

**City of Carson City
Agenda Report**

Date Submitted: December 20, 2010

Agenda Date Requested: January 6, 2011
Time Requested: 30 Minutes

To: Mayor and Supervisors
From: Neil A. Rombardo, District Attorney

Subject Title. Discussion and Action on a resolution supporting Nevada Legislature Bill Draft Request 40-648, making precursor drugs to methamphetamine, such as ephedrine, pseudoephedrine and phenylpropanolamine, prescription only. (Neil A. Rombardo, District Attorney)

Staff Summary:

Methamphetamine is a public health, safety, and welfare risk to the citizens of the United States, Nevada, and Carson City.

As a nation, in 2005, the United States spent approximately \$23 billion dollars on drug treatment, health care, intangibles/premature deaths, productivity, crime and criminal justice, child endangerment, and production/environment costs all related to methamphetamine.

As a state, Nevada's methamphetamine treatment rate is nearly three times the national average. One out of 10 high school students in Nevada report long term use of methamphetamine. Nevada's law enforcement reports methamphetamine as its number one lawenforcement issue.

Methamphetamine results in increased costs to Carson City for law enforcement, drug treatment, health care, child endangerment, and environmental concerns.

Methamphetamine use and manufacturing results in Drug Endangered Children, children born addicted to methamphetamine, children abused by methamphetamine addicted parents or guardians, and/or children exposed to the toxic chemicals and fumes in the manufacturing of methamphetamine in homespun laboratories.

Ephedrine, pseudoephedrine, and phenylpropanolamine are necessary precursor drugs to make methamphetamine. In fact, the difference between pseudoephedrine and methamphetamine is one oxygen molecule that is converted through a highly toxic and dangerous chemical process. Some of these precursor drugs may be purchased in Carson City and throughout Nevada without a prescription. It is estimated that 50% of legally purchased precursor drugs are diverted to a black market for the manufacturing of methamphetamine. Making these precursor drugs prescription only will make it difficult to obtain these precursor drugs on the black market for the production of methamphetamine.

Prescription only laws for precursor drugs in Oregon, Missouri, and Mississippi have reduced methamphetamine related crimes and costs to those states and surrounding areas.

Type of Action Requested: (check one)

Resolution Ordinance
 Formal Action/Motion Other (Specify)

Does This Action Require A Business Impact Statement: Yes No

Recommended Board Action: APPROVAL

Explanation for Recommended Board Action:

See Above Summary.

In Oregon, since the passage of the prescription only law in 2006, Oregon has reported the following statistics:

Drug arrests dropped 31% between November 2006 and November 2008;

In 2008, Oregon experienced the largest decrease in crime rates in our nation; and

In 2009, Oregon crime rates were at a 50-year low.

Applicable Statute, Code, Policy, Rule or Regulation: Carson City Charter 2.090

Fiscal Impact: None

Explanation of Impact: None

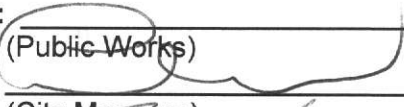
Funding Source: None

Alternatives: Provide other direction pursuant to Board Action.

Supporting Material: Power Point by the District Attorney's Office

Prepared By: Neil A. Rombardo, District Attorney

Reviewed By:


(Public Works)

Date: _____


(City Manager)

Date: 12/28/10


(District Attorney)

Date: 12/28/10


(Finance Director)

Date: 12/28/10

Board Action Taken:

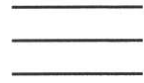
Motion: _____

1) _____

Aye/Nay

2) _____

(Vote Recorded By)



**A RESOLUTION SUPPORTING NEVADA LEGISLATURE BILL
DRAFT REQUEST 40-648, MAKING PRECURSOR DRUGS TO
METHAMPHETAMINE, SUCH AS EPHEDRINE,
PSUEDOEPHEDRINE AND PHENYLPROPANOLAMINE,
PRESCRIPTION ONLY.**

WHEREAS, pursuant to Section 2.090 of the Carson City Charter, the Carson City Board of Supervisors may pass a resolution not repugnant to the Constitution of the United States or the State of Nevada, or to the provisions of Nevada Revised Statutes or Carson City Charter, necessary for the municipal government and the management of the affairs of Carson City, and for the execution of all the powers vested in Carson City; and

WHEREAS, methamphetamine is a public health, safety, and welfare risk to the citizens of the United States, Nevada, and Carson City; and

WHEREAS, as a nation, in 2005, the United States spent approximately \$23 billion dollars on drug treatment, health care, intangibles/premature deaths, productivity, crime and criminal justice, child endangerment, and production/environment costs all related to methamphetamine; and

WHEREAS, as a state, Nevada's admissions to treatment for methamphetamine/amphetamine addiction is nearly three times the national average; and

WHEREAS, as a state, one out of 10 high school students in Nevada report long term use of methamphetamine; and

WHEREAS, as a state, Nevada's law enforcement reports methamphetamine as its number one law enforcement issue; and

WHEREAS, as a state, Nevada's law enforcement reports that because of Methamphetamine use, robberies and burglaries, domestic violence, assaults and identity theft rates have all increased; and

WHEREAS, methamphetamine results in increased costs to Carson City for law enforcement, drug treatment, health care, child endangerment, and environmental concerns; and

WHEREAS, methamphetamine use and manufacturing results in Drug Endangered Children, children born addicted to methamphetamine, children abused by methamphetamine addicted parents or guardians, and/or children exposed to the toxic chemicals and fumes in the manufacturing of methamphetamine in homespun laboratories; and

WHEREAS, ephedrine, pseudoephedrine, and phenylpropanolamine are necessary precursor drugs to make methamphetamine; and

WHEREAS, the difference between pseudoephedrine and methamphetamine is one oxygen molecule that is converted through a highly toxic and dangerous chemical process, and

WHEREAS, some of these precursor drugs may be purchased in Carson City and throughout Nevada without a prescription; and

WHEREAS, it is estimated that 50% of legally purchased precursor drugs are diverted to a black market for the manufacturing of methamphetamine; and

WHEREAS, making these precursor drugs prescription only will make it difficult to obtain these precursor drugs and divert them to the black market for the production of methamphetamine; and

WHEREAS, prescription only laws for precursor drugs in Oregon, Missouri, and Mississippi have reduced methamphetamine related crimes and costs to those states, counties, and cities.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Carson City Board of Supervisors hereby supports passage of Nevada Legislature Bill Draft Request 40-648 making precursor drugs to methamphetamine, such as ephedrine, pseudoephedrine, and phenylpropanolamine, prescription only; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Carson City Board of Supervisors hereby encourages all Nevada State Legislators representing Carson City to vote in favor of passing Bill Draft Request 40-648.

Upon motion by Supervisor _____, seconded by Supervisor _____, the foregoing Resolution was passed and adopted this _____ day of _____, 2011 by the following vote:

AYES: _____

NAYS: _____