

H. Res. 423

In the House of Representatives, U.S.,

May 12, 1998.

Whereas drug abuse killed 14,218 Americans in 1995 and it is estimated that nearly 114,000 Americans—many of them our youth—will have died as a result of drug abuse by the end of the period between 1992 and 2001, and it is estimated that 13,000,000 Americans used illegal drugs in 1996;

Whereas American taxpayers footed a \$150,000,000,000 bill for drug-related criminal and medical costs in 1997, which is more than we spent in 1997's Federal budget for programs to fund education, transportation and infrastructure improvements, agriculture, energy, space and all foreign aid combined;

Whereas 34 percent of Americans see drug interdiction as a top priority foreign policy issue, above illegal immigration and the threat of terrorism, and 39 percent of Americans believe decreasing drug trafficking should be our primary objective in United States policy toward Latin America; and

Whereas the week of September 13 through 19, 1998 has been designated as the “Drug-Free America Blue Ribbon Campaign Week” to remind our children that they are not alone in the fight for a Drug-Free America: Now, therefore, be it



Resolved, That it is the sense of the House that—

(1) the House declares its commitment to create a Drug-Free America;

(2) the Members of the House should work personally to mobilize kids, parents, faith-based and community organizations, educators, local officials and law enforcement officers, as well as coaches and athletes to wage a winning war on drugs;

(3) the House pledges to pass legislation that provides the weapons and tools necessary to protect our children and our communities from the dangers of drug addiction and violence; and

(4) the United States will fight this war on drugs on three major battlefronts:

(A) Deterring demand.

(B) Stopping supply.

(C) Increasing accountability.

Attest:

Clerk.