

resources and marshal the private sector resources, as well as the nonprofit resources, so that by the time we get to Thanksgiving we will have been well on our way. So we look to be able to do that. We in Commerce, Justice, and Science look forward to doing our part, carrying our heavy lifting. There is no lifting too heavy to help people in our own country that have been so devastated.

For everyone working on this out there in the field, the tremendous number of volunteers, the generosity of spirit of the people and, I might add, the private sector that is marshaling, we say thank you. We have a big job to do. One of the big jobs we have to do is here, working on a bipartisan basis, to be collegial, to be civil, and to get the job done.

Let's ask of ourselves exactly what we ask the people working down in the Gulf. Let's not have a slow, sluggish response from the Congress. Let's be effective in targeting our resources.

I have a long-range idea I would like to share on the idea of reform. When I was the chairman of VA/HUD, before the 1994 Republican Gingrich revolution, I found that FEMA was a dated agency. It was focused on the Cold War. It was worrying about where to send the Coast Guard if we had a nuclear attack. It was riddled with staff at Federal and State levels, with cronies and hacks and people with no experience in emergency management.

When Hurricane Andrew hit Florida with such enormous devastation, we found Andrew people were doubly victimized. They were victimized by the hurricane, and then they were victimized by the inept approach of FEMA.

I went to work on reform. I worked with President Bush's dad—I call him President Bush 1—and Andy Card, who is now the President's Chief of Staff, to reform FEMA. We did. Let me tell you we totally reformed FEMA. When President Clinton came in, he took that early work that we had begun with President Bush 1.

What did we do? First, we said goodbye to the Cold War. The Cold War was over, except for the Federal bureaucracy. We said goodbye to the Cold War. We said that FEMA now had to be a professional agency; that it needed to be headed by someone who had either emergency management experience, and actually responded to emergencies, or comparable experience in the military or in private sector with crisis management. President Clinton gave us James Lee Witt.

Second, we encouraged Governors to do the same thing at the State level. The more they did, the more we could help.

Third, we said that FEMA had to become an all-hazards agency, it had to be ready for a hurricane or tornado. But in becoming "all hazards," it had to go to the risk-based strategy. We analyzed what Americans were most likely to have, particularly in terms of natural disasters. It was tornadoes and

hurricanes, followed of course by earthquakes, though less frequent, severe, and devastating. We then encouraged the States to have real plans for evacuation; that they had to be ready, they had to have things pre-positioned where things were most likely to happen. If you were worried about hurricanes and "northeasters," you did not pre-position in Maryland from Allegany County, where we are subjected more to floods.

So, readiness and then recovery. Readiness, response, and recovery. It worked very well.

After September 11, and our desire to be effective and supportive in fighting the global war against terrorism, FEMA was moved to Homeland Security. I supported that. I felt again that was the home of the first responders. That was the home where the local fire departments could apply for protective gear that firefighters needed.

I now have second thoughts because when FEMA moved to Homeland Security, it lost its focus, it lost its way, and it definitely lost its leadership. I believe the President will focus now on giving us the right leadership.

We have to get a new focus, and this is why I would like to see the Federal Emergency Management Agency again become an independent agency that is an all-hazards agency, goes to the risks facing the American people. There are natural disasters and there are terrorists. We cannot forget there are those who have a predatory intent against the United States of America and its communities. So we have to be ready to respond if they get through the fabulous intelligence network that we have to protect us. We want to be ready for that.

Quite frankly, there are those who say: Well, Senator MIKULSKI, are you saying we are going to worry more about tornadoes than terrorists? Absolutely not. We have to be ready. But if you look at our cities and our larger communities, which are often the greatest targets of these international predators, these international thugs, these international terrorists, we have to be ready.

Just think, New Orleans could have been hit by a dirty bomb. New Orleans could have been hit by a chemical or biological attack. New Orleans could have been hit by bin Laden or Zarqawi or whomever, by blowing up the levees. So the consequences to the city—whether it is New Orleans or Baltimore or a city in California or any city—would be the same. We would have to be ready to respond, and to respond swiftly. Then, of course, we would have the recovery.

So if we have to evacuate the Capital region, it is the same whether we are hit by some natural disaster or predatory attack. If we have to evacuate San Francisco or LA in California, it is the same. So the reform comes after the recovery. Right now, we have to be swift and sure in responding to the people who need us the most.

Mr. President, I note the Senator from Oklahoma has come to the floor. I ask the Senator if he is prepared to speak?

Mr. President, I will yield the floor. Again, I reiterate my pledge for bipartisan support on our recovery efforts. And I look forward to working on a reform package with equal bipartisan support.

I yield the floor.

MAKING APPROPRIATIONS FOR SCIENCE, THE DEPARTMENTS OF STATE, JUSTICE, AND COMMERCE, AND RELATED AGENCIES FOR FISCAL YEAR 2006—Continued

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Oklahoma.

AMENDMENT NO. 1648

Mr. COBURN. Mr. President, I call up amendment No. 1648 on the CJS appropriations bill.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, the pending amendment is set aside. The clerk will report the amendment.

The assistant legislative clerk read as follows:

The Senator from Oklahoma [Mr. COBURN] proposes an amendment No. 1648.

Mr. COBURN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that reading of the amendment be dispensed with.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

The amendment is as follows:

(Purpose: To eliminate the funding for the Advanced Technology Program and increase the funding available for the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration, community oriented policing service, and State and local law enforcement assistance)

On page 170, between lines 9 and 10, insert the following:

SEC. 304.(a) Notwithstanding the provisions in title III under the heading "NATIONAL INSTITUTE OF STANDARDS AND TECHNOLOGY" and under the subheading "INDUSTRIAL TECHNOLOGY SERVICES", none of the funds appropriated in this Act may be made available for the Advanced Technology Program of the National Institute of Standards and Technology.

(b) Notwithstanding any other provision of this Act, the amount made available in title III under the heading "NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION" and under the subheading "OPERATIONS, RESEARCH, AND FACILITIES" for the National Weather Service is increased by \$4,900,000 and, of the total amount made available for such purpose under such subheading, \$3,950,000 shall be made available for the Coastal and Inland Hurricane Monitoring and Prediction Program and \$3,950,000 shall be made available for the Hurricane and Tornado Broadcast Campaign.

