

In 1982, in response to difficulties retaining addiction counselors due to the lack of a career ladder, Mr. Stimmler asked the HHC Office of Behavioral Health to add senior addiction counselor to the corporate plan of titles. After working on the project for more than ten years with Brenda Ballenger and the addiction counselors of Cumberland, Woodhull and Kings County Hospitals, a new assignment level for the addiction counselor position was created. On January 29, 1993, Rosa Maria Gil, DSW, HHC Senior Vice President for Mental Health and Chemical Dependency Services, announced the creation of the titles of senior addiction counselor I and II.

In 1998 Mr. Stimmler was assigned responsibility for administering the Woodhull Chemical Dependency Program as well as Cumberland's.

Mr. Stimmler is married to Kathleen, whom he met 36 years ago at the Fordham School of Social Work; she is in charge of psychiatric social work at the Nassau University Medical Center. They have two children, Colin, who works for the City of New York's Department of Homeless Services as an Emergency Planner, and Chad, a data analyst, is employed by the Memorial Sloan-Kettering Cancer Center.

#### SAFE DRUG DISPOSAL ACT OF 2009

### HON. JAY INSLEE

OF WASHINGTON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, February 25, 2009*

Mr. INSLEE. Madam Speaker, I am proud to announce the introduction of the Safe Drug Disposal Act of 2009. This important bill allows states the opportunity to continue their outstanding work to clean up our streets and waterways from unused pharmaceuticals, including both controlled and uncontrolled substances. It is my hope that Congress will give as much attention to this bill as it deserves.

In 1970, the Controlled Substances Act was enacted into law under title II of the Comprehensive Drug Abuse Prevention and Control Act of 1970. This valuable act was designed to protect the American public from recreational use of controlled substances by creating a closed loop system, which restricts the movement of controlled substances to individuals designated to handle such substances. Unfortunately, as we learn more about the high risks of controlled substances on our streets and in our water ways, the Controlled Substances Act has inadvertently established a barrier between safe and unsafe disposal methods of unused or unwanted controlled substances. Without amending this law, controlled substance abuse on our streets and prescription drug pollution of our water ways will continue to rise.

In 2007, a study conducted by the Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration of the Department of Health and Human Services found that, while cocaine and methamphetamine use among young adults dropped significantly, prescription drug abuse increased. Among young adults ages 18 to 25, the level of current nonmedical use of prescription pain relievers has risen 12 percent. Further, results of a separate study of seventh through twelfth grade students released on April 21, 2005 by the Partnership for a Drug-Free America indicated that teenagers are

more likely to have abused a prescription pain medication to get high than they are to have experimented with a variety of illicit drugs including ecstasy, cocaine, crack, and LSD. During this study, one in five teenagers reported using the controlled substance Vicodin without a prescription; approximately ten percent reported using the controlled substance OxyContin without a prescription; and ten percent reported having used prescription stimulants, Ritalin and/or Adderall, without a prescription.

One reason why pharmaceutical drug diversion has increased over the last few years is the availability of unused prescription drugs. Among teenagers surveyed in the April 21, 2005 study administered by the Partnership for a Drug-Free America, fifty percent indicated that prescription drugs are widely available, one-third indicated that prescription drugs were easy to purchase over the Internet, and sixty-three percent said they could easily obtain prescription opiates and painkillers from their own home. Family medicine cabinets all across America have turned into the drug dealers of today.

It is not irresponsibility that has driven the abundance of pharmaceuticals in households across America. Americans have their hands tied when they look to dispose of unused pharmaceuticals. The choice to either throw them in the trash or flush them down the toilet is environmentally unacceptable. Recent reports indicate traces of common medicines such as acetaminophen, hormones, blood pressure medications, codeine and antibiotics in very low concentrations in 80 percent of samples taken from 139 streams across 30 states. Researchers are continuously finding diluted concentrations of pharmaceutical residues harm fish, frogs and other aquatic species in the wild and impair the workings of human cells in laboratories.

Many Americans understand the need for appropriate disposal methods in their communities. Just last year, Local Hazardous Waste Management Program in King County, WA collected over 1,100 lbs of uncontrolled substances per month during their Safe Medicine Return Pilot program. It is programs like these that will provide a safe means of disposal to take prescription drugs off the streets and out of our water.

I am pleased to introduce the Safe Drug Disposal Act of 2009. It is my hope that Congress will consider this important piece legislation to keep our communities and waterways free from waste pharmaceuticals.

#### EARMARK DECLARATION

### HON. CHARLES W. DENT

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, February 25, 2009*

Mr. DENT. Madam Speaker, pursuant to the House Republican standards on earmarks, I am submitting the following information regarding earmarks I received as part of H.R. 1105, The Omnibus Appropriations Act, 2009:

Bill Number: H.R. 1105, the Omnibus Appropriations Act, 2009—Division B: Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, Account: NOAA—Operations, Research and Facilities, Title: Delaware River Enhanced Flood Warning System,

Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Delaware River Basin, Commission Address of Requesting Entity: 25 State Police Drive, PO Box 7360, West Trenton, NJ 08628, Description of Request: To assist the Delaware River Basin Commission, in conjunction with NOAA/NWS, USGS and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, with the enhancement of the basin's flood warning system. This enhancement will include the evaluation and improvement of existing precipitation and stream gage networks, development of additional NOAA flood forecast points in both non-tidal and tidal stream reaches, and merger of GIS and Doppler radar technology to improve flash flood warning capabilities for smaller watersheds.

Bill Number: H.R. 1105, the Omnibus Appropriations Act, 2009—Division B: Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, Account: NOAA—Operations, Research and Facilities, Title: Flood Awareness and Emergency Preparedness Education Campaign Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Nurture Nature Foundation, Address of Requesting Entity: 400 Northampton Street, Easton, PA 18042, Description of Request: The project will support a flood awareness and emergency preparedness education campaign for citizens of flood-prone areas. The campaign will be initiated in the recently flooded regions along the Delaware River, in the four basin states of Pennsylvania, New Jersey, Delaware and New York, but the materials will be applicable nationwide.

Bill Number: H.R. 1105, the Omnibus Appropriations Act, 2009—Division B: Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, Account: COPS Law Enforcement Technology, Title: Lehigh Valley Regional Crime Center Technology Infrastructure, Legal Name of Requesting Entity: Allentown Police Department, Address of Requesting Entity: 435 Hamilton Street, Allentown, PA 18101, Description of Request: The Lehigh Valley Regional Crime Center Technology Infrastructure project will enhance the effectiveness of a bi-county Regional Crime Center by making necessary improvements to the facility's technology infrastructure. This will enable the development of a comprehensive database that integrates information from 53 local law enforcement agencies, and provides agents with new, critical analysis capabilities. Providing local law enforcement agencies the ability to share and search information will dramatically improve efforts to fight crime throughout the region.

Bill Number: H.R. 1105, the Omnibus Appropriations Act, 2009—Division B: Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, Account: OJP—Byrne Discretionary Grants, Title: Anti-Gang Youth Initiative, Legal Name of Requesting Entity: City of Allentown and ALERT Partnership, Address of Requesting Entity: 435 Hamilton Street, Allentown, PA 18101 and 17th and Chew Streets, P.O. Box 7017, Allentown, PA 18105, Description of Request: The project will enhance and sustain model programs developed through the Allentown Anti-Gang Task Force. This task force was created through the Route 222 Corridor Anti-Gang Initiative, which was funded in 2007 by a Department of Justice grant. The project will allow the task force to slow the recruitment of youth into the gang lifestyle and develop multi-faceted strategies for early intervention to remove young people and teens from gangs. Additionally, the project