

Bianca Lozano, and I thank the gentleman for his commitment that he also makes to this major catastrophe that is facing our country, and I look forward to working with the gentleman on it.

IN SUPPORT OF CORRIDOR X AND ISTEA LEGISLATION

(Mr. ADERHOLT asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute and to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. ADERHOLT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of the completion of Corridor X as an important transportation project, not only for the Fourth Congressional District, but also the southern region of the United States.

Few people realize there is no four-lane highway that connects the cities of Birmingham, AL, the largest city in the State of Alabama, and Memphis, TN. For economic development and safety reasons, this is an unacceptable omission from our national highway system.

The completion of Corridor X could connect these two major metropolitan areas by running through Birmingham and through the Fourth Congressional District. It must be remembered that 30 years ago Congress passed legislation to create a system of highways in the 13-State Appalachian region, including a route to connect Memphis and then through Birmingham.

Unfortunately, today the people in my area still are waiting for this four-lane highway to be completed. Economic growth is hampered because it is so difficult to transport goods and services between Birmingham and Memphis and through the northwestern part of Alabama. The current inadequate two-lane route is extremely dangerous, with traffic incidents or a fatality occurring almost every month in my district. Mr. Speaker, we need to reauthorize ISTEA and ensure that all States receive an equitable share of funds.

ANNOUNCEMENT BY THE SPEAKER PRO TEMPORE

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. TAYLOR of North Carolina). Pursuant to the provisions of clause 5 of rule I, the Chair announces that he will postpone further proceedings today on the motion to suspend the rules on which a recorded vote or the yeas and nays are ordered or on which the vote is objected to under clause 4 of rule XV.

Such rollcall vote, if postponed, will be taken later in the day.

DRUG-FREE COMMUNITIES ACT OF 1997

Mr. PORTMAN. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 956) to amend the National Narcotics Leadership Act of 1988 to establish a program to support and encourage local communities that first dem-

onstrate a comprehensive, long-term commitment to reduce substance abuse among youth, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read as follows:

H.R. 956

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Drug-Free Communities Act of 1997".

SEC. 2. NATIONAL DRUG CONTROL PROGRAM.

(a) IN GENERAL.—The National Narcotics Leadership Act of 1988 (21 U.S.C. 1501 et seq.) is amended—

(1) by inserting between sections 1001 and 1002 the following:

"CHAPTER 1—OFFICE OF NATIONAL DRUG CONTROL POLICY";

and

(2) by adding at the end the following:

"CHAPTER 2—DRUG-FREE COMMUNITIES

"SEC. 1021. FINDINGS.

"Congress finds the following:

"(1) Substance abuse among youth has more than doubled in the 5-year period preceding 1996, with substantial increases in the use of marijuana, inhalants, cocaine, methamphetamine, LSD, and heroin.

"(2) The most dramatic increases in substance abuse has occurred among 13- and 14-year-olds.

"(3) Casual or periodic substance abuse by youth today will contribute to hard core or chronic substance abuse by the next generation of adults.

"(4) Substance abuse is at the core of other problems, such as rising violent teenage and violent gang crime, increasing health care costs, HIV infections, teenage pregnancy, high school dropouts, and lower economic productivity.

"(5) Increases in substance abuse among youth are due in large part to an erosion of understanding by youth of the high risks associated with substance abuse, and to the softening of peer norms against use.

"(6)(A) Substance abuse is a preventable behavior and a treatable disease; and

"(B)(i) during the 13-year period beginning with 1979, monthly use of illegal drugs among youth 12 to 17 years of age declined by over 70 percent; and

"(ii) data suggests that if parents would simply talk to their children regularly about the dangers of substance abuse, use among youth could be expected to decline by as much as 30 percent.

"(7) Community anti-drug coalitions throughout the United States are successfully developing and implementing comprehensive, long-term strategies to reduce substance abuse among youth on a sustained basis.

"(8) Intergovernmental cooperation and coordination through national, State, and local or tribal leadership and partnerships are critical to facilitate the reduction of substance abuse among youth in communities throughout the United States.

"SEC. 1022. PURPOSES.

"The purposes of this chapter are—

"(1) to reduce substance abuse among youth in communities throughout the United States, and over time, to reduce substance abuse among adults;

"(2) to strengthen collaboration among communities, the Federal Government, and State, local, and tribal governments;

"(3) to enhance intergovernmental cooperation and coordination on the issue of substance abuse among youth;

"(4) to serve as a catalyst for increased citizen participation and greater collaboration

among all sectors and organizations of a community that first demonstrates a long-term commitment to reducing substance abuse among youth;

"(5) to rechannel resources from the fiscal year 1998 Federal drug control budget to provide technical assistance, guidance, and financial support to communities that demonstrate a long-term commitment in reducing substance abuse among youth;

"(6) to disseminate to communities timely information regarding the state-of-the-art practices and initiatives that have proven to be effective in reducing substance abuse among youth;

"(7) to enhance, not supplant, local community initiatives for reducing substance abuse among youth; and

"(8) to encourage the creation of and support for community anti-drug coalitions throughout the United States.

"SEC. 1023. DEFINITIONS.

"In this chapter:

"(1) ADMINISTRATOR.—The term 'Administrator' means the Administrator appointed by the Director under section 1031(c).

"(2) ADVISORY COMMISSION.—The term 'Advisory Commission' means the Advisory Commission established under section 1041.

"(3) COMMUNITY.—The term 'community' shall have the meaning provided that term by the Administrator, in consultation with the Advisory Commission.

"(4) DIRECTOR.—The term 'Director' means the Director of the Office of National Drug Control Policy.

"(5) ELIGIBLE COALITION.—The term 'eligible coalition' means a coalition that meets the applicable criteria under section 1032(a).

"(6) GRANT RECIPIENT.—The term 'grant recipient' means the recipient of a grant award under section 1032.

"(7) NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION.—The term 'nonprofit organization' means an organization described under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 that is exempt from taxation under section 501(a) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986.

"(8) PROGRAM.—The term 'Program' means the program established under section 1031(a).

"(9) SUBSTANCE ABUSE.—The term 'substance abuse' means—

"(A) the illegal use or abuse of drugs, including substances listed in schedules I through V of section 112 of the Controlled Substances Act (21 U.S.C. 812);

"(B) the abuse of inhalants; or

"(C) the use of alcohol, tobacco, or other related product as such use is prohibited by State or local law.

"(10) YOUTH.—The term 'youth' shall have the meaning provided that term by the Administrator, in consultation with the Advisory Commission.

"SEC. 1024. AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.

"(a) IN GENERAL.—There are authorized to be appropriated to the Office of National Drug Control Policy to carry out this chapter—

"(1) \$10,000,000 for fiscal year 1998;

"(2) \$20,000,000 for fiscal year 1999;

"(3) \$30,000,000 for fiscal year 2000;

"(4) \$40,000,000 for fiscal year 2001; and

"(5) \$43,500,000 for fiscal year 2002.

"(b) ADMINISTRATIVE COSTS.—Not more than the following percentages of the amounts authorized under subsection (a) may be used to pay administrative costs:

"(1) 10 percent for fiscal year 1998.

"(2) 6 percent for fiscal year 1999.

"(3) 4 percent for fiscal year 2000.

"(4) 3 percent for fiscal year 2001.

"(5) 3 percent for fiscal year 2002.

“Subchapter I—Drug-Free Communities Support Program

“SEC. 1031. ESTABLISHMENT OF DRUG-FREE COMMUNITIES SUPPORT PROGRAM.

“(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Director shall establish a program to support communities in the development and implementation of comprehensive, long-term plans and programs to prevent and treat substance abuse among youth.

“(b) PROGRAM.—In carrying out the Program, the Director shall—

“(1) make and track grants to grant recipients;

“(2) provide for technical assistance and training, data collection, and dissemination of information on state-of-the-art practices that the Director determines to be effective in reducing substance abuse; and

“(3) provide for the general administration of the Program.

“(c) ADMINISTRATION.—Not later than 30 days after receiving recommendations from the Advisory Commission under section 1042(a)(1), the Director shall appoint an Administrator to carry out the Program.

“(d) CONTRACTING.—The Director may employ any necessary staff and may enter into contracts or agreements with national drug control agencies, including interagency agreements to delegate authority for the execution of grants and for such other activities necessary to carry out this chapter.

“SEC. 1032. PROGRAM AUTHORIZATION.

“(a) GRANT ELIGIBILITY.—To be eligible to receive an initial grant or a renewal grant under this subchapter, a coalition shall meet each of the following criteria:

“(1) APPLICATION.—The coalition shall submit an application to the Administrator in accordance with section 1033(a)(2).

“(2) MAJOR SECTOR INVOLVEMENT.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—The coalition shall consist of 1 or more representatives of each of the following categories:

“(i) Youth.

“(ii) Parents.

“(iii) Businesses.

“(iv) The media.

“(v) Schools.

“(vi) Organizations serving youth.

“(vii) Law enforcement.

“(viii) Religious or fraternal organizations.

“(ix) Civic and volunteer groups.

“(x) Health care professionals.

“(xi) State, local, or tribal governmental agencies with expertise in the field of substance abuse (including, if applicable, the State authority with primary authority for substance abuse).