(c) Notwithstanding any other provision of this Act, the amount made appropriated in title I under the heading "OFFICE OF JUSTICE PROGRAMS" and under the subheading "COMMUNITY ORIENTED POLICING SERVICES" is increased by \$72,000,000 and, of the total amount made available under such subheading, not less than \$132,100,000 shall be made available for the Methamphetamine Hot Spots program.

(d) Notwithstanding any other provisions of this Act, the amount made appropriated

in title I under the heading "OFFICE OF JUSTICE PROGRAMS" and under the subheading "STATE AND LOCAL LAW ENFORCEMENT ASSISTANCE" is increased by \$48,000,000 and, of the total amount made available under such subheading, not less than \$578,000,000 shall be made available for the Justice Assistance Grants program.

Mr. COBURN. Mr. President, this is an amendment to start us down the way of reprioritizing our spending in this country.

With the events of the last 2 weeks, the tremendous deficit we face already, and the significant problems we face in this country, especially in terms of methamphetamine, the Weather Service, and the Byrne Justice Assistance Grants, this is an amendment that will eliminate the Advanced Technology Program.

There is no question that the ATP has done some good in its history. It has \$140 million in budget authority and has, this year, \$22.4 million in outlays. But there has come a time when we need to make decisions. One of the things I have been consistent on in terms of my time in the Senate is insisting that we start reprioritizing the things that work and the things that do not work.

The Advanced Technology Program was scrutinized at a hearing of the Federal Financial Management Subcommittee of the Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee this year and had good testimony. I will not demean some of the positive things that have come from this program. There is no question certain positive things have come from it.

However, GAO and the Comptroller General noted that 63 percent of the requests for grants through ATP never sought funds anywhere else. ATP is supposed to be the source of last resort on technology.

I have put up a chart to show the American people who has actually been getting the funding. It has not been small businessmen. It has not been new ideas, innovation coming from small entrepreneurs. What it has been for is the major corporations in this country that have billions and billions and billions of dollars worth of sales every year, and billions in profits. Yet we are now asking the American taxpayer to take 30 to 40 percent of this ATP money and fund the likes of General Electric, IBM, Motorola, and 3M, just to name four.

The fact is, good ideas will usually get funded. There is venture capital all across this country looking for good ideas, private capital that will fund great ideas. In this time of fiscal constraint, it is time we reprioritize what we do with this money.

This amendment is intended to take the savings from ATP and put it in three different programs. One of the programs is the Byrne Justice Assistance Grants Program, which is markedly needed today in terms of drug courts, in terms of drug busts, in terms of helping the district attorneys and State attorneys general accomplish the

very laws we put on the books in front of them.

It transfers funding to the COPS Methamphetamine Hot Spots Program. There has never been a more devastating drug to our society than methamphetamine. It is growing like wildfire. As a matter of fact, attached to this bill is a methamphetamine bill that limits and restricts the sale of pseudoephedrine throughout this country. It is a compromise worked out by many of us on the Judiciary Committee, along with Senator TALENT and Senator FEINSTEIN, to put the brakes on the accessibility of pseudoephedrine in the manufacturing of methamphetamine.

It also helps fund the National Weather Service for two hurricane and tornado monitoring and broadcast programs. Goodness knows, we need that. Different outlay rates for the different programs result in only \$124.9 million of the original \$140 million being transferred.

In March, during debate over the budget resolution, Senator LEVIN offered an amendment supporting ATP. One of the reasons for that is last year Michigan got \$31 million out of the \$140 million. I can understand his desire to support that. But I would also note that methamphetamine is a growing epidemic in Michigan. Law enforcement and the Hot Spots Program to fund the breaking down, the taking of children out of areas that have been exposed to this tremendously derelict drug that is infecting and ruining the lives of hundreds of thousands of Americans is important.

It is interesting to note that for every State in the United States, the average funding from ATP has been less than funding for the Byrne JAG Program. The results of this will place \$48 million additional into the Byrne Justice Assistance Grants Program, \$72 million into the COPS Methamphetamine Hot Spots Program, and \$4.9 million into the National Weather Service.

It is interesting to note, also, that many of those who oppose this bill are the ones who seek and have received the most in terms of the grants from the ATP program. If you look at California, where Senator FEINSTEIN will be supporting this CJS bill, California actually received \$31 million as an average from 1990 to 2004. However, with the Byrne JAG Program being reduced, their average of \$58 million for that program will be reduced.

ATP was created by Congress in 1988 to improve the global competitive position of high-tech industries in the United States. Very few of the things that came out of that ATP program accounted for the tremendous resurgence in the economic activities of the 1990s. Very few of the things have come out of the ATP program, although there have been some. One in Oklahoma in particular, Pure Protein, a company in my home State, had an ATP program. But they also have venture capital

funding that would have funded that research anyway.

Many of the program's most vocal supporters believe without Federal funding provided by ATP, countless research projects would receive no money at all, and that ATP exists to remedy the failure of the market to fund research and development. There is no evidence, however, that would support those claims.

Time after time, ATP has been shown to fund initiatives that have already been undertaken by the private sector. Year after year, multibillion-dollar corporations, as noted here, receive millions of dollars from ATP.

Regarding the claim that ATP primarily funds research that does not already exist in the private sector, the U.S. Government Accountability Office found in a 2000 report ATP-funded research on handwriting recognition that began in the private sector in 1950. GAO found that inherent factors within ATP made it unlikely that ATP—and this is a quote—"can avoid funding research already being pursued by the private sector in the same time period."

A 2002 report from the Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta found that ATP launched major efforts to fund Internet tools companies during periods when venture funding was markedly increasing its flow to these sectors. Furthermore, according to a program assessment and rating tool used by the Office of Management and Budget, ATP does not address a specific need and is not designed to make a unique contribution.

The Byrne Justice Assistance Grants, through the Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grants, the Bureau of Justice Assistance provides leadership and guidance on crime control and violence prevention and works in partnership with State and local governments to make communities safe and improve the criminal justice system. The JAG Program was created in 2004 through the merger of two Federal grant programs, the Edward Byrne Memorial Drug Control and System Improvement Grant Program and the Local Law Enforcement Block Grant Program. The JAG Program allows States and local governments to support a broad range of activities to prevent and control crime and to improve the criminal justice system.

