

107TH CONGRESS
2^D SESSION

H. R. 4690

To require that pseudoephedrine be dispensed only upon a written prescription of a licensed practitioner, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MAY 9, 2002

Mr. BERRY introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce

A BILL

To require that pseudoephedrine be dispensed only upon a written prescription of a licensed practitioner, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Methamphetamine
5 Elimination Act of 2002”.

6 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

7 The Congress finds the following:

8 (1) The United States faces increasing danger
9 related to methamphetamine trafficking, use, and
10 abuse.

1 (2) The number of methamphetamine-related
2 emergency room admissions has more than doubled
3 since 1991, rising from around 4,900 to over
4 10,000.

5 (3) Methamphetamine-producing clandestine
6 laboratories have been identified by the Drug En-
7 forcement Administration as a significant threat to
8 the Nation's public health and safety.

9 (4) Methamphetamine production has expanded
10 across the Nation, from California, to the Pacific
11 Northwest, to the Midwest and Southeast. There is
12 evidence that methamphetamine production is now
13 spreading to the Mid-Atlantic and Northeast.

14 (5) Methamphetamine producers can easily pur-
15 chase most of the ingredients necessary to manufac-
16 ture methamphetamine from any retail store.

17 (6) The vast majority of methamphetamine lab-
18 oratory operators obtain their precursor chemicals
19 from domestic sources.

20 (7) Pseudoephedrine is an essential precursor
21 chemical in the production of methamphetamine,
22 which prompted the Drug Enforcement Administra-
23 tion to initiate several investigations regarding the
24 chemical's sale and distribution.

1 (8) Efforts to reduce access to pseudoephedrine
2 by methamphetamine producers, such as blister
3 packaging and sales thresholds, have not been effective
4 deterrents, and pseudoephedrine tablets remain
5 pervasive in the illicit production of methamphetamine.
6 amine.

7 **SEC. 3. TREATMENT OF PSEUDOEPHEDRINE AS A PRE-**
8 **SCRIPTION DRUG.**

9 The Secretary of Health and Human Services shall
10 treat pseudoephedrine as a drug subject to section
11 503(b)(1) of the Federal Food, Drug, and Cosmetic Act
12 (21 U.S.C. 353(b)(1)).

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