“(xii) Other organizations involved in reducing substance abuse.

“(B) ELECTED OFFICIALS.—If feasible, in addition to representatives from the categories listed in subparagraph (A), the coalition shall have an elected official (or a representative of an elected official) from—

“(i) the Federal Government; and

“(ii) the government of the appropriate State and political subdivision thereof or the governing body or an Indian tribe (as that term is defined in section 4(e) of the Indian Self-Determination Act (25 U.S.C. 450b(e))).

“(C) REPRESENTATION.—An individual who is a member of the coalition may serve on the coalition as a representative of not more than 1 category listed under subparagraph (A).

“(3) COMMITMENT.—The coalition shall demonstrate, to the satisfaction of the Administrator—

“(A) that the representatives of the coalition have worked together on substance abuse reduction initiatives, which, at a minimum, includes initiatives that target drugs referenced in section 1023(9)(A), for a period of not less than 6 months, acting through en-

ties such as task forces, subcommittees, or community boards; and

“(B) substantial participation from volunteer leaders in the community involved (especially in cooperation with individuals involved with youth such as parents, teachers, coaches, youth workers, and members of the clergy).

“(4) MISSION AND STRATEGIES.—The coalition shall, with respect to the community involved—

“(A) have as its principal mission the reduction of substance abuse, which, at a minimum, includes the use and abuse of drugs referenced in section 1023(9)(A), in a comprehensive and long-term manner, with a primary focus on youth in the community;

“(B) describe and document the nature and extent of the substance abuse problem, which, at a minimum, includes the use and abuse of drugs referenced in section 1023(9)(A), in the community;

“(C) provide a description of substance abuse prevention and treatment programs and activities, which, at a minimum, includes programs and activities relating to the use and abuse of drugs referenced in section 1023(9)(A), in existence at the time of the grant application; and

“(ii) identify substance abuse programs and service gaps, which, at a minimum, includes programs and gaps relating to the use and abuse of drugs referenced in section 1023(9)(A), in the community;

“(D) develop a strategic plan to reduce substance abuse among youth, which, at a minimum, includes the use and abuse of drugs referenced in section 1023(9)(A), in a comprehensive and long-term fashion; and

“(E) work to develop a consensus regarding the priorities of the community to combat substance abuse among youth, which, at a minimum, includes the use and abuse of drugs referenced in section 1023(9)(A).

“(5) SUSTAINABILITY.—The coalition shall demonstrate that the coalition is an ongoing concern by demonstrating that the coalition—

“(A) is—

“(i) a nonprofit organization; or

“(ii) an entity that the Administrator determines to be appropriate; or

“(i) part of, or is associated with, an established legal entity;

“(B) receives financial support (including, in the discretion of the Administrator, in-kind contributions) from non-Federal sources; and

“(C) has a strategy to solicit substantial financial support from non-Federal sources to ensure that the coalition and the programs operated by the coalition are self-sustaining.

“(6) ACCOUNTABILITY.—The coalition shall—

“(A) establish a system to measure and report outcomes—

“(i) consistent with common indicators and evaluation protocols established by the Administrator; and

“(ii) approved by the Administrator;

“(B) conduct—

“(i) for an initial grant under this subchapter, an initial benchmark survey of drug use among youth (or use local surveys or performance measures available or accessible in the community at the time of the grant application); and

“(ii) biennial surveys (or incorporate local surveys in existence at the time of the evaluation) to measure the progress and effectiveness of the coalition; and

“(C) provide assurances that the entity conducting an evaluation under this paragraph, or from which the coalition receives information, has experience—

“(i) in gathering data related to substance abuse among youth; or

“(ii) in evaluating the effectiveness of community anti-drug coalitions.

“(b) GRANT AMOUNTS.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—

“(A) GRANTS.—

“(i) IN GENERAL.—Subject to clause (iv), for a fiscal year, the Administrator may grant to an eligible coalition under this paragraph, an amount not to exceed the amount of non-Federal funds raised by the coalition, including in-kind contributions, for that fiscal year.

“(ii) SUSPENSION OF GRANTS.—If such grant recipient fails to continue to meet the criteria specified in subsection (a), the Administrator may suspend the grant, after providing written notice to the grant recipient and an opportunity to appeal.

“(iii) RENEWAL GRANTS.—Subject to clause (iv), the Administrator may award a renewal grant to a grant recipient under this subparagraph for each fiscal year following the fiscal year for which an initial grant is awarded, in an amount not to exceed the amount of non-Federal funds raised by the coalition, including in-kind contributions, for that fiscal year, during the 4-year period following the period of the initial grant.

“(iv) LIMITATION.—The amount of a grant award under this subparagraph may not exceed \$100,000 for a fiscal year.

“(B) COALITION AWARDS.—

“(i) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in clause (ii), the Administrator may, with respect to a community, make a grant to 1 eligible coalition that represents that community.

“(ii) EXCEPTION.—The Administrator may make a grant to more than 1 eligible coalition that represents a community if—

“(I) the eligible coalitions demonstrate that the coalitions are collaborating with one another; and

“(II) each of the coalitions has independently met the requirements set forth in subsection (a).

“(2) RURAL COALITION GRANTS.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—

“(i) IN GENERAL.—In addition to awarding grants under paragraph (1), to stimulate the development of coalitions in sparsely populated and rural areas, the Administrator, in consultation with the Advisory Commission, may award a grant in accordance with this section to a coalition that represents a county with a population that does not exceed 30,000 individuals. In awarding a grant under this paragraph, the Administrator may waive any requirement under subsection (a) if the Administrator considers that waiver to be appropriate.

“(ii) MATCHING REQUIREMENT.—Subject to subparagraph (C), for a fiscal year, the Administrator may grant to an eligible coalition under this paragraph, an amount not to exceed the amount of non-Federal funds raised by the coalition, including in-kind contributions, for that fiscal year.

“(iii) SUSPENSION OF GRANTS.—If such grant recipient fails to continue to meet any criteria specified in subsection (a) that has not been waived by the Administrator pursuant to clause (i), the Administrator may suspend the grant, after providing written notice to the grant recipient and an opportunity to appeal.

“(B) RENEWAL GRANTS.—The Administrator may award a renewal grant to an eligible coalition that is a grant recipient under this paragraph for each fiscal year following the fiscal year for which an initial grant is awarded, in an amount not to exceed the amount of non-Federal funds raised by the coalition, including in-kind contributions, during the 4-year period following the period of the initial grant.

“(C) LIMITATIONS.—

“(i) AMOUNT.—The amount of a grant award under this paragraph shall not exceed \$100,000 for a fiscal year.

“(ii) AWARDS.—With respect to a county referred to in subparagraph (A), the Administrator may award a grant under this section to not more than 1 eligible coalition that represents the county.

“SEC. 1033. INFORMATION COLLECTION AND DISSEMINATION WITH RESPECT TO GRANT RECIPIENTS.

“(a) COALITION INFORMATION.—

“(1) GENERAL AUDITING AUTHORITY.—For the purpose of audit and examination, the Administrator—

“(A) shall have access to any books, documents, papers, and records that are pertinent to any grant or grant renewal request under this chapter; and

“(B) may periodically request information from a grant recipient to ensure that the grant recipient meets the applicable criteria under section 1032(a).

“(2) APPLICATION PROCESS.—The Administrator shall issue a request for proposal regarding, with respect to the grants awarded under section 1032, the application process, grant renewal, and suspension or withholding of renewal grants. Each application under this paragraph shall be in writing and shall be subject to review by the Administrator.

“(3) REPORTING.—The Administrator shall, to the maximum extent practicable and in a manner consistent with applicable law, minimize reporting requirements by a grant recipient and expedite any application for a renewal grant made under this subchapter.

“(b) DATA COLLECTION AND DISSEMINATION.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—The Administrator may collect data from—

“(A) national substance abuse organizations that work with eligible coalitions, community anti-drug coalitions, departments or agencies of the Federal Government, or State or local governments and the governing bodies of Indian tribes; and

“(B) any other entity or organization that carries out activities that relate to the purposes of the Program.

“(2) ACTIVITIES OF ADMINISTRATOR.—The Administrator may—

“(A) evaluate the utility of specific initiatives relating to the purposes of the Program;

“(B) conduct an evaluation of the Program; and

“(C) disseminate information described in this subsection to—

“(i) eligible coalitions and other substance abuse organizations; and

“(ii) the general public.

“SEC. 1034. TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE AND TRAINING.

“(a) IN GENERAL.—

“(1) TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE AND AGREEMENTS.—With respect to any grant recipient or other organization, the Administrator may—

“(A) offer technical assistance and training; and

“(B) enter into contracts and cooperative agreements.

“(2) COORDINATION OF PROGRAMS.—The Administrator may facilitate the coordination of programs between a grant recipient and other organizations and entities.

“(b) TRAINING.—The Administrator may provide training to any representative designated by a grant recipient in—

“(1) coalition building;

“(2) task force development;

“(3) mediation and facilitation, direct service, assessment and evaluation; or

“(4) any other activity related to the purposes of the Program.

“Subchapter II—Advisory Commission

“SEC. 1041. ESTABLISHMENT OF ADVISORY COMMISSION.