The program focuses specifically on six separate purpose areas: law enforcement programs; prosecution and court programs; prevention and educational programs; correction and community correction programs; drug treatment programs; planning, evaluation, and technology improvement.

I want to tell you, as a physician, incarceration does not solve drug addiction. It makes it worse. Drug treatment programs solve drug addictions. If we are going to cut the money going to drug treatment programs, we are making a vital mistake, a mistake we will pay additional dollars for in the years to come.

The procedure for allocating JAG funds is a formula based on population and crime statistics in combination with the minimum allocation to ensure that each State and territory receives an appropriate share.

Traditionally, under the Byrne formula and LLEBG Program, funds were distributed 60–40 between State and local recipients. This distribution continues under the JAG Program.

The community-oriented policing services' Methamphetamine Hot Spots Program address a broad array of law enforcement initiatives pertaining to the investigation of methamphetamine trafficking in heavily affected areas of the country. This is the largest growing area of drug abuse in our country. It has a tremendous impact not only on the drug user but on their families because of the danger associated with it. We have seen a marked increase of infants who are delivered whose mothers are addicted to methamphetamine with tremendous negative consequences.

Earlier this year, 53 State attorneys general, including American Samoa and North Mariana Islands and District of Columbia, signed a letter to congressional leadership asking us not to reduce the funding for the Byrne Jag and COPS Program. The letter asked Congress to restore the reductions in these law enforcement programs to a level that allows the States to build on the results of the past, law enforcement partnerships represented by the Byrne JAG and COPS Programs. I will not go into the National Weather Service.

Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent to have printed in the RECORD a fact sheet on Ohio, an article by the Cleveland Plain Dealer on the meth epidemic striking Ohio, a fact sheet on Virginia, and a fact sheet on Minnesota.

There being no objection, the material was ordered to be printed in the RECORD, as follows:

OHIO FACT SHEET—COBURN AMENDMENT #1648
TO H.R. 2862

This amendment eliminates funding for the Advanced Technology Program (ATP) and shifts the funding to three separate programs: Byrne Justice Assistance Grants (JAG), Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS), and the National Weather Service (NWS).

Specifically, funding for ATP is reduced by \$140 million, funding for JAG is increased by \$48 million, funding for COPS/Methamphetamine Hot Spots is increased by \$72 million, and funding for NWS is increased by \$4.9 million.

Since 1990, ATP has funneled more than \$700 million to Fortune 500 companies that do not require government assistance. For example, GE (revenues of \$152 billion in 2004) has received \$91 million from ATP, IBM (revenues of \$96 billion in 2004) has received \$126 million from ATP, and Motorola (revenues of \$31 billion in 2004) has received \$44 million from ATP since 1990.

Since 1990, Ohio has received an average of \$6.1 million from ATP each year. In fiscal year 2005, Ohio received \$15.5 million from Byrne JAG funding alone.

Even though ATP was created to fund research that cannot attract private financing, a Government Accountability Office study

found that 63 percent of ATP grant recipients never even sought private financing. Quite simply, ATP funnels taxpayer money to billion dollar corporations that do not need government subsidies for research and development.

The National Association of Attorneys General, National District Attorneys Association, National Narcotics Officers Association Coalition, and National Sheriffs Association have all expressed support for the Coburn amendment.

Earlier this year, Jim Pero, the Attorney General of Ohio, co-signed a letter to Congressional leadership stating that funding cuts for law enforcement grants "will devastate state law enforcement efforts—especially drug enforcement—if they are not restored." In the absence of this amendment, Byrne JAG funding will be cut by \$6.5 million relative to 2005 levels.

An August 2005 news article in The Plain Dealer, a newspaper in Cleveland, states, "A scourge on the West Coast for nearly two decades, methamphetamine has established a destructive toehold in Ohio, infecting rural outposts, big cities and middle-class suburbs and consuming thousands of lives."

A July 2005 survey of law enforcement agencies conducted by the National Association of Counties found that "Meth is the leading drug-related local law enforcement problem in the country."

According to the same survey, 70 percent of responding officials stated that other crimes, including robberies and burglaries, had increased because of methamphetamine use.

The Methamphetamine Hot Spots program, part of COPS, addresses a broad array of law enforcement initiatives pertaining to the investigation of methamphetamine use and trafficking, trains law enforcement officials, collects intelligence, and works to discover, interdict, and dismantle clandestine drug laboratories. This amendment would ensure that this program receives the funding it needs to tackle the serious problems associated with methamphetamine use and distribution.

This amendment also increases funding for the National Weather Service, and directs the additional funding towards the Inland and Coastal Hurricane Monitoring and Prediction program and the Hurricane and Tornado Broadcast Campaign.

[From the Plain Dealer, Aug. 7, 2005.]

METH EPIDEMIC STRIKES OHIO

(By Mark Gillispie)

A scourge on the West Coast for nearly two decades, methamphetamine has established a destructive toehold in Ohio, infecting rural outposts, big cities and middle-class suburbs and consuming thousands of lives.

Like moonshine, but far more addictive, methamphetamine is a home-cooked concoction that can be brewed in kitchens, hotel rooms, back yards and trunks of cars.

And its destructive surge eastward—reinvigorated by Mexican drug cartels—has been driven largely by waves of hometown cooks, who pass the finished drug and their favorite recipes to family, friends and customers. In Summit County, a now-entrenched culture of meth-cooking has been traced to one woman—Debra Oviatt—who has spent the last eight years in prison but is still known today as Akron's "Mother of Meth."

"There's no doubt in my mind that Debbie got the whole thing started," said Larry Limbert, a retired narcotics detective with the Summit County Sheriff's Office.

Summit County has since become Ohio's meth capital. Narcotics officers dismantled 104 labs there last year—far more than in any other county—and are on pace to exceed

that total this year. Common wisdom in law enforcement holds that for every one lab busted, 10 remain undiscovered.

Nationally, the number of labs and other meth sites found last year topped 17,000, according to federal statistics, up from just 327 a decade ago.

