

Inhalant abuse is so prevalent because of the availability and affordability of the products. The over 1,000 products being abused include nail and furniture polish, markers, whip cream aerosols, glue, gasoline, and air fresheners. These products are available in every home across the country and are sold for only a few dollars in every corner market. Unlike other substances young people abuse—alcohol, cigarettes, and harder drugs like cocaine, marijuana and heroin—these are perfectly legal products and harmless if used according to the directions.

All of us have these products in our homes and at some point, we have all asked our children to follow those directions and polish the living room furniture or fix a broken dish. But how many of us knew these items, which we so casually use, could someday kill our children? According to a recent study, only four percent of parents suspected their children of inhaling when in fact, 21% of them have.

With the products accessible and cheap, how do we stop the abuse without more laws? Congress can't just enact another law this time, we can't outlaw furniture polish or gasoline. Instead, I strongly believe the solution lies within our communities and our families. We, as community leaders, parents, and grandparents, should make a concerted effort to involve young people in other activities—teach them a trade or give them a summer job. I suggest that families pray together and eat their meals together. Children who have loving supportive homes and who are involved in a job or their community are less likely to be enticed by drugs, including inhalants.

We can also provide information. Inhalant abuse could be reduced if parents knew what symptoms they should be looking for. The warning signs for abuse include: unusual breath odor, chemical odor on clothing, a drunk or dazed appearance, hand tremors, red or runny nose and eyes, spots or sores around the mouth and anxiety and restlessness.

A sudden drop in grades and school attendance can also be an indication of drug abuse.

Most importantly, teenagers and children need to be told over and over again that even one try, one sniff, can kill. What they may view as simple experimentation can kill them. If they don't die from inhalant abuse, they may be left with permanent brain, liver and kidney damage.

I hope that on October 15th, my colleagues in the Senate will join me in a nationwide conversation about inhalant abuse. Together, as community leaders, parents, and concerned citizens, we can educate parents and young people while encouraging community and family oriented solutions to drug abuse. ●

## AMENDMENTS SUBMITTED

DEPARTMENTS OF COMMERCE,  
JUSTICE, AND STATE, THE JUDICIARY,  
AND RELATED AGENCIES  
APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 1999SESSIONS (AND HATCH)  
AMENDMENT NO. 3245

Mr. SESSIONS (for himself and Mr. HATCH) proposed an amendment to the bill (S. 2260) making appropriations for the Department of Commerce, Justice, and State, the Judiciary, and related agencies for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1999, and for other purposes; as follows:

On page 30, line 7, strike "\$100,000,000" and insert "\$150,000,000".

On page 36, line 20, strike "\$95,000,000" and insert "\$45,000,000".

KERREY (AND HAGEL)  
AMENDMENT NO. 3246

(Ordered to lie on the table.)

Mr. KERREY (for himself and Mr. HAGEL) submitted an amendment intended to be proposed by them to the bill, S. 2260, supra; as follows:

At the end of the bill insert the following:  
**SEC. . TEMPORARY PROHIBITION ON IMPLEMENTATION OR ENFORCEMENT OF PUBLIC WATER SYSTEM TREATMENT REQUIREMENTS FOR COPPER ACTION LEVEL.**

(a) IN GENERAL.—None of the funds made available by this or any other Act for any fiscal year may be used by the Administrator of the Environmental Protection Agency to implement or enforce the national primary drinking water regulations for lead and copper in drinking water promulgated under the Safe Drinking Water Act (42 U.S.C. 300f et seq.), to the extent that the regulations pertain to the public water system treatment requirements related to the copper action level, until—

(1) the Administrator and the Director of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention jointly conduct a study to establish a reliable dose-response relationship for the adverse human health effects that may result from exposure to copper in drinking water, that—

(A) includes an analysis of the health effects that may be experienced by groups within the general population (including infants) that are potentially at greater risk of adverse health effects as the result of the exposure;

(B) is conducted in consultation with interested States;

(C) is based on the best available science and supporting studies that are subject to peer review and conducted in accordance with sound and objective scientific practices; and

(D) is completed not later than 30 months after the date of enactment of this Act; and

(2) based on the results of the study and, once peer reviewed and published, the 2 studies of copper in drinking water conducted by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention in the State of Nebraska and the State of Delaware, the Administrator establishes an action level for the presence of copper in drinking water that protects the public health against reasonably expected adverse effects due to exposure to copper in drinking water.

(b) CURRENT REQUIREMENTS.—Nothing in this section precludes a State from imple-

menting or enforcing the national primary drinking water regulations for lead and copper in drinking water promulgated under the Safe Drinking Water Act (42 U.S.C. 300f et seq.) that are in effect on the date of enactment of this Act, to the extent that the regulations pertain to the public water system treatment requirements related to the copper action level.

INTERNATIONAL MONETARY FUND  
APPROPRIATIONS ACT OF 1998HUTCHINSON (AND WELLSTONE)  
AMENDMENTS NOS. 3247-3248

(Ordered to lie on the table.)

Mr. HUTCHINSON (for himself and Mr. WELLSTONE) submitted two amendments intended to be proposed by them to the bill (S. 2334) making appropriations for foreign operations, export financing, and related programs for the fiscal year ending September 30, 1999, and for other purposes; as follows:

## AMENDMENT No. 3247

On page 99, between lines 17 and 18, insert the following:

## TITLE IX

## HUMAN RIGHTS IN CHINA

Subtitle A—Forced Abortions in China

SEC. 9001. This subtitle may be cited as the "Forced Abortion Condemnation Act".

SEC. 9002. Congress makes the following findings:

(1) Forced abortion was rightly denounced as a crime against humanity by the Nuremberg War Crimes Tribunal.

(2) For over 15 years there have been frequent and credible reports of forced abortion and forced sterilization in connection with the population control policies of the People's Republic of China. These reports indicate the following:

(A) Although it is the stated position of the politburo of the Chinese Communist Party that forced abortion and forced sterilization have no role in the population control program, in fact the Communist Chinese Government encourages both forced abortion and forced sterilization through a combination of strictly enforced birth quotas and immunity for local population control officials who engage in coercion. Officials acknowledge that there have been instances of forced abortions and sterilization, and no evidence has been made available to suggest that the perpetrators have been punished.

(B) People's Republic of China population control officials, in cooperation with employers and works unit officials, routinely monitor women's menstrual cycles and subject women who conceive without government authorization to extreme psychological pressure, to harsh economic sanctions, including unpayable fines and loss of employment, and often to physical force.

(C) Official sanctions for giving birth to unauthorized children include fines in amounts several times larger than the per capita annual incomes of residents of the People's Republic of China. In Fujian, for example, the average fine is estimated to be twice a family's gross annual income. Families which cannot pay the fine may be subject to confiscation and destruction of their homes and personal property.

(D) Especially harsh punishments have been inflicted on those whose resistance is motivated by religion. For example, according to a 1995 Amnesty International report, the Catholic inhabitants of 2 villages in Hebei Province were subjected to population