“(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—There is established a commission to be known as the ‘Advisory Commission on Drug-Free Communities’.

“(b) PURPOSE.—The Advisory Commission shall advise, consult with, and make recommendations to the Director concerning matters related to the activities carried out under the Program.

“SEC. 1042. DUTIES.

“(a) IN GENERAL.—The Advisory Commission—

“(1) shall, not later than 30 days after its first meeting, make recommendations to the Director regarding the selection of an Administrator;

“(2) may make recommendations to the Director regarding any grant, contract, or cooperative agreement made by the Program;

“(3) may make recommendations to the Director regarding the activities of the Program;

“(4) may make recommendations to the Director regarding any policy or criteria established by the Director to carry out the Program;

“(5) may—

“(A) collect, by correspondence or by personal investigation, information concerning initiatives, studies, services, programs, or other activities of coalitions or organizations working in the field of substance abuse in the United States or any other country; and

“(B) with the approval of the Director, make the information referred to in subparagraph (A) available through appropriate publications or other methods for the benefit of eligible coalitions and the general public; and

“(6) may appoint subcommittees and convene workshops and conferences.

“(b) RECOMMENDATIONS.—If the Director rejects any recommendation of the Advisory Commission under subsection (a)(1), the Director shall notify the Advisory Commission in writing of the reasons for the rejection not later than 15 days after receiving the recommendation.

“(c) CONFLICT OF INTEREST.—A member of the Advisory Commission shall recuse himself or herself from any decision that would constitute a conflict of interest.

“SEC. 1043. MEMBERSHIP.

“(a) IN GENERAL.—The President shall appoint 11 members to the Advisory Commission as follows:

“(1) 4 members shall be appointed from the general public and shall include leaders—

“(A) in fields of youth development, public policy, law, or business; or

“(B) of nonprofit organizations or private foundations that fund substance abuse programs.

“(2) 4 members shall be appointed from the leading representatives of national substance abuse reduction organizations, of which no fewer than 3 members shall have extensive training or experience in drug prevention.

“(3) 3 members shall be appointed from the leading representatives of State substance abuse reduction organizations.

“(b) CHAIRPERSON.—The Advisory Commission shall elect a chairperson or co-chairpersons from among its members.

“(c) EX OFFICIO MEMBERS.—The ex officio membership of the Advisory Commission shall consist of any 2 officers or employees of the United States that the Director determines to be necessary for the Advisory Commission to effectively carry out its functions.

“SEC. 1044. COMPENSATION.

“(a) IN GENERAL.—Members of the Advisory Commission who are officers or employ-

ees of the United States shall not receive any additional compensation for service on the Advisory Commission. The remaining members of the Advisory Commission shall receive, for each day (including travel time) that they are engaged in the performance of the functions of the Advisory Commission, compensation at rates not to exceed the daily equivalent to the annual rate of basic pay payable for grade GS-10 of the General Schedule.

“(b) TRAVEL EXPENSES.—Each member of the Advisory Commission shall receive travel expenses, including per diem in lieu of subsistence, in accordance with sections 5702 and 5703 of title 5, United States Code.

“SEC. 1045. TERMS OF OFFICE.

“(a) IN GENERAL.—Subject to subsection (b), the term of office of a member of the Advisory Commission shall be 3 years, except that, as designated at the time of appointment—

“(1) of the initial members appointed under section 1043(a)(1), 2 shall be appointed for a term of 2 years;

“(2) of the initial members appointed under section 1043(a)(2), 2 shall be appointed for a term of 2 years; and

“(3) of the initial members appointed under section 1043(a)(3), 1 shall be appointed for a term of 1 year.

“(b) VACANCIES.—Any member appointed to fill a vacancy for an unexpired term of a member shall serve for the remainder of the unexpired term. A member of the Advisory Commission may serve after the expiration of such member's term until a successor has been appointed and taken office.

“SEC. 1046. MEETINGS.

“(a) IN GENERAL.—After its initial meeting, the Advisory Commission shall meet, with the advanced approval of the Administrator, at the call of the Chairperson (or Co-chairpersons) of the Advisory Commission or a majority of its members or upon the request of the Director or Administrator of the Program.

“(b) QUORUM.—6 members of the Advisory Commission shall constitute a quorum.

“SEC. 1047. STAFF.

“The Administrator shall make available to the Advisory Commission adequate staff, information, and other assistance.

“SEC. 1048. TERMINATION.

“The Advisory Commission shall terminate at the end of fiscal year 2002.”

(b) REFERENCES.—Each reference in Federal law to subtitle A of the Anti-Drug Abuse Act of 1988, with the exception of section 1001 of such subtitle, in any provision of law that is in effect on the day before the date of enactment of this Act shall be deemed to be a reference to chapter 1 of the National Narcotics Leadership Act of 1988 (as so designated by this section).

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Ohio [Mr. PORTMAN] and the gentleman from Wisconsin [Mr. BARRETT] each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Ohio [Mr. PORTMAN].

Mr. PORTMAN. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, today the House considers the Drug Free Communities Act of 1997, legislation I introduced with the gentleman from Illinois [Mr. HASTER], the gentleman from Michigan [Mr. LEVIN], and the gentleman from New York [Mr. RANGEL]. This bill provides needed support to our communities around the country to help them wage the war on drugs, community by community, child by child.

There is no more important battle to fight for the future of our country, and in my view, there is no more effective way to win that war than to focus our energies at the community level.

The bipartisan effort we have before us today is the result of months and months of work with communities around the country, with top experts in the field, with Members on both sides of the aisle, with the administration. It represents some new thinking. It takes existing Federal drug control resources and rechannels them to support community antidrug groups around the country that are actually working to reduce teenage drug abuse.

I believe a shift in priorities to support effective, sustainable prevention efforts is long overdue. We all know the numbers. Tragically, after more than a decade of substantial progress in reducing substance abuse among our kids the trends have now reversed, and reversed dramatically. Teenage drug use of marijuana, cocaine, inhalants, heroin, and other drugs is up. LSD use is at its highest reported levels.

Of course, it is not just about numbers. It is about our kids and their futures being ruined. The Drug Free Communities Act is designed to support something we know actually works in reducing drug abuse, community-based coalitions. It does so in a cost-effective manner.

Mr. Speaker, I would like to highlight the key features of this new approach. First, to qualify for a Federal matching grant under this program a local community must first demonstrate a comprehensive approach to the problem. Experience in the field, good research, and just common sense tells us that communities that have every major sector involved in this effort are those that are most effective.

In March 1997, a GAO report confirms this for us. That is why this legislation supports only those communities that have mobilized youth, parents, businesses, law enforcement, the media, educators, and other key sectors that have been working together with a focused mission and targeted strategies.

Second, the local community must demonstrate that it is not dependent on the Federal dollars. With local will and local financial support, we think a program is going to be more successful. Without them, a program simply cannot survive over the long haul.

Not one Federal dollar will be spent under this program without a dollar or more first having been generated by a local community. A 100 percent match is required, and no grant can exceed \$100,000. The Federal Government should be a catalyst to communities to do the right thing. It will then be able to sustain that effort over time, with or without that Federal support.

Third, one of the most common and often deserved criticism of Federal programs is that they lack accountability. This bill requires that the local community have a system of evaluation in place that actually measures out-

comes, consistent with well-accepted standards. Successful community efforts around the country already do that. They evaluate their effectiveness. In order to generate local financial support in the private sector they simply have to do that.

Fourth, although the data indicates that broad-based local efforts work best, we also know that national and State leadership can play a very helpful role at the local level. For example, national and State experts in the field can assist local communities by sharing the best ideas from around the country, and by helping to put in place effective systems to sustain and evaluate the local efforts.

This bill encourages local communities to involve their Federal and their State leaders. The 44 Members of Congress who have recently established or worked with community antidrug coalitions in their own districts can speak from their own experiences on this. Some of them will today.

I can speak for mine. Over the past 2 years with Cincinnati in organizing the Coalition for a Drug-Free Greater Cincinnati in my hometown, we helped mobilize our local community, but we also brought national groups to the table, like the Partnership for a Drug Free America, the Community Antidrug Coalitions of America, CATCA, the National Parents Resource Institute for Drug Education, PRIDE, as well as others in the State level. Because the drug issue is best addressed at the local level, in my view, this bill encourages all of us to focus our efforts more there.

Fifth, this is not a matter of new money, but getting more bang for the buck from existing resources. The bill redirects to communities less than three-tenths of 1 percent of our existing money from the \$16 billion Federal drug control budget. We have been working with appropriators in the full committee and on the Treasury-Postal Subcommittee to help identify the appropriate offsets.

Finally, Mr. Speaker, to ensure this program assists efforts that are truly working, and to ensure it gives communities the flexibility to continue to fashion innovative solutions to local problems, an advisory commission made up of local community leaders and national and State experts in the field of substance abuse will help select the administrator and actually oversee this program.

The legislation has the support of hundreds of community groups in all 50 States; national leaders, such as former drug czar Bill Bennett, former HEW Secretary Joe Califano, National Drug Prevention Groups like CATCA, I mentioned PRIDE, the Partnership for Drug Free America; and because it is fiscally responsible, it has the support of the Council for Citizens Against Government Waste.