As authorities in dozens of states try to shut down local cooks, evidence is mounting that "ice," a more potent form of meth, is being shipped in from Mexico and California to fill entrenched demand. In Summit County, meanwhile, officials say the Department of Children Services has removed dozens of children from homes where parents cooked and used meth in recent years. One-third of juveniles enrolled in a Summit County drug-court program reported having tried the drug, also commonly known as "crank," "crystal," "speed" and "tweek."

The number of methamphetamine users who sought help at Oriana House, a drug-treatment organization in Summit County, jumped from 30 in 2001 to 386 last year.

"There's definitely something going on out there," said Oriana executive vice president Bernie Rochford.

Police and narcotics agents in Lake County have found 15 labs since September but only a handful before then. Portage County has dismantled at least five labs since April.

Police in Ashtabula County have been finding nearly one lab a week. The Children's Services agency there has had to close an adolescent group home and shift resources to pay for the care of children removed from parents who cook and abuse meth.

Methamphetamine use also is rising in Cleveland and its suburbs, where the drug had been confined mostly to gay bars, bath houses and strip clubs, says Lt. Michael Jackson of the Cuyahoga County Sheriffs Office. Experts predict the problem will get worse before it gets better.

"You've heard about crack, you've heard about heroin," said Akron police Lt. Mike Caprez. "I've seen all those things take their course, and this has them both beat." Like crack in some ways, meth is more dangerous.

Like crack in some ways, meth is more dangerous.

Comparing meth to crack cocaine is apt on a number of levels.

Both are stimulants. Both are highly addictive.

While methamphetamine can be snorted, injected or eaten, more than half of those who sought treatment for meth addiction in 2003 said they smoked the drug—which is how crack is ingested.

Smoking meth produces the same strong, instantaneous "rush" that crack smokers achieve.

Methamphetamine floods the pleasure centers of the brain with large amounts of the neurotransmitter dopamine. It also affects other body chemicals that govern sleep, thirst, hunger and sex drive, making a person feel energetic, wakeful and hypersexual.

But meth remains in the body 10 times longer than crack, which can make meth cheaper to use. And while crack is obviously dangerous, methamphetamine causes even more physical harm.

A strong neurotoxin, methamphetamine damages the brain and other vital organs in a way that crack does not. And recovery, while possible, can be more difficult and take longer.

It can take several years of abstinence before meth addicts' body chemistry straightens out and they can feel "normal" again. Early studies show some of the brain damage is reversible.

The drug also rots teeth, a condition known as "meth mouth." Users develop ugly sores caused by incessant picking and scratching at phantom "crank bugs" they feel under their skin.

And when the dopamine "buzz" wears off, meth users are left wide awake for hours on end feeling angry and depressed.

The quick fix is more meth, which can trigger a vicious cycle of addiction. Hardcore meth users, known as "tweakers," sometimes go days, even weeks, without sleep.

That's when they become especially dangerous to themselves and others. Meth-driven psychosis—chiefly paranoia and hallucinations—combined with severe sleep deprivation can result in bizarre and violent behavior. James Trimble's attorney has claimed in court filings that his client was in the throes of meth-induced psychosis when he killed three people in Portage County's Brimfield Township in January.

Because it is cheaper to use than crack, and because some start using it for reasons other than getting high, meth has also had a broader appeal among potential abusers.

Women, who abuse meth at about the same rate as men, often report that they began using the drug to lose weight.

Blue-collar and construction workers use methamphetamine for an energy boost to get them through long days of hard labor.

An epidemiologist recently reported that in North Carolina, hunters and fishermen are using meth to stay awake.

Gay men everywhere use meth for its ability to enhance sex. Stepped-up meth use is being blamed for dramatic recent increases in infection rates for HIV and other sexually transmitted diseases.

"There isn't a specific demographic that I associate with meth," said Dr. Alex Stalcup, a drug treatment specialist in San Francisco. "It's essentially a universal drug." Three abusers: three different stories.

Three abusers: Three different stories.

Margaret, 27, of Summit County, felt self-conscious about her weight after giving birth to her second child. Her boyfriend coaxed her into trying meth two years ago as she did the laundry at their apartment in Mogadore.

"I remember I felt like my eyeballs were going to come out of my head, it burned so bad," Margaret said. "But then, I had all of this energy. So much energy I didn't know what to do."

She said she stayed up for five days straight, calling off work, scouring and scrubbing virtually every inch of her apartment.

"I loved to clean when I was on it," she said.

She did indeed lose weight. But then she lost her job, and, because of bad luck, a vengeful boyfriend and the bag of meth police found in her purse, she lost custody of her two children, too.

Margaret is now in a community-based corrections facility in Akron working to put her life back together.

"I can't believe I let this happen to me," she said.

Chad, a 20-year-old recovering addict, said he became instantly addicted to meth after someone gave him a few lines to snort at the Streetsboro manufacturing plant where he worked. He said many of his coworkers used meth to endure the grind of 12-hour days on the factory floor.

"That was my excuse, to get through the shift," Chad said.

Max, 34, of Cleveland, said he and numerous gay men he had sex with in West Side bath houses would use meth. Most preferred not to use condoms, he said, and few asked him about his HIV status. He is positive.

Max said he has been drug-free since April, when he and other members of a group calling itself the "Gay Mafia" were arrested in a sweeping methamphetamine bust. Federal authorities say the group sold meth brought here from Phoenix.

"Had I not gotten busted, I would still be doing it," Max acknowledged. "I don't think there's anything wrong with it."

While crack use increased rapidly, peaked in the late 1980s and then fell off as people became wary of its effects, meth use has been rising steadily.

From 1993 to 2003, the number of people seeking treatment for meth addiction jumped five-fold.

Also in 2003, 14 states reported that more people entered treatment for methamphetamine than for cocaine and heroin combined. A survey that year estimated that more than 600,000 people recently used meth, about the same number as used crack. But experts now believe that meth use has exceeded crack.

Unlike crack, methamphetamine—often referred to as "poor man's cocaine"—has swept through rural communities across the country, including in southern Ohio.

But it has long been popular in big cities as well, especially out west, where places like San Diego, Phoenix and Portland, Ore., report high rates of meth addiction.

Police in Los Angeles say meth has become that city's No. 1 drug.

And police in other western states say methamphetamine is not only their top drug concern, it's their top crime problem as well.

