

Bianca Lozano, and I thank the gentleman for his commitment that he also makes to this major catastrophe that is facing our country, and I look forward to working with the gentleman on it.

IN SUPPORT OF CORRIDOR X AND ISTEA LEGISLATION

(Mr. ADERHOLT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. ADERHOLT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of the completion of Corridor X as an important transportation project, not only for the Fourth Congressional District, but also the southern region of the United States.

Few people realize there is no four-lane highway that connects the cities of Birmingham, AL, the largest city in the State of Alabama, and Memphis, TN. For economic development and safety reasons, this is an unacceptable omission from our national highway system.

The completion of Corridor X could connect these two major metropolitan areas by running through Birmingham and through the Fourth Congressional District. It must be remembered that 30 years ago Congress passed legislation to create a system of highways in the 13-State Appalachian region, including a route to connect Memphis and then through Birmingham.

Unfortunately, today the people in my area still are waiting for this four-lane highway to be completed. Economic growth is hampered because it is so difficult to transport goods and services between Birmingham and Memphis and through the northwestern part of Alabama. The current inadequate two-lane route is extremely dangerous, with traffic incidents or a fatality occurring almost every month in my district. Mr. Speaker, we need to reauthorize ISTEA and ensure that all States receive an equitable share of funds.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. TAYLOR of North Carolina). Pursuant to the provisions of clause 5 of rule I, the Chair announces that he will postpone further proceedings today on the motion to suspend the rules on which a recorded vote or the yeas and nays are ordered or on which the vote is objected to under clause 4 of rule XV.

Such rollcall vote, if postponed, will be taken later in the day.

DRUG-FREE COMMUNITIES ACT OF 1997

Mr. PORTMAN. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 956) to amend the National Narcotics Leadership Act of 1988 to establish a program to support and encourage local communities that first dem-

onstrate a comprehensive, long-term commitment to reduce substance abuse among youth, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read as follows:

H.R. 956

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Drug-Free Communities Act of 1997".

SEC. 2. NATIONAL DRUG CONTROL PROGRAM.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The National Narcotics Leadership Act of 1988 (21 U.S.C. 1501 et seq.) is amended—

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

"CHAPTER 1—OFFICE OF NATIONAL DRUG CONTROL POLICY";

and

(2) by adding at the end the following:

"CHAPTER 2—DRUG-FREE COMMUNITIES

"SEC. 1021. FINDINGS.

"Congress finds the following:

"(1) Substance abuse among youth has more than doubled in the 5-year period preceding 1996, with substantial increases in the use of marijuana, inhalants, cocaine, methamphetamine, LSD, and heroin.

"(2) The most dramatic increases in substance abuse has occurred among 13- and 14-year-olds.

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

"(4) Substance abuse is at the core of other problems, such as rising violent teenage and violent gang crime, increasing health care costs, HIV infections, teenage pregnancy, high school dropouts, and lower economic productivity.

"(5) Increases in substance abuse among youth are due in large part to an erosion of understanding by youth of the high risks associated with substance abuse, and to the softening of peer norms against use.

"(6)(A) Substance abuse is a preventable behavior and a treatable disease; and

"(B)(i) during the 13-year period beginning with 1979, monthly use of illegal drugs among youth 12 to 17 years of age declined by over 70 percent; and

"(ii) data suggests that if parents would simply talk to their children regularly about the dangers of substance abuse, use among youth could be expected to decline by as much as 30 percent.

"(7) Community anti-drug coalitions throughout the United States are successfully developing and implementing comprehensive, long-term strategies to reduce substance abuse among youth on a sustained basis.

"(8) Intergovernmental cooperation and coordination through national, State, and local or tribal leadership and partnerships are critical to facilitate the reduction of substance abuse among youth in communities throughout the United States.

"SEC. 1022. PURPOSES.

"The purposes of this chapter are—

"(1) to reduce substance abuse among youth in communities throughout the United States, and over time, to reduce substance abuse among adults;

"(2) to strengthen collaboration among communities, the Federal Government, and State, local, and tribal governments;

"(3) to enhance intergovernmental cooperation and coordination on the issue of substance abuse among youth;

"(4) to serve as a catalyst for increased citizen participation and greater collaboration

among all sectors and organizations of a community that first demonstrates a long-term commitment to reducing substance abuse among youth;

"(5) to rechannel resources from the fiscal year 1998 Federal drug control budget to provide technical assistance, guidance, and financial support to communities that demonstrate a long-term commitment in reducing substance abuse among youth;

"(6) to disseminate to communities timely information regarding the state-of-the-art practices and initiatives that have proven to be effective in reducing substance abuse among youth;

"(7) to enhance, not supplant, local community initiatives for reducing substance abuse among youth; and

"(8) to encourage the creation of and support for community anti-drug coalitions throughout the United States.

"SEC. 1023. DEFINITIONS.

"In this chapter:

"(1) ADMINISTRATOR.—The term 'Administrator' means the Administrator appointed by the Director under section 1031(c).

"(2) ADVISORY COMMISSION.—The term 'Advisory Commission' means the Advisory Commission established under section 1041.

"(3) COMMUNITY.—The term 'community' shall have the meaning provided that term by the Administrator, in consultation with the Advisory Commission.

"(4) DIRECTOR.—The term 'Director' means the Director of the Office of National Drug Control Policy.

"(5) ELIGIBLE COALITION.—The term 'eligible coalition' means a coalition that meets the applicable criteria under section 1032(a).

"(6) GRANT RECIPIENT.—The term 'grant recipient' means the recipient of a grant award under section 1032.

"(7) NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION.—The term 'nonprofit organization' means an organization described under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 that is exempt from taxation under section 501(a) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986.

"(8) PROGRAM.—The term 'Program' means the program established under section 1031(a).

"(9) SUBSTANCE ABUSE.—The term 'substance abuse' means—

"(A) the illegal use or abuse of drugs, including substances listed in schedules I through V of section 112 of the Controlled Substances Act (21 U.S.C. 812);

"(B) the abuse of inhalants; or

"(C) the use of alcohol, tobacco, or other related product as such use is prohibited by State or local law.

"(10) YOUTH.—The term 'youth' shall have the meaning provided that term by the Administrator, in consultation with the Advisory Commission.

"SEC. 1024. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.

"(a) IN GENERAL.—There are authorized to be appropriated to the Office of National Drug Control Policy to carry out this chapter—

"(1) \$10,000,000 for fiscal year 1998;

"(2) \$20,000,000 for fiscal year 1999;

"(3) \$30,000,000 for fiscal year 2000;

"(4) \$40,000,000 for fiscal year 2001; and

"(5) \$43,500,000 for fiscal year 2002.

"(b) ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS.—Not more than the following percentages of the amounts authorized under subsection (a) may be used to pay administrative costs:

"(1) 10 percent for fiscal year 1998.

"(2) 6 percent for fiscal year 1999.

"(3) 4 percent for fiscal year 2000.

"(4) 3 percent for fiscal year 2001.

"(5) 3 percent for fiscal year 2002.