Before I conclude, Mr. Speaker, I would like to thank all those groups around the country who have helped us

put this effort together. Of course, I also want to commend my colleagues, the gentleman from Michigan Mr. LEVIN, the gentleman from Wisconsin, Mr. BARRETT, the gentleman from Illinois, DENNY HASTERT, the gentleman from Indiana, DAN BURTON, the gentleman from Maryland, ELIJAH CUMMINGS, and many others who actually helped improve this legislation.

Finally, I would like to pay tribute to somebody else who is here, my chief of staff, John Bridgeland. He actually conceived this idea, coordinated the drafting of the legislation, and helped get it through the process.

□ 1045

I really believe that his good work and that of so many from both sides of the aisle is going to make a difference. It is actually going to make a meaningful difference in the lives of our kids around this country. I urge Members to support this legislation so that we can get on with the business of providing communities the needed support they need to reduce drug abuse.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. BARRETT of Wisconsin. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume, and I rise in support of the Drug-Free Community Act of 1997.

Mr. Speaker, youth substance abuse is an enormous problem. Studies show that children who use drugs are two to five times more likely to drop out of school. One-quarter of our health care costs are related to substance abuse, and more than half of all child and spousal abuse cases are related to substance abuse.

Unfortunately, we are not winning the war on teenage drug abuse. In the last 3 years teenage drug use has risen 78 percent. LSD and hallucinogen use has increased 183 percent, and cocaine use is up 166 percent.

The Monitoring the Future Study just released in December found that the increase in teenage drug use is caused in part by the fact that youngsters have heard less about the dangers of drugs. The message will more likely reach our children, our teens, when all sectors of the community, schools, media, law enforcement, and parent groups join together in a coordinated attack against teenage substance abuse.

Fortunately this bill goes right to the root of the problem and provides matching grants of up to \$100,000 a year to community coalitions that are working together to get the message to our teens. Eligible coalitions must demonstrate their long-term commitment, financial viability and success. Therefore, communities will get the seed money they need, yet taxpayer money will not be wasted on unsuccessful programs or programs that do not have the backing of the community.

I am proud to be a cosponsor of this important initiative. In fact, in my own home town, Milwaukee, we have recently had a youth crime forum

where we brought together many portions of our community to talk about the issue of youth crime and drug use. This is the type of forum that I think would be a perfect candidate for this program. It works with different components of the community and really allows the community to come together.

Mr. Speaker, I also want to take this opportunity to thank the author of the bill, the gentleman from Ohio [Mr. PORTMAN], and the subcommittee chairman, the gentleman from Illinois [Mr. HASTERT], for making this a truly bipartisan bill.

In particular I would like to thank them for working out the concerns that I raised by adding language that first ensures that the Office of National Drug Control Policy can draw on the substantial grant experience of the Department of Health and Human Services; second, that it protects against violations of ethical standards applicable to White House entities; and third, makes clear that we do not intend to fund this program by cutting funding for successful drug prevention programs already in place at HHS.

I am also very pleased that the concerns raised by the gentleman from California [Mr. WAXMAN], the gentleman from Vermont [Mr. SANDERS], the gentleman from Maryland [Mr. CUMMINGS], the gentleman from Michigan [Mr. LEVIN], and the gentleman from New York [Mr. RANGEL] were worked out to everyone's satisfaction.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. PORTMAN. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Georgia Mr. GINGRICH, the Speaker of the House.

Mr. GINGRICH. Mr. Speaker, I thank my friend from Ohio for yielding me the time.

I want to commend both the Democratic and Republican leaders of this bill who worked together in a bipartisan manner to help develop a Drug-free Community Act that I think is a significant step in the right direction. First of all, I believe that this bill moves us in the right direction because it moves efforts to the community level. It involves the entire community and it creates an environment in which we recognize that volunteers, churches, synagogues, mosques, local governments, private businesses, and individual citizens all have a role to play in the drug prevention effort.

The goal is also correct, drug-free communities. I believe all of us should commit ourselves to the goal of beginning the 21st century on January 1, 2001, the first morning of the next millennium, a Monday morning in which our goal should be to have a virtually drug-free America, to get back, say, to the level of drug use that was prevalent in 1960, when I was a very tiny child and very few people were using drugs.

It is doable but it is only doable by having a comprehensive effort, one key component of which is drug-free com-

munities, a strong effort at prevention, and making sure the young people know not to do drugs and a strong effort at education so people understand the consequences of doing drugs. When people learn that 50 percent of homicides and violent crime is drug related, that young people who use drugs are between two and five times more likely to drop out of school, that when over half the child abuse cases are drug and alcohol related, and let me say, we recently had a press conference with the gentleman from New York [Ms. MOLINARI] on child abuse, one of the case workers there said that 99 percent of the cases they had dealt with in their career involved either drug or alcohol addiction as a component.

It is clear that drug use is a plague which affects this entire country. This bill moves us towards the world that Marvin Olasky described in the Tragedy of American Compassion, the world that de Tocqueville described in Democracy in America, back to an America in which local citizens in local community programs working with local faith-based institutions create the environment and the opportunity to reach out and save lives.

I urge all of my colleagues to vote for the Drug-Free Community Act. It is a significant building block in the right direction, and it is the kind of program that will have fewer young people involved with drugs and a healthier and safer country.

Mr. BARRETT of Wisconsin. Mr. Speaker, I yield 5 minutes to the distinguished gentleman from New York [Mr. RANGEL], ranking member of the Committee on Ways and Means.

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, let me thank the gentleman for yielding me the time. I thank the gentleman from Ohio [Mr. PORTMAN] and all those that made this bill possible. Let me thank Speaker GINGRICH. No one in this House has been more sensitive than Speaker GINGRICH to the problem that has been facing our Nation as we see our youth being destroyed through a poison that originates outside of this great Republic. We have talked so many times as to how we can prevent this threat to our national security, and yet I can almost say hallelujah for this bill today, Mr. Speaker, because every time I have come to this floor to talk about drugs and youth, instead of talking about education and hope and dreams, we have talked about mandatory sentences, more time in jail instead of what this bill does. And it goes to the American people and asks, save our country, save our community and save our children.

There is no bigger fight that we can wage by going to our communities and asking them to give education and hopes and dreams to our children because, once they have it, they are not the ones that end up with lack of hope doing drugs, doing crimes, doing violence and causing this great Nation to be the one that has more people incarcerated than any Republic on the face of the Earth.

I hope that this serves as a model where the Congress can continuously go back to the community. One of the things that they will ask us to do is to help us to keep this poison from coming into this country from countries that are producing it. If we can tear down the walls of communism as we have done, we cannot let a couple of nickel and dime countries produce this poison to come in here and have it available to our children.

This is what our community would be saying. They will be asking for our Secretary of State to be speaking out, our Secretary of Education, everybody in the Cabinet, because this is a threat to our national security. So I say to Speaker GINGRICH, who recognizes that in order to save our kids we have to give them something to live for, this brings the community in. And we do not have to go back home and say how tough we were against drugs based on how long the sentences were.

If we are going to be successful, it means that countries can have all the drugs available but our kids would not need them. Why? Because they would be able to say, as we enjoy economic growth, as we move into the next century, as we see international trade being a new way to go, they can say that they will be a part of it. But what do they have today? One thing is certain, that any black family in the United States of America knows that if they have a child, a boy child that they can be guaranteed according to the bureau of statistics that one out of four of those children would end up in jail. When was it that the American dream was that maybe one of these children could end up as President of the United States?

So what we are doing as Republican and Democrats is not demagoguing an issue. We are saying, can we not work together? Can we not go to the communities and ask them, is it not better to have more teachers than police? Is it not better to go back home to our State legislatures and find that out, that they are fighting to have a university in their district instead of what we find out today, they are fighting to have a prison in their district?

Is it not great to find out in the great city of New York, we pay \$84,000 to keep a bum kid in Rikers Island, a detention center, and the unions and the mayor are fighting to see whether \$7,000 a year is enough? We pay \$7,000 a year for a child being born addicted to drugs, \$40,000 to pull out a bullet after a kid has been shot in a gang war. And yet we are not prepared to do the things like has been done today, to come together and say, the strength of our Nation is the confidence that we have in our communities and that we are going to work together to make certain as we tore down the walls of communism, we are going to raise the hope so that those people who disrespect international law, who grow and dispense and traffic in narcotics and who know they will be certified because it is the political thing to do, to

know that the families throughout this country, rich and poor, black and white say we have had enough of it. The gentleman from Ohio [Mr. PORTMAN] has found a way to allow us to believe in ourselves and the Congress by putting together this bill.

Let this be a beginning. Let this be a bridge. Let us forget what we used to do and see whether we can do more of this type of legislation when we respond to the hearts and the minds of the people that are afraid for their children.

Mr. PORTMAN. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2½ minutes to the gentleman from Indiana [Mr. BURTON].

Mr. BURTON of Indiana. Mr. Speaker, I rise in full support of H.R. 956, the Drug-Free Communities Act of 1997.

I would like to commend and congratulate my colleague and the gentleman from Ohio [Mr. PORTMAN] who conceived a better cooperative relationship between Government and communities in order to better fight the scourge of drugs among our Nation's youth. His diligence and commitment to this effort have shown amazing results.