Walt Myers, the recently retired police chief in Salem, Ore., said meth use drives at least 85 percent of the crime in that city. Police in Tucson, Ariz., attribute dramatic recent jumps in thefts and burglaries to a worsening methamphetamine problem.

And identity theft is emerging in many communities as a crime of choice among meth addicts.

Bob Brown of the Colorado Bureau of Criminal Investigation said his agency has investigated numerous rings of meth users producing high-quality counterfeit checks and identification cards.

"They don't sleep and they're high," Brown said of the meth-driven counterfeiters. "They're staying up late at night when the rest of us are sleeping, and they're cranking this stuff out."

Nearly 60 percent of county sheriffs said in a recent national survey that the meth epidemic is their worst drug problem—three times the number mentioning cocaine.

"It's not like the crack epidemic," said Richard Rawson, a drug treatment expert at UCLA. "It's not a flare-up and flame-out. It's a gradual infestation and it stays there. That's not a very positive perspective on the future."

The making of Summit's Mother of Meth'. The infestation in Akron can be traced to when Debra Oviatt returned to Ohio a second time from California, bringing along her favorite recipe for home-cooked meth.

Oviatt, 52, grew up in Wadsworth but moved as a young adult to California, where she was arrested numerous times for auto theft and was sentenced twice to prison.

She returned to Ohio after being paroled in 1986 and apparently brought a meth habit with her.

Postal inspectors arrested her in 1991 after a package containing methamphetamine was mailed from California to her brother-in-law's home in Richfield. Oviatt received six months in state prison.

She fled to California three years later when one of her customers was arrested after a 3-ounce package of meth was sent to his home.

When she came back to the Akron area in 1996, Oviatt brought with her a deadly legacy: the ability to make her own meth and a willingness to pass on the recipe.

Methamphetamine is manufactured using a witch's brew of solvents and chemicals to change the molecular structure of pseudoephedrine, the active ingredient in

popular over-the-counter cold remedies such as Sudafed and Actifed.

Meth labs are typically lowtech affairs. The tools of the trade—glass jars, plastic soda bottles, coffee filters and aquarium hoses—can fit inside a typical suitcase. The flammable and combustible nature of the ingredients makes the process potentially dangerous, but not difficult to learn.

"There's definitely a science in making it, but it's not rocket science," said Michael Fox, a drug counselor with the Community Health Center of Akron. "With a little bit of training, anybody can make it."

Meth cooks typically attract a small coterie of friends and addicts who gather ingredients, such as cold pills, in exchange for a share of the finished product.

When those friends and addicts learn the recipe themselves, they often form their own co-operatives, which leads to more cooking, more drugs and more addiction.

That's essentially what happened with Oviatt, authorities say. And the result was a dramatic increase in meth abuse in southern Summit County.

How many people she eventually taught to make the drug is in dispute.

Although she declined twice to be interviewed, Oviatt claimed in a letter to have taught only two. Police think it's many more.

Among her students, they say, was Oviatt's son, Christopher Shrake, who is serving a second prison sentence for meth manufacturing.

Legendary cook undaunted by charges.

It was Shrake's carelessness that led to the discovery of Summit County's first known methamphetamine lab nearly 10 years ago.

About 7:30 a.m. on May 5, 1996, the Green Fire Department got a call about a fire at a home on East Turkeyfoot Road. Shrake apparently started the fire while mishandling some of the ingredients.

The home sustained extensive damage. Firefighters' initial suspicions were confirmed when members of a Summit County drug unit arrived and revealed that they had been investigating reports of a meth lab in the home.

A Summit County grand jury indicted Oviatt and Shrake. But that didn't slow Oviatt down.

Police say that after a friend made and sold enough meth to post her bail, Oviatt set up a shifting string of labs in people's homes and in hotels along Interstate 77.

Detectives said Oviatt sometimes enlisted the help of her 6-year-old daughter to scrape methamphetamine residue from filters, telling her it was bird seed.

Oviatt initially was selective about whom she taught, sometimes sharing only a portion of the recipe in exchange for cash or meth-making ingredients, a former student said. That changed when it was clear she was headed to prison.

"Debbie wanted to teach anybody and everybody so this town would be flooded and nobody would make any money," the student said.

Before she could settle the charges from the Green incident, Oviatt was arrested in August 1996 at a hotel in Wadsworth.

Police, who had been called because of a fight between Shrake and his girlfriend, found methlab components in Oviatt's room.

Oviatt agreed to a plea deal on charges from both arrests. But before sentencing, she fled in February 1997 with the 6-year-old and a pregnant 16-year-old daughter.

Detectives spent five months chasing her around Ohio, West Virginia and Pennsylvania.

"She bounced from apartment house to apartment house, hotel to hotel," said Limbert, the retired detective. "They would

make enough dope in those places that they would be OK."

Oviatt's meth-cooking career ended on June 22, 1997. That's when her younger daughter called 9-1-1 from a hotel in Springfield Township and asked to speak with Limbert and Detective Bruce Berlin. Oviatt, who had left the hotel, was arrested later that evening.

She pleaded guilty to various charges, including racketeering and kidnapping, and received a 2-year sentence.

Police believe that by the time she went to prison, dozens of others had learned how to make methamphetamine, either directly from Oviatt or from one of her students.

South Akron is hotbed for meth

Oviatt and her proteges helped make mostly white, blue-collar Akron neighborhoods like Kenmore and Firestone Park—along with nearby Barberton and Springfield Township—the epicenter of meth making in Summit County.

It's in that general area that most of Summit County's meth labs have been found, including a would-be meth school operated by Brian Matheny, who police believe learned and improved on Oviatt's recipe.

A nurse by training, Matheny set up a lab in the basement of his Kenmore home, selling meth to support a substantial heroin habit.

Using a camera he had received for Christmas, he made an instructional video on meth manufacturing.

Police found the tape during a search of the basement in September 1997.

It shows Matheny coughing and exhaling hydrochloric gas, which is used in one step of the cooking process.

Penny Bishop, 43, got hooked on meth about the same time, and in the same general neighborhood, and eventually learned to cook as well—out of economic necessity.

Bishop says a friend introduced her to the drug in 1997, and she liked it immediately. In about two months, her habit grew from \$100 a week to \$400 as she switched from eating meth to smoking it.

