 being met.

12 “(2) APPLICATION PROCESS.—The Adminis-
13 trator shall issue rules and regulations regarding the
14 application process, grant renewal, and suspension
15 or withholding of any renewal grant awards. All ap-
16 plications shall be in writing and shall be subject to
17 bona fide review by the Administrator initially and
18 upon renewal.

19 “(3) REPORTING.—The Administrator shall
20 make every effort, consistent with existing law, to
21 minimize reporting requirements by a grantee and to
22 expedite any grant renewal requests.

23 “(b) DATA COLLECTION AND DISSEMINATION.—The
24 Administrator may collect data from national substance
25 abuse organizations working with coalitions, community
26 anti-drug coalitions, departments or agencies of Federal,

1 State and local or tribal governments and any other entity
2 or organization whose activities relate to the purposes of
3 the Program. The Administrator may evaluate the utility
4 of specific initiatives, engage in research and development
5 activities related to the Program, and disseminate such in-
6 formation to eligible coalitions, any other substance abuse
7 organization, or the general public.

8 **“SEC. 1034. TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE AND TRAINING.**

9 “The Administrator may offer technical assistance
10 and training, enter into contracts and cooperative agree-
11 ments, and coordinate programs with any grantee or other
12 organization. The Administrator may train any represent-
13 atives designated by a grantee in coalition building, task
14 force development, mediation and facilitation, direct serv-
15 ice, assessment and evaluation or any other activity relat-
16 ed to the purposes of the Program.

17 **“Subchapter II—Advisory Commission**

18 **“SEC. 1041. ESTABLISHMENT OF ADVISORY COMMISSION.**

19 “(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—There is established the ‘Ad-
20 visory Commission on Drug-Free Communities’ (referred
21 to in this chapter as the ‘Advisory Commission’).

22 “(b) PURPOSE.—The President shall appoint mem-
23 bers to the Advisory Commission pursuant to section 1043
24 to advise, consult with, and make recommendations to the

1 Administrator concerning matters related to the activities
2 carried out under the Program.

3 **“SEC. 1042. DUTIES.**

4 “(a) IN GENERAL.—The Advisory Commission—

5 “(1) shall, within 30 days after its first meet-
6 ing, make recommendations to the Director regard-
7 ing the selection of an Administrator;

8 “(2) may review any grant, contract, or cooper-
9 ative agreement proposed to be made by the Pro-
10 gram;

11 “(3) may make recommendations to the Admin-
12 istrator regarding the activities of the Program;

13 “(4) may review any policy or criteria estab-
14 lished by the Administrator to carry out the Pro-
15 gram;

16 “(5) may collect, by correspondence or by per-
17 sonal investigation, information as to initiatives,
18 studies, services, programs, or other activities of coa-
19 litions or organizations working in the field of sub-
20 stance abuse in the United States or any other coun-
21 try and, with the approval of the Administrator,
22 make such information available through appropriate
23 publications or otherwise for the benefit of coalitions
24 and for the general public; and

1 “(6) may appoint subcommittees and convene
2 workshops and conferences.

3 “(b) RECOMMENDATIONS.—If the Administrator re-
4 jects recommendations of the Advisory Commission, the
5 Administrator shall notify the Advisory Commission and
6 the Director in writing of the reasons for so doing not
7 later than 15 days after receiving such recommendations.

8 “(c) CONFLICT OF INTEREST.—A member of the Ad-
9 visory Commission shall recuse himself or herself from any
10 decision that would constitute a conflict of interest.

11 **“SEC. 1043. MEMBERSHIP.**

12 “(a) IN GENERAL.—The President shall appoint 15
13 members to the Advisory Commission as follows:

14 “(1) Six members shall be appointed from the
15 leading representatives of national substance abuse
16 reduction organizations, of which at least four must
17 have extensive training or experience in drug preven-
18 tion.

19 “(2) Six members shall be appointed from the
20 general public and shall include leaders in fields of
21 youth development, public policy, law, business, or
22 private foundations that fund substance abuse pro-
23 grams.

1 “(3) Three members shall be appointed from
2 the leading representatives of substance abuse reduc-
3 tion organizations in the States.

4 “(b) CHAIRPERSON.—The Advisory Commission shall
5 elect a chairperson or co-chairpersons from among its
6 members.

7 “(c) EX OFFICIO MEMBERS.—The ex officio mem-
8 bership of the Advisory Commission shall consist of any
9 two officers or employees of the United States as the Di-
10 rector determines necessary for the Advisory Commission
11 to effectively carry out its functions.

12 **“SEC. 1044. COMPENSATION.**

13 “(a) IN GENERAL.—Members of the Advisory Com-
14 mission who are officers or employees of the United States
15 shall not receive any compensation for service on the Advi-
16 sory Commission. The remaining members of the Advisory
17 Commission shall receive, for each day (including travel
18 time) they are engaged in the performance of the functions
19 of the Advisory Commission, compensation at rates not
20 to exceed the daily equivalent to the annual rate of basic
21 pay payable for GS–10 of the General Schedule.

22 “(b) TRAVEL EXPENSES.—Each member of the Advi-
23 sory Commission shall receive travel expenses, including
24 per diem in lieu of subsistence, in accordance with sections
25 5702 and 5703 of title 5, United States Code.

1 **“SEC. 1045. TERMS OF OFFICE.**

2 “(a) IN GENERAL.—The term of office of a member
3 of the Advisory Commission shall be three years, except
4 that—

5 “(1) of the members first appointed under sec-
6 tion 1043(a)(1), two shall be appointed for a term
7 of two years, and of the members first appointed
8 under section 1043(a)(2), two shall be appointed for
9 a term of two years, and of the members first ap-
10 pointed under section 1043(a)(3), one shall be ap-
11 pointed for two years, as designated at the time of
12 appointment; and

13 “(2) any member appointed to fill a vacancy for
14 an unexpired term shall serve for the remainder of
15 such term.

16 “(b) VACANCY.—A member of the Advisory Commis-
17 sion may serve after the expiration of such member’s term
18 until a successor has been appointed and taken office.

19 **“SEC. 1046. MEETINGS.**

20 “(a) IN GENERAL.—After its initial meeting, the Ad-
21 visory Commission shall meet at the call of the Chairman
22 or a majority of its members or upon the request of the
23 Director or Administrator of the Program for which the
24 Advisory Commission is established.

25 “(b) QUORUM.—Eight members of the Advisory
26 Commission shall constitute a quorum.

1 **“SEC. 1047. STAFF.**

2 “The Advisory Commission may elect its own execu-
3 tive secretary to facilitate the conduct of business. The
4 Administrator shall make available to the Advisory Com-
5 mission such staff, information, and other assistance per-
6 mitted by law as it may reasonably require to carry out
7 its functions.

8 **“SEC. 1048. TERMINATION.**

9 “The Advisory Commission shall terminate on the
10 date that is five years after the date of the enactment of
11 this chapter, except that the Advisory Commission shall
12 be authorized to conduct its business only to the extent
13 that amounts are appropriated to carry out the Pro-
14 gram.”.

15 (b) REFERENCE.—Every reference in Federal law to
16 subtitle A of the Anti-Drug Abuse Act of 1988, with the
17 exception of section 1001 of such subtitle, shall be deemed
18 a reference to chapter 1 of the National Narcotics Leader-
19 ship Act of 1988.

○