Beginning in his own district, the Portman community drug initiative was proof that Federal partnerships with community leaders and organizations are an extremely effective weapon in the fight against illegal drug use. The gentleman from Ohio [Mr. PORTMAN] has now turned his successful effort into this legislation before us today.

I would like to also commend the gentleman from Illinois [Mr. HASTERT] for his tenacity on the drug issue and on this bill in particular. His leadership on the issue of illegal drug trafficking and illegal drug use has been outstanding, both in this Congress and in past Congresses. I thank him for shepherding this legislation through his subcommittee.

I would also like to congratulate the gentleman from Michigan [Mr. LEVIN] and my good friend, the gentleman from New York [Mr. RANGEL], the gentleman from Wisconsin [Mr. BARRETT], and others for their help in this effort.

We, as Members of Congress, often voted on legislation that will never have a direct impact on our own districts. Today, however, through this legislation now before us, we will have the means to positively and directly impact the very cities, towns, and communities that we represent. This legislation will enable each and every one of us to go back to our districts with the resources and the knowhow to bolster our efforts to reduce the devastating effects of substance abuse that we all know is destroying America.

Drug abuse has doubled in the last 5 years with the most alarming increases among 13- and 14-year-olds. Absolutely astonishing rates of drug use are chronicled in the report that accompanies this legislation, the National Household Survey on Drug Use. That survey shows that from 1994 to 1996, il-

legal drug use by 12- to 17-year-olds rose 78 percent. LSD use increased by 183 percent and cocaine use rose by 166 percent over those 3 years.

Our young people today are clearly not seeing the risks associated with drug use the way they used to. Studies on perceived risks bear this out. One conducted by the National Center on Addiction and Substance Abuse showed that in just 1 year the number of 12- to 17-year-olds who said they would never try an illegal drug dropped by 40 percent. Kids are not getting a clear message about drug use, about it being wrong, deadly, and illegal. They are not getting it from their parents, and regrettably they are not getting it from the leadership in this administration.

This bill is very, very important. I urge all of my colleagues to support it. Once again, I congratulate its sponsor, the gentleman from Ohio [Mr. PORTMAN].

□ 1100

Mr. BARRETT of Wisconsin. Mr. Speaker, I yield 4 minutes to the gentleman from Michigan, [Mr. LEVIN], one of the leaders on our side of the aisle that really helped shape this bill.

(Mr. LEVIN asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. LEVIN. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding me this time.

We have a major problem in this country. This is an effort to address it. Surveys show, for example, in high schools in the last month, in many cases a third of the students have used illegal drugs. We have been losing ground.

This is an effort to say we are going to start to reverse the trend. The gentleman from Ohio, [Mr. PORTMAN] and I put this bill together with the help of others, based on the experiences within our own communities. This is a bill that springs from the communities to Washington.

The gentleman from Ohio has described the experiences within Cincinnati. Within the 12th District I represent, led by the city of Troy and early pioneering coalitions, we have seen that the best way to fight this effort, to make this a successful one, is to draw on all the resources of the community, every resource: religious leaders, law enforcement leaders, business leaders, parents, teachers, kids. Everybody has to be pulled together to work on this.

We have seen this in both Macomb and Oakland Counties, as I said led by Troy. And an amazing fact in a recent survey, half of the residents of the city of Troy knew of the Troy Community Coalition and its work on drugs.

So the gentleman from Ohio and I said to ourselves, in working with others, how do we replicate the experiences within our communities? That is the issue, not just to have a successful experiment here or a successful experiment there but to spread it throughout

this country. And this is an effort through matching grants to try to replicate the experiences within these communities.

I have enjoyed so much working with him and the gentleman from Illinois, [Mr. HASTERT], who helped us shepherd this through the subcommittee; with the gentleman from New York, [Mr. RANGEL], the gentleman from Wisconsin, [Mr. BARRETT], and others; and with the staffs, as mentioned by the gentleman from Ohio, and Drew Setter of our office. Our local staff goes to every single coalition meeting within our communities.

This is a battle we have no choice but to win, and this act, this proposal, is an important step to pull us all together to pull this off. We have no choice.

I am proud to be working with the gentleman from Ohio, and I urge all of us to vote for this and, more importantly, for every Member to work to stimulate, if it does not exist, a coalition within our districts. When we all work together, I think this effort will work.

Mr. PORTMAN. Mr. Speaker, I would like to inquire as to how much time remains on each side.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. TAYLOR of North Carolina). Each side has 9 minutes remaining.

Mr. PORTMAN. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume to simply commend the gentleman from Michigan, [Mr. LEVIN], for his work at the local level.

Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Ohio, [Mr. BOEHNER], my neighbor.

Mr. BOEHNER. Mr. Speaker, let me commend my colleague from Ohio, [Mr. PORTMAN], and our other colleague, the gentleman from Michigan, [Mr. LEVIN], for bringing this bill to the floor today and, more importantly, for all of their hard work, and their staffs in the work that they are doing to fight teenage drug abuse in both Cincinnati and in Troy, MI.

There is no doubt that drugs are a big problem in our country. A 1996 study by the National Parent's Resource Institute for Drug Education showed that 1 in 4 high school seniors use illicit drugs at least once a month, 1 in 5 use once a week, and 1 in 10 use drugs once every day. I think this is a serious study.

Another study done by the National Household Survey found that illicit drug use among 12- to 17-year-olds has increased by 78 percent in the last 3 years, and LSD and hallucinogen use has increased by an amazing 166 percent.

Yesterday the President talked about the new glamour drug, that being heroin, and the fact that it is glamorized by Hollywood and ought to come to an end.

As with so many other problems in this country, the real gains against drug abuse are driven at the local level. All over the United States, including right in my back yard in Cincinnati,

local programs to fight drug abuse are showing real signs of being successful. But as my colleagues know, and as these statistics show, more needs to be done.

In Cincinnati, just down the road from where I live, the gentleman from Ohio, ROB PORTMAN, has developed a fantastic program with all types of organizations. In a coordinated effort, the community is providing parents with drug education training, radio and TV stations are running antidrug messages, and employers are being encouraged to adopt certified drug-free workplace programs. With the whole community working together, we have seen tangible results.

And that is why I am here today, to strongly support their work and their bill we have before us, H.R. 956, the Drug-Free Communities Act. This bill encourages local communities to develop their own innovative approaches to fighting drug abuse and then rewards those who are successful.

The bill takes already existing Federal funds that would be spent here in Washington and redirects them to local communities that have a comprehensive self-sustaining antidrug coalition. They have done a good job and they deserve our support.

Mr. BARRETT of Wisconsin. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Texas, [Mr. TURNER], one of the most active members on our committee in helping shape this bill.

Mr. TURNER. Mr. Speaker, I am honored to rise in support of the Drug-Free Communities Act. It is a very important piece of legislation.

We all know the facts and we all know the figures about the problems of drug abuse in our Nation, and yet I think most of us today would put faces on those problems. I think about my friend Larry, in Crockett, whose son recently overdosed on drugs and I attended the funeral. I think about my friend Mitch, whom I graduated from high school with, whose children also went to school with mine, who died on prom night in a single car accident because he drove with too much alcohol.

Those are the very real problems that all of us know all too personally, which cause us, I think, to unite in a bipartisan way to attack the problems of drugs in our country.

This bill represents what I think is the very best of bipartisan cooperation, and I think it represents what government in the next century must look like. President Clinton said the era of big government is over, and this bill implements that concept.

I commend the gentleman from Ohio [Mr. PORTMAN], the gentleman from Illinois [Mr. HASTERT], the gentleman from Wisconsin [Mr. BARRETT], the gentleman from Michigan [Mr. LEVIN], and the gentleman from New York [Mr. RANGEL], all of whom worked very hard to bring this bill about.

This bill represents a progressive and commonsense approach to attacking the menace of drug abuse. It is commu-

nity based. It recognizes that communities can best solve their own problems, and it brings to the table and encourages the coalitions of religious groups, law enforcement, business community representatives, churches, who all across this country are working already on this problem. This bill acknowledges their efforts and provides matching grants to allow them to continue to build upon the good work that is already being done.

This bill is prevention based. We all know we have built prisons all across our country, in every State in this Nation, until we have taxed the taxpayers way too much for the cost of drug abuse and lawbreakers. But the truth of the matter is this bill also says that prevention is the key to solving the problem of crime.

This is a good bill. This is a bipartisan bill. This is a bill that we can all be proud of because it acknowledges that government does have a role but that communities can best solve their own problems. I hope every Member of Congress will unite behind this landmark piece of legislation.

Mr. PORTMAN. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Illinois [Mr. HASTERT] who has been a national leader in the fight against drugs along our borders and our communities.

Mr. HASTERT. Mr. Speaker, the problem of drug use in our Nation is growing. We have heard all the statistics today. We can talk about statistics and illustrate the problems.

We know that illicit drug use among our most vulnerable population, our kids, is growing. We know that the number of kids who would say that they would never try drugs have dropped. We know that parents have stopped talking to their children about drugs.