"I had to have it just to get out of bed," Bishop said. "If I didn't have it, I wasn't moving."

Bishop depended on the drug to allow her to work long hours managing a gasoline station. But when her habit quickly exceeded her salary, the friend who first sold her meth began giving her money to buy cold pills.

She started shoplifting the pills so she could keep the cash and, as many meth addicts do, learned to make the drug herself.

Bishop, a high school dropout, said she caught on quickly.

"It was amazing I could take all these chemicals and make a drug, but I can't grasp simple things to get my GED," Bishop said.

By the late 1990s, many stores had begun limiting how many boxes of cold pills a person could buy at one time. (It takes about 1,100 standard-strength pills to make a 1-ounce batch of meth, roughly 280 doses.)

Meth cooks have generally sidestepped such measures by sending out groups of people to buy cold pills from as many stores as necessary to acquire the amount needed for the next batch.

Laws cripple cooks, but meth keeps coming. But in the last two years, authorities have gotten more aggressive in trying to squeeze the cooks.

About 40 states have passed laws to restrict the sale of pseudoephedrine products or are considering them.

In Ohio, legislators are considering a bill that would restrict sales of pseudoephedrine products.

The Oregon legislature agreed last month to make it a prescription drug. And Congress is considering a bill that would follow Okla-

homa's lead by requiring buyers of the pills to show identification and sign a log book.

A number of national retailers have voluntarily moved cold tablets to more-secure areas of their stores. And drug manufacturers are gearing up production of cold pills that contain phenylephrine—which cannot easily be converted into meth—instead of pseudoephedrine.

Since Oklahoma's pioneering law took effect last year, methlab seizures there have plummeted.

But not all the news is good. Narcotics detectives say there is more meth than ever in Oklahoma. And the quality is better.

With local cooks being shut down, the state's entrenched meth demand is now being met by Mexican narco-traffickers who have stepped up production, mostly south of the border, to supply a growing U.S. market.

Seizures of "ice"—the nearly pure form of meth churned out in Mexican super labs—have jumped nearly five fold in Oklahoma since its pseudoephedrine law took effect in April 2004.

Ice, which resembles shards of glass, "is like meth on rocket fuel," said Mark Woodward, a spokesman for the Oklahoma Bureau of Narcotics and Dangerous Drugs.

Because of its purity and strength, he said, it's more addictive and more dangerous than the home-cooked meth it's replacing.

As long as the demand for meth highs persists, the future does not look bright. There are no signs that meth use is dropping in the West, Midwest or Southeast—areas of the country where meth use has become entrenched.

More Californians were treated for methamphetamine addiction than alcoholism in 2003. And meth has started to make inroads into Pennsylvania, Maryland and rural communities of New York—the outskirts of the Northeast Corridor, which is home to 60 million people, one-fifth of the U.S. population.

Vermont and Maine have been bracing for an upswing in meth use and manufacturing. Two labs were recently found in Connecticut.

"Their numbers [of meth users] are going to go up," said Special Agent Michael Heald, a methamphetamine expert with the U.S. Drug Enforcement Administration.

Heald acknowledged that law enforcement's ability to stop the eastward surge of meth is limited. Prevention and treatment, he said, are the best weapons in this particular battle in the war on drugs.

"Until we teach people that drugs are absolutely destructive to ourselves and society, we can arrest all the people we can" and still not win, Heald said.

"We can't do this alone."

VIRGINIA FACT SHEET—COBURN AMENDMENT #1648 TO H.R. 2862

This amendment eliminates funding for the Advanced Technology Program (ATP) and shifts the funding to three separate programs: Byrne Justice Assistance Grants (JAG), Community Oriented Policing Services (COPS), and the National Weather Service (NWS).

Specifically, funding for ATP is reduced by \$140 million, funding for JAG is increased by \$48 million, funding for COPS/Methamphetamine Hot Spots is increased by \$72 million, and funding for NWS is increased by \$4.9 million.

Since 1990, ATP has funneled more than \$700 million to Fortune 500 companies that do not require government assistance. For example, GE (revenues of \$152 billion in 2004) has received \$91 million from ATP, IBM (revenues of \$96 billion in 2004) has received \$126 million from ATP, and Motorola (revenues of \$31 billion in 2004) has received \$44 million from ATP since 1990.

Since 1990, Virginia has received an average of \$3.4 million from ATP each year. In fiscal year 2005, Virginia received \$9.7 million from Byrne JAG funding alone.

Even though ATP was created to fund research that cannot attract private financing, a Government Accountability Office study found that 63 percent of ATP grant recipients never even sought private financing. Quite simply, ATP funnels taxpayer money to billion dollar corporations that do not need government subsidies for research and development.

The National Association of Attorneys General, National District Attorneys Association, National Narcotics Officers Association Coalition, and National Sheriffs Association have all expressed support for the Coburn amendment.

Earlier this year, Judith Williams Jagdmann, the Attorney General of Virginia, co-signed a letter to Congressional leadership. The letter stated that funding cuts for law enforcement grants "will devastate state law enforcement efforts—especially drug enforcement—if they are not restored." In the absence of this amendment, Byrne JAG funding will be cut by \$6.5 million relative to 2005 levels.

In Virginia, at least 7 percent of high school students have admitted to using methamphetamines at least once. A July 2005 survey of law enforcement agencies conducted by the National Association of Counties found that "Meth is the leading drug-related local law enforcement problem in the country."

According to the same survey, 70 percent of responding officials stated that other crimes, including robberies and burglaries, had increased because of methamphetamine use.

The Methamphetamine Hot Spots program, part of COPS, addresses a broad array of law enforcement initiatives pertaining to the investigation of methamphetamine use and trafficking, trains law enforcement officials, collects intelligence, and works to discover, interdict, and dismantle clandestine drug laboratories. This amendment would ensure that this program receives the funding it needs to tackle the serious problems associated with methamphetamine use and distribution.

This amendment also increases funding for the National Weather Service, and directs the additional funding towards the Inland and Coastal Hurricane Monitoring and Prediction program and the Hurricane and Tornado Broadcast Campaign.

MINNESOTA FACT SHEET—COBURN AMENDMENT #1648 TO H.R. 2862

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Since 1990, Minnesota has received an average of \$4.6 million from ATP each year. In

fiscal year 2005, Minnesota received \$6.9 million from Byrne JAG funding alone.

Even though ATP was created to fund research that cannot attract private financing, a Government Accountability Office study found that 63 percent of ATP grant recipients never even sought private financing. Quite simply, ATP funnels taxpayer money to billion dollar corporations that do not need government subsidies for research and development.

The National Association of Attorneys General, National District Attorneys Association, National Narcotics Officers Association Coalition, and National Sheriffs Association have all expressed support for the Coburn amendment.

Earlier this year, Mike Hatch, the Attorney General of Minnesota, co-signed a letter to Congressional leadership. The letter stated that funding cuts for law enforcement grants "will devastate state law enforcement efforts—especially drug enforcement—if they are not restored." In the absence of this amendment, Byrne JAG funding will be cut by \$6.5 million relative to 2005 levels.

In Minnesota, at least 5 percent of high school students have admitted to using methamphetamines at least once. A July 2005 survey of law enforcement agencies conducted by the National Association of Counties found that "Meth is the leading drug-related local law enforcement problem in the country."

According to the same survey, 70 percent of responding officials stated that other crimes, including robberies and burglaries, had increased because of methamphetamine use.

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This amendment also increases funding for the National Weather Service, and directs the additional funding towards the Inland and Coastal Hurricane Monitoring and Prediction program and the Hurricane and Tornado Broadcast Campaign.

Senator Norm Coleman of Minnesota is a co-sponsor of this amendment.

Mr. COBURN. This is an area where there will be some controversy. I don't know if we will win the vote on this amendment. If we start looking at the human faces of what we, as Government, can do versus what business on its own can do and venture capital on its own can do, what we will see is that our parochialism needs to stop in terms of benefits to limited numbers, and we need to increase benefits to the masses. What I am asking by this grant is to eliminate a program that is marginal at best and put the money where it is going to make a tremendous difference in people's lives, born and unborn. It is my hope the Senate will concur with the amendment and that we can have a bipartisan vote to do it. It is also my hope that this is the first of many amendments, as we continue the appropriations process, where we will start making the hard choices—not easy, not black and white, but gray—that are necessary for us to meet the

growing needs of the Federal Government in this time of tremendous tragedy along our gulf coast and in a time of tragedy for our budget.

It is my hope we won't vote this based on what we feel our own State gets but what is best for the country and how we move forward.

I yield the floor.

AMENDMENT NO. 1668

Mr. BINGAMAN. Mr. President, I rise today to speak on behalf of my amendment that would allocate \$2 million for methamphetamine education programs in our Nation's schools. I am very pleased that this measure has been included in the underlying bill, and I would like to take a moment to explain why this amendment is so important.

Over the August recess I traveled throughout New Mexico to discuss the challenges local communities are facing in confronting problems associated with meth. I met with law enforcement, health officials, prosecutors, citizens, and State and local representatives. At each place I visited—Moriarty, Roswell, Farmington, Belen, Santa Fe, Taos, and Albuquerque—the message was clear: methamphetamine is the most serious drug threat that we are facing and we must do more to fight the spread of this epidemic.

Indeed, the National Association of Counties recently released a report that found that 58 percent of counties surveyed viewed meth as their largest drug problem, and 70 percent of law enforcement reported that robberies and burglaries have substantially increased due to meth use in their communities. And according to the DEA, there were some 16,000 meth lab seizures last year, up from 912 in 1995. In New Mexico, the number of labs seized increased fivefold from 1998 to 2003. The drug is particularly harmful because of its impact on the user, the likelihood of exposure to chemicals during the drug production process, and the high cleanup costs associated with dismantling labs.

We must address this issue in a comprehensive manner by reducing domestic production, providing law enforcement with the tools they need to fight the meth epidemic, disrupting the importation of meth or its precursor chemicals into the United States, and by developing effective education and treatment programs.

With regard to limiting domestic production, I am proud to be a cosponsor of the Combat Meth Act, which was introduced by Senators TALENT and FEINSTEIN, and included in the CJS appropriations bill. The bill would curb production by moving pseudoephedrine, the primary ingredient in meth and a common ingredient in cold medicines, behind the pharmacy counter. After Oklahoma enacted a similar law meth production dropped by over 80 percent in 1 year. The bill also provides additional funding for law enforcement and creates a research and training center aimed at developing effective treatments for meth users.

I am also pleased that the CJS appropriations bill provides funding for the

COPS meth program to assist local law enforcement obtain the equipment they need to safely and effectively clean up meth labs. I was very disappointed that the President proposed cutting the total COPS program by 96 percent and the meth portion of the program by 62 percent. Fortunately, the Appropriations Committee rejected the administration's proposal and included over \$60 million for the COPS meth program, which is about \$5 million more than last year. Since 1994, New Mexico has received over \$68 million in COPS grants and more than \$860,000 specifically under the COPS meth program. The administration also proposed cutting the HIDT A program by more than 50 percent, from \$226 million to \$100 million. These cuts, if enacted, would have significantly impacted our ability to fight the importation of meth from countries such as Mexico. Thankfully the Senate rejected this proposal as well.

However, I believe that we should also be focusing more on prevention by educating youth on the dangers of using meth. Along with enhanced law enforcement, prevention and education are key to combating meth. My amendment would provide funding for grants to law enforcement and health and school officials to carry out meth education prevention efforts in schools across the country. This funding could be used by local officials to tailor curriculum to the needs of their local communities and purchase the materials they need to educate youth on the dangers of meth.

According to ONDCP, there is a 95-percent chance that a first-time meth user will become addicted. Once kids get addicted there aren't a lot of treatment options and they often face tough criminal sanctions for using the drug. We need to emphasize education prevention efforts so we can stop people from going down a hard-to-reverse path riddled with crime and devastating health effects.

Because the consequences of meth use are so visibly evident, such as rotting teeth and open sores, students will likely be more receptive to such information than with other drugs, such as marijuana, that are normally the target of drug education prevention efforts in schools. The ingredients used in the production of meth, such as battery acid, antifreeze, kitty litter, lithium batteries, also create an opportunity to make children understand the dangerous nature of this drug.