We also know that centralized Federal programs, the big government, so to speak, is not always the answer. We do have a responsibility. We have the Coast Guard to make sure that we stop drugs coming across our borders. We have the customs agents and the border patrols. That is our job in this Congress, to make sure that we can stop drugs coming in. But the most effective way to stop drugs is prevention; to teach kids, to give them the support to stop them wanting to try to use drugs.

This is what the gentleman from Ohio [Mr. PORTMAN], and I congratulate him, and my good friend, the gentleman from New York [Mr. RANGEL], who has been on the front of this whole drug issue for a long time, the gentleman from Michigan [Mr. LEVIN], the gentleman from Wisconsin [Mr. BARRETT], the ranking member, I thank him for his good work, this is what we are doing. We are pulling together to make sure communities have the ability to fight this problem.

We are not pouring a lot of money, but we are saying if communities can bring their faith-based, fraternity-based, civic-based organizations to-

gether to have effective drug prevention, then we can go ahead and we will help them. If they need a little bit of support, if they need a director or something along those lines, we can help them through this bill.

This is the right direction. This is not the only direction but this is the right direction for this Congress to go in order to fight drugs. We need to start in the communities. We need to start with people back home, and this bill does it.

I certainly congratulate the gentleman from Ohio, and I support this bill and ask everybody else to support it.

Mr. BARRETT of Wisconsin. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Maryland [Mr. CUMMINGS] who, in committee, added a very important amendment that improved this bill.

Mr. CUMMINGS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to support the Drug-Free Communities Act. I thank the sponsor of this legislation, the gentleman from Ohio [Mr. PORTMAN] for his vision, his guidance, and his mission. He and his staff worked in a bipartisan fashion with Members on both sides of the aisle and they are certainly to be commended for their hard work.

I also wish to thank the chairman of the Subcommittee on National Security, the gentleman from Illinois, Congressman HASTERT, and my ranking member, the gentleman from Wisconsin [Mr. BARRETT], for their leadership. And certainly the hard work of the gentleman from New York [Mr. RANGEL], and the gentleman from Michigan [Mr. LEVIN], does not go unnoticed, and I thank them.

My colleagues, this legislation is so important to our Nation. Many areas, like my home district of Baltimore, are disproportionately ravaged by the drug epidemic. This bill would set a blueprint and a road map for community organizations to receive matching funds and provide assistance in their drug prevention programs.

This measure focuses on a theme that I echo continuously when I visit neighborhoods throughout Baltimore. To be successful in this war on drugs, it will take a partnership between State and local governments, educators and health care professionals, law enforcement officials and community groups, as well as religious organizations and the private sector. There must be a unified American counter-drug effort with one common purpose, to reduce illegal drug use and its consequences in America.

I support a national drug strategy, which includes both domestic and international efforts, to strongly eradicate drug importing and drug trafficking. However, cultivating and empowering grass roots leadership is so vital in effective drug control efforts. Best of all, this measure focuses on local needs. This measure allows us to use the people's funds in a very effective and cost efficient manner.

There is one community organization in west Baltimore, led by a woman named Adele Redden, which has single-handedly reduced drug trafficking in their neighborhood by 70 percent over the last 3 years. The men and women who are working in neighborhoods across America are the real heroes in this fight against drug abuse.

It is crucial we reach our young people before they get hooked on drugs. This bill goes a long ways towards that end.

My colleagues, if we want to make a difference in the war on drugs, if we want to go home to our constituents and tell them we are actually working to stem the flow of drugs entering this country, if we want to support the drug czar in his efforts to reduce illegal drug use and crime that comes to our cities, I urge all of us to support this bill.

Mr. PORTMAN. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume to commend the gentleman from Maryland for his work in improving the bill, as I said earlier.

Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from New York [Mr. GILMAN], the chairman of the Committee on International Relations.

□ 1115

(Mr. GILMAN asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. GILMAN. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to rise today in strong support of H.R. 956, the Drug Free Communities Act of 1997. I commend the gentleman from Ohio [Mr. PORTMAN] and our distinguished committee chairman, the gentleman from Indiana [Mr. BURTON], and the minority member, the gentleman from Wisconsin [Mr. BARRETT], the gentleman from Michigan [Mr. LEVIN], and the gentleman from New York [Mr. RANGEL] for their support of this measure.

It is an important measure. I have taken an active role in our international fight against drugs as chairman of our Committee on International Relations. But this important legislation is an important domestic measure. It encourages our local communities to band together to develop and share their ideas on the very best way to fight this scourge on illegal drugs in our society.

The stakes in the drug war are high, affecting the lives of our young people. We need to develop more community involvement in order to ensure a more effective antidrug program. Time and time again, it has been demonstrated that, when confronted with strong community opposition and awareness, drug traffickers and criminals take their business elsewhere.

H.R. 956, the Drug Free Communities Act, will make certain that our communities will have the kind of flexibility and kind of resources necessary to create solutions that address their own local problems stemming from drug trafficking and substance abuse. It requires our community leaders to take

the initiative on these issues and to oversee the antisubstance abuse programs that have been created.

In order to receive Federal matching funds, bear in mind that these programs must include the involvement of community leaders, must be sustainable, and must have some system in place to evaluate their success and failure. Accordingly, Mr. Speaker, I urge all of our colleagues to support this significant antisubstance legislation.

Mr. BARRETT of Wisconsin. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from California [Ms. MILLENDER-MCDONALD], who has been active both here and in her home community of Los Angeles in addressing the problems of drug abuse.

Ms. MILLENDER-MCDONALD. Mr. Speaker, I would like to thank all of my colleagues on both sides of the aisle for this piece of legislation. I am proud to support the Drug Free Community Act. This bipartisan legislation will authorize essential funding for community coalitions that are making a difference in addressing the Nation's drug problem.

We have all heard the statistics on the rising rate of marijuana use among our Nation's youth. Among eighth graders alone, the rate of marijuana use tripled in 1996, and the marijuana of today is 15 times more potent than the marijuana used in the 1970's. But even more lethal, cocaine, heroin, and methamphetamines are the drugs that are tearing apart families and ruining communities throughout the country and in my district.

California has the worst methamphetamine problem in the country. Over the past few years, there has been a significant increase in methamphetamine use, especially in Los Angeles. From 1990 to 1994, the admissions of Los Angeles residents to addiction treatment centers jumped from 700 to over 2,000, and this number only includes those who have received treatment.

At any given time during the month, some 13,000 Californians who have sought treatment cannot get it because they are placed on a waiting list, which can last from 3 to 60 days. The Drug Free Community Act can change these numbers and begin a new era when parents, teachers, churches, and entire communities can come together to prevent, treat, and ultimately end drug abuse.

We have already lost too many children to drugs and crime. We cannot afford to lose any more. Creating opportunities for community coalitions to overcome the problems of drug abuse is essential in our effort to maintain and improve the social fabric of our communities, not just in the 37th Congressional District, but in the entire country.

I urge all of my colleagues to vote on this very important bill, and I would like to thank the sponsors for this legislation, as it will help me in assisting my constituents in my district.

Mr. PORTMAN. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, as we have seen and have heard from a lot of Members, there is no issue more important to the future of our kids than this one. We do have a lot of speakers interested in addressing it.

Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to extend by 20 minutes the debate time on this legislation, 10 minutes to each side equally divided between myself and the gentleman from Wisconsin [Mr. BARRETT].

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Ohio?

There was no objection.

Mr. PORTMAN. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Oklahoma [Mr. WATTS].

Mr. WATTS of Oklahoma. Mr. Speaker, I would like to thank the gentleman from Ohio [Mr. PORTMAN] and the gentleman from Wisconsin [Mr. BARRETT], and I would like to congratulate them on the leadership on this most difficult and tragic problem, a problem that challenges every community in America. And that problem, as any parent can tell us, is the problem of drug abuse among America's youth.

This is not a problem that is limited to America's urban ghettos, as some would want to believe. There is no hiding from America's drug dealers by moving to a wealthy suburb or a serene rural area. The drug dealer sets no boundaries to his deathly trade. He seeks to solicit profits where there is potential. There is potential in any community, rich or poor, urban or rural, any community that is not actively advanced in a serious antidrug effort. That is why this legislation is so important, and that is why I applaud my colleagues, the gentleman from Ohio [Mr. PORTMAN] and the gentleman from Wisconsin [Mr. BARRETT], for advancing this important legislation.

The Drug Free Community Act is a major step forward in an effort to protect our communities from those that would pollute our children, steal their health, and destroy their lives. It was not too many years ago when we were heartily congratulating one another on a decrease in drug use among America's youth. Sadly, our self-congratulation has been premature.

Statistics show that since 1991, teenage drug use of every kind has increased at an obscene rate. In 3 years, illicit drug use among 12- to 17-year-olds rose 78 percent. Even more frightening, there is a rise in drug use among children under 12 years of age.

Just as the drug dealer knows no physical bounds to his trade, he also knows no age limitation. Our smallest children are his target. The Drug Free Community Act puts power in the communities where it belongs and provides incentives and helping hand to citizens who take a stand against letting drugs take over their communities.

I have seen these local programs work. They can make a difference, and

we he must do all we can to extend a hand to America's families and communities who are on the frontlines of this critical war to put an end to this drug trade and to save our children. I urge my colleagues to support the Drug Free Community Act.

Mr. BARRETT of Wisconsin. Mr. Speaker, I yield as much time as she may consume to the fine gentlewoman from California [Ms. WATERS].

(Ms. WATERS asked and was given permission to revise and extend her remarks.)

Ms. WATERS. Mr. Speaker and my colleagues, I am delighted to join with all of my colleagues here today to support this legislation. It is extremely important that Americans know that there is bipartisan support for this legislation. There is bipartisan support because all of our communities, whether they are inner cities or rural areas or suburban areas, are now under attack.

The greatest threat, the greatest security threat to America is drugs, the illegal use of drugs, the drug addiction, the violence associated with drugs. The No. 1 priority of the Congressional Black Caucus is the eradication of drugs in our society. We worked for days to put together our legislative agenda. We have decided that we are going to put all of our time and effort in on eradicating drugs.

We went around this country talking about something that had happened in south central Los Angeles. And many people wondered why I spent so much time dealing with the accusation of CIA involvement in drug trafficking. I spent an awful lot of time because in the 1980's, in south central Los Angeles, I witnessed an explosion of drug addiction and violence and I wondered what was happening, why were so many young people getting involved. I wondered why the explosion of violence and crime.

What is important about my involvement in this issue and trying to seek out answers is not so much to be able to identify who said what, who did what, who wrote the memo, my involvement is because in the town hall meetings across this Nation, whether I was up in Brooklyn, NY, or St. Louis, MO or south central Los Angeles, was the outpouring of parents and grandparents talking about what had happened to their children and their families.

Crack cocaine is one of the most vicious drugs that was ever manufactured by anybody. That is not to say that marijuana and methamphetamine are not dangerous and addictive. They are, and they are problems. But I want you to know what we have witnessed with crack cocaine should not happen to humans anytime, anyplace, anywhere.

The Congressional Black Caucus is determined that we are going to take back our communities, we are going to give leadership, we are going to provide a platform for debate and discussion on

this issue, we are going to engage communities, we are going to hold the town hall meetings, we are talking with young people, we will be involved at campaigns, we are going to do everything that is possible to do to take back our communities, protect our children, be involved with prevention and rehabilitation, and, yes, redirection.

This bill speaks to that. This bill speaks to it because it talks about community coalitions, engaging communities, getting everybody involved in this problem. We have introduced seven bills from the Congressional Black Caucus. Many of those bills would complement this bill. Not only do we talk about community coalitions also, but we talk about rehabilitation and we talk about prevention. But we also ask the Department of Justice to help to monitor the drugs that are confiscated so that they do not get back out on the streets in ways that we have learned that they are doing in some of our communities.

I am so pleased and proud that the Members who have worked on this had the wisdom and the foresight and the vision to understand where we must direct our attention. We cannot talk about job training, we cannot talk about teenage pregnancy prevention, we cannot talk about keeping young people in school until we get rid of this scourge in our community. And we can do it.

The American people have not used their power to deal with this issue. We have allowed this explosion. We have allowed young people increasingly to turn to drugs for answers. And we have sat back waiting on somebody else to solve the problem. Well, nobody else is going to solve this problem. We collectively are going to solve this problem. We are going to solve this problem because we are going to take the bull by the horns.

These are our children. They did not drop down out of Mars. They did not come from someplace else. They are our grandchildren, our nieces, our nephews, our neighbors. These are our children. And if they are to be secure, if they are to be responsible, it is because we are going to provide that leadership, we are going to be the examples, we are going to be the leaders, we are going to be the organizers, we are going to be the ones that will set America free and allow our children to realize their potential.

I do not know any parents who do not believe that their child can be President of the United States of America. I do not know any parent who does not understand that our children are precious and they should have the opportunity to realize their potential. And while we all have these dreams and these visions, we have allowed the scourge of drugs and drug traffickers and those who would peddle in death and destruction to increasingly creep into our lives and our communities and contaminate our children, contaminate our neighborhoods.

Enough is enough. I will join hands with the most right wing of Republicans, the most left, if they can get on the left of me, of Democrats in order to get this work done. It is our job. It really is our challenge. But you know what? We are smart. We are committed. We work hard. We have the energy, and we have the love for humanity, we have the love for our families and our children.

□ 1130

This bill really sets the tone and defines what we care about. The seven bills of the Congressional Black Caucus will further do that. I want my colleagues to watch the Congressional Black Caucus on this issue. I want my colleagues to watch us take leadership. I want Members to see what we have committed to do on this issue. I know there are those who have said, well, we have not heard enough. We were just naive enough oftentimes to believe that somehow somebody else, be it the White House or somebody else, was just going to do this work.

Now that we have all decided to get involved, I am more inspired than I have ever been. If I do nothing else in my career, if I do nothing else in providing leadership, the leadership that I will provide as the chair of the Congressional Black Caucus will be centered and focused on this issue, on getting rid of drugs in our society, freeing our communities, as this bill indicates.

I thank the Members, all Members who have worked, who have labored, who have put it together. This is what we need. Combined with all that we are going to be doing and the bills that we have put together in the Congressional Black Caucus, I think we will see a change. The data, the statistics, will be different a year from now. If we continue in the fashion and the way that I know we can, 5 years down the road, we can all stand up and be very proud about the significant reduction that we have made in the use of drugs, in the crime and violence associated with drugs. We can see the reductions in the Federal penitentiaries, of young people who are getting convicted under mandatory minimums, many of them just 19 and 20 years old, addicted themselves, out hustling, selling small amounts of drugs because they think somehow they can get over.

We are going to see a change in that. We need those resources that we are putting into prisons to do other things with. We do not need to be continuing to take the taxpayers' money to deal with the problem that way. The Rand study that just came out said that is not the way to solve the problem anyway.

This is the way to do it. We are going to wrap our arms around this program, we are going to put our hearts, our heads, and our minds together and we are going to let our children know that we truly love them and we are going to show them we love them because we have made them our No. 1 priority

through our public policy work and through sharing of resources to deal with this problem.

Again, I am so proud, I am so pleased and delighted to be a part of this kind of coalition, of this kind of effort until I will not only commit again my time and my attention as the chair of the Congressional Black Caucus, but every member of the Congressional Black Caucus is committed and will be working beyond the Halls of Congress, on the streets, in the neighborhoods, in the townhall meetings, in the community centers and in the churches.

Mr. PORTMAN. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentlewoman for her passionate support and for her wing-to-wing broad spectrum approach to the problem.

Mr. Speaker, I yield 1½ minutes to the gentlewoman from North Carolina [Mrs. MYRICK].

Mrs. MYRICK. Mr. Speaker, I also commend my colleagues for bringing this legislation forward. I commend my colleague from California for her remarks on this issue. We all do want to work together to solve the problem.

I served as the mayor of Charlotte, NC, which is a large city. We definitely are experiencing all these problems with crime and teenage drug abuse. It is in every part of the country. It is not just in the large cities. It especially was important to me when I was mayor, and it is still important to me that we solve the problem. There is no reason we should not have solved it long ago.

I have witnessed firsthand the devastation that this causes in our communities, the devastation of lives and the crime that comes along with it. I have worked on the streets so I know firsthand of what I am speaking.

I also found the best way to solve the problem was through local organizations, groups that came together who really could work together, who knew what the problem was and could best solve it at the local level, not with the Federal Government dictating to them but giving the options of them knowing how best to do it.

The Drug-Free Communities Act of 1997 encourages that local community involvement to solve the problems by forming these coalitions. I have always said we at home know best how to solve our problems and we know best how to achieve success. The most successful substance abuse programs do have coalitions of churches and religious organizations involved. We need to encourage more of that because that is one of the main reasons that they work. I for one do not want to attend any more funerals of 13-, 14-, and 15-year-olds who have been senselessly murdered or drug overdosed because we have not done all we could do at all levels of government and all levels of community to solve this. I urge support of this bill.

Mr. PORTMAN. Mr. Speaker, I yield 1½ minutes to the gentleman from Virginia [Mr. WOLF] who has been very bold on this issue at the local level. He

is also going to be critical frankly in the appropriations process in finding the appropriate offsets.

(Mr. WOLF asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. WOLF. I did not really come over to talk about the legislation. I came over to personally thank the gentleman from Ohio [Mr. PORTMAN] for his leadership on this issue.

There is a major drug problem in the country. I learned about it when I went into the high schools as I do and listened to the young people in my district. I learn what to do about it when I listen to the gentleman from Ohio [Mr. PORTMAN] here in Congress. Because of the effort of the gentleman from Ohio, we have been able to put together a number of coalitions in our district that have made a difference.

I just want to thank the gentleman from Ohio [Mr. PORTMAN] and let him know that there will be many moms and dads and many young people who will be saved from the drug use problem for many, many years to come. It will be because of the leadership that the gentleman from Ohio [Mr. PORTMAN] exercised and they may never know why it was done.

I want to pay tribute to the gentleman from Ohio [Mr. PORTMAN] and urge all Members in this body, on both sides of the aisle, if they have not focused on the problem, I guarantee there is a major, major drug problem in Members' congressional districts. It may be in the most wealthy portion of a Member's district. I urge my colleagues to use this legislation to put together a coalition to do something about it. I again thank the gentleman from Ohio [Mr. PORTMAN].