According to a report issued this month by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration, SAMHSA, there were 583,000 current users of meth in 2004 and 1.4 million persons ages 12 and older have used meth in the past year. By providing additional resources for prevention and education, I believe that we can make considerable headway in fighting this terrible epidemic, and I am glad that the Senate has acted on this important measure.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from Maryland.

ORDER OF PROCEDURE

Ms. MIKULSKI. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the time from 5 o'clock to 5:30 today be a period of morning business and that that time be under my control or, in my absence, the control of the Senator from California, Mrs. BOXER.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

NOMINATION OF JOHN ROBERTS

Ms. MIKULSKI. Mr. President, I will put on a different hat. I was talking about appropriations. Now I will talk about a drama that is unfolding in the Senate which is the confirmation hearings on Judge John Roberts to go to the Supreme Court and to be the Chief Justice. I rise today to talk about this nomination because this is a decision of enormous consequence. One of the most significant and far-reaching votes a Senator can make relates to the Supreme Court. Why? Because it is irrevocable. When you vote for a Supreme Court Justice, that Justice has a lifetime appointment. Unless there is an impeachment, which is rare, it is forever.

The hearings are incredibly important, they provide the Senate and the American public with the opportunity to know more about where the nominee stands on core constitutional principles. I urge Judge Roberts to answer the questions that the Committee asks of him.

But equally important is completing the picture. The Senate should have access to the full record of the nominee who is going into the hearings. We need to know more about Judge Roberts. We have all met him. We find him personable. We find him smart. We find him capable. But we wonder, what is his judicial philosophy. What will he be like, not only as a member of Court but now as the Chief Justice. Look back to the record, not only the resume but to the record.

This is why I am joining with a group of other Senators to urge the White House to release documents on 16 cases argued by the Solicitor General when Judge Roberts was the Principal Deputy Solicitor General. You might ask: Why do you need to know this? This is when then Mr. Roberts played a very important role in shaping strategy, recommending policy, and it is one of the best insights we have into his judicial philosophy, his views, his legal reasoning. We want to know: Where does he stand on an issue such as the implicit right of privacy, on issues related to civil rights, on religious expression, on title IX, on affirmative action, and voting rights. And we want to know because the record before us now raises serious questions about his commitment to women's and civil rights. Prior to any vote, the American people

need to know where he stands on these issues. We, the Senators, need to know, too, so we can make an informed, rational decision.

The administration has refused to release these documents, even though they did so before. They did it when Mr. Bork was nominated, and they did it when William Rehnquist was nominated. This is particularly compelling since now the Roberts nomination has gone from a replacement of Justice Sandra Day O'Connor to replacing the Chief Justice. These documents matter because they represent the views from later in his career when he held his highest political appointment and was responsible for making policy recommendations. These documents will illuminate his beliefs and his approach to the law, and they will help this Senator and others to know where he stands on the important issues.

It is the constitutional duty of the Senate to conduct a thorough examination of the nominee, and we can only do it if we hear from the nominee himself through the confirmation processes, and have a complete record before us. We have his resume, he has received his rating from the American Bar Association, but we now need the documents on these 16 cases in order for us to do our homework and to do our due diligence. This is probably one of the most important votes I will ever take, along with my 99 colleagues. We need to know:

What type of Justice will John Roberts be?

Before the Senate left for its August break, I joined with six of my Democratic women colleagues to launch a website allowing Americans to have a voice in the confirmation process. The American people have a right to be part of the process and let the Senate know what they want Judge Roberts to answer. And we want them at the table. We want them to feel included and have the chance to participate. The Democratic women launched a Web site to allow them that opportunity. We remember how we were shut out during the judicial proceedings on Clarence Thomas. There were no women on the Judiciary Committee. Now there are. But we know what it is like not to have a seat at the table. We know what it is like not to be able to raise our questions. So we established this Web site so the public could ask about issues that impact them every day.

Guess what. Over the past month alone, 25,000 Americans responded to this Web site—with over 40,000 questions. They wanted to know where Judge Roberts stands on *Roe v. Wade*, privacy rights in light of national security challenges, the right to privacy, such as under the PATRIOT Act, what about so-called religious expression in schools, protecting our environment, protecting our civil rights, protecting our voting rights. And I am standing with them, because the record before us shows that Judge Roberts has ar-

gued against established constitutional protections against sex discrimination. He has argued that disparate treatment of men and women is reasonable when you don't have the resources to provide for both. He supported a very narrow interpretation of title IX. All arguments which the Supreme Court has squarely rejected.

Clearly, there are reasons people are troubled. Questions that Americans sent us were on the deepest and most heartfelt concerns of their families. A woman in Ohio wanted to ask Judge Roberts where he stands on women's equality. She said not just on choice and reproductive rights, but on wage equality, childcare options, glass ceilings. Where is he in the enforcement of equal opportunity and nondiscrimination.

A man from my home State of Maryland wanted to know did Judge Roberts support title IX. His niece played sports in high school and wanted to be sure that college sports teams would have resources and access to scholarships, as the guy teams do. A mother from Indiana wrote us. A single mom. In the 1950s, she was earning 60 cents for every dollar a man earned. She wanted to know where the judge stands on pay equity. These were the kinds of things they wanted to know. Quite frankly, I would like to know too. How Judge Roberts chooses to respond is his business. But whether we support the nominee based on those responses is our business and how the administration responds to our requests for documents is also our business.

That is why the White House must release those documents to the Senate. We want to have access to the documents relating to those 16 very important cases that were argued by the Solicitor General before the Supreme Court. These documents will help us evaluate the nominee and will enable us to make the kind of decision the American people want us to make.

As Judge Roberts begins his testimony and is asked about his past decisions, judicial philosophy and legal background, Americans will be watching. I urge the nominee to be forthcoming. He should not conceal his views on issues that the majority of Americans care about like reproductive choice, civil rights, congressional power, the environment and separation of church and state.

I also urge the White House to be forthcoming. They should not conceal documents that may illuminate those views. Judge Roberts' past career causes concern about his commitment to core constitutional principles and we need to have, and the American people deserve, a complete picture.

Mr. GREGG. Will the Senator yield for a question?

Ms. MIKULSKI. Yes.

Mr. GREGG. I ask if the Senator would allow me to propound a unanimous consent request so that I might speak at the conclusion of the speakers she has on her side.