I am pleased to rise today in support of H.R. 956, the Drug Free Communities Act of 1997.

I am a cosponsor of this legislation, which I believe will help reduce teenage drug use and abuse. In my congressional district, I have been active in promoting the creation and maintenance of community antidrug coalitions. Over the last year, I have sponsored two districtwide conferences and workshops to help implement the community coalition concept. These coalitions are groups of individuals from cities, towns, communities, and neighborhoods who work to reduce drug use by children and to keep their neighborhoods drug free.

H.R. 956 has been endorsed by numerous antidrug organizations, including: PRIDE Parent Training, the Community Anti-Drug Coalitions of America, Drug Abuse Resistance Education America [DARE], and Mothers Against Drunk Driving.

There are five main features of this legislation: First, in order to receive Federal support, a community must first demonstrate a comprehensive, long-term commitment to address teenage drug use through grassroots participation at the local level.

Second, a community must demonstrate that its antidrug coalition is an ongoing concern that also has non-Federal financial support.

Third, a community must have a good system to evaluate the success of its antidrug coalition efforts.

Fourth, the coalition must be run by local leaders familiar with local problems and needs.

Fifth, community coalitions will be eligible for Federal matching grant funding if they meet the above criteria.

I know this legislation will prove helpful in the efforts of communities across America to fight the scourge of drugs. Teenage drug use and abuse has been skyrocketing and I believe H.R. 956 is an important step in helping to educate children about drugs and keeping communities drug free. I thank Congressman PORTMAN for his leadership on this matter and for bringing this important legislation to the floor today.

Mr. PORTMAN. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2½ minutes to the gentleman from Kentucky [Mr. LEWIS].

Mr. LEWIS of Kentucky. I thank the gentleman for yielding me this time.

Mr. Speaker, today I rise in strong support of H.R. 956, the Drug-Free Communities Act. This better equips community antidrug organizations that have proven effective in the war on drugs. All one needs to do is look at the facts to see that we have not done enough to combat drug abuse in our country.

Fact. Marijuana use among high schoolers has more than doubled since 1992. Fact. LSD use is now at its highest level since the early 1970's. Fact. We are losing the war on drugs.

I believe that the best place to wage the war on drugs is in the home. When parents get involved, drug use is dramatically reduced. Local institutions must also get involved. Churches, schools, civic organizations, and local dignitaries must also step forward and help fight the war on drugs.

This bill sends to local organizations the resources to provide needed guidance and support to stamp out this scourge on society. Recently I initiated the Heartland Coalition project. The goal of this project in my district in Kentucky is to bring together current antidrug groups and coordinate efforts to curtail the drastic increase in illegal drug use. These existing antidrug groups can efficiently and effectively use the Federal dollars allocated by this bill to do just that.

Mr. Speaker, these grants can be used for a variety of purposes. They can help cover media campaigns to educate our kids about the dangers of drug abuse, or they can be used to sponsor seminars at schools. If these efforts keep just one kid off drugs, this bill will be a success.

I urge all my colleagues to vote yes on H.R. 956, the Drug-Free Communities Act. Again the best place to battle drugs is on the local level. That is what this bill does. It gives local communities the ability to fight the war on drugs.

I would also like to commend the gentleman from Ohio [Mr. PORTMAN] for his leadership on this issue.

Mr. PORTMAN. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from New York [Mr. FORBES].

(Mr. FORBES asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. FORBES. Mr. Speaker, I thank the architects of this wonderful initiative, because really it is about our children. There is no more precious resource in this Nation than our children and their futures. Frankly, the viability of our Nation rests on doing something about this very, very important problem.

The American people might say, well, the Congress has talked about this for decades. We have attacked the problem of drug abuse, whether from the interdiction and stricter laws or the education side; we have debated about who is more correct on fighting drugs, the White House or the Congress. We have had these debates over the last several decades. Frankly, I think it points out most importantly that the Congress and the White House, whomever is in control of either, really does understand that there is probably no greater scourge, no more pressing public policy issue than dealing with this problem of those who push poison upon our children. That is why I am so delighted and thank my good colleagues and the architects of this important legislation, the Drug-Free Communities Act of 1997, for this wonderful initiative.

Over a year ago, thanks to the leadership of the gentleman from Ohio [Mr. PORTMAN], I stole a few ideas that he had initiated back home in his own district in Ohio. That was, to bring together the disparate groups that work so hard and so tirelessly to fight this problem of drug abuse in our communities. One thing I found out in bringing the groups together, whether it was the treatment folks or the education folks, whether the police, whether it was community groups, that they were all doing their own thing very, very well, but doing their own thing. I was surprised to learn that despite the notoriety of this problem, these well-meaning groups were not talking to each other. That is a very big problem in trying to fight the scourge of drugs.

Mr. Speaker, this initiative will truly bring all parts of our community together, the churches and the synagogues, houses of worship, the youth, the police, the employers, parents, civic organizations. This is the critical part of this legislation. I thank the architects and I am proud to be a sponsor and supporter of this initiative.

Mr. PORTMAN. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. BARRETT of Wisconsin. Mr. Speaker, will the gentleman yield for a quick question?

Mr. PORTMAN. I yield to the gentleman from Wisconsin.

Mr. BARRETT of Wisconsin. I understand that the only difference between the version filed on Monday and the version being considered today is a minor technical change to ensure that the bill does not violate the establishment clause of the Constitution; is that correct?

Mr. PORTMAN. The gentleman is correct.

Mr. BARRETT of Wisconsin. Mr. Speaker, I yield the balance of my time

to the gentleman from Pennsylvania [Mr. FATTAH].

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. TAYLOR of North Carolina). The gentleman from Pennsylvania is recognized for 1 minute.

(Mr. FATTAH asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. FATTAH. I thank the gentleman from Wisconsin [Mr. BARRETT] for yielding me this time.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of this bill. As someone who led a drug-free coalition effort in my own city in Philadelphia and has seen its benefits, I want to congratulate the gentleman from Ohio [Mr. PORTMAN] for his leadership on this and for our committee for expeditiously moving this bill forward.

This is the beginning of what we can do here at the Federal level. The gentleman from New York [Mr. RANGEL] has for such a long time been pointing in the right direction that as a Nation we should take a more aggressive leadership role on this issue and that more can be done. I rise in favorable support of this. I know that it works, bringing people together, providing the kind of cohesive and coordinated efforts that can happen through these efforts in the local communities. We should not stop here, however, and we should take hopefully this bipartisan spirit and really work together, really making sure that treatment and prevention are resources that are going to be available in abundance at a neighborhood level and community level and also inside our prison system which we seem so dedicated to as a society, we should also make sure that treatment is available and assistance is available there.

Mr. PORTMAN. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The gentleman from Ohio is recognized for 3½ minutes.

Mr. PORTMAN. Mr. Speaker, we have heard a lot of shocking statistics today. Those alone should inspire us to act and pass this legislation today. But as a lot of Members have also reminded us, this is about people and it is about our kids. I would not be standing here today probably if not for a visit 3 years ago from a young woman in my district, Patty Gilbert, the mother of two, who came to me to say that her 16-year-old son had just died from a combination of huffing gasoline and smoking marijuana.

□ 1145

Mr. Speaker, she issued a challenge to me. She said, "I want you to help us in our community." She said, "I don't want to hear more about this rhetoric from Washington. I want to know what you can do to help us locally."

Mr. Speaker, it took us a while, but we finally came up with this idea that these communities coalitions really were working around the country, and it is something that Members of Con-

gress could get engaged in and help with.

My colleagues have heard from a few Members today, the gentleman from Kentucky [Mr. LEWIS] and others who have committee coalitions up and going, the gentleman from Michigan [Mr. LEVIN], and they are working. We have at least 43 Members of Congress who are now working on their own community coalitions.

This bill is the next step because it really does answer her question, it really does provide help in a meaningful way back in our communities. It does so by parent training. It does so by getting our businesses to have drug-free workplaces. It does so by involving our religious community. It does so by involving our schools. It is a neighborhood approach, it is a local approach, a community approach; we know it works.

This is something that Congress is doing, as we have seen this morning, in a bipartisan way to approach a very real problem, and again what, I think, is a very meaningful way.

I urge all my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to support the legislation today. Mr. Speaker, I thank my colleagues for all their help in putting this together.

Mr. HAMILTON. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 956, a bill I am pleased to cosponsor with my neighbor from Ohio, Representative PORTMAN. I commend Representative PORTMAN and the other members of the drug policy working group for their efforts in this area.

H.R. 956 is an important step forward in our efforts to help the people who can do the most to stop illegal drug abuse. This bill would provide assistance to local community drug coalitions that have demonstrated a commitment to fighting drug abuse.

I have spent a good bit of time in the last few months visiting with community leaders in southern Indiana who are active in fighting drug abuse. School counselors, PTA's, student groups, law enforcement officers, clergy, prosecutors, health care workers, businesses, and nonprofits are doing remarkable things to reduce drug abuse in their communities. They deserve our support.

I am often struck by how little the debate in Congress focuses on what actually works to discourage drug use. Almost everyone agrees that the Government needs to interdict drug smugglers, eradicate drug-producing crops, convict drug dealers, and help people break the cycle of drug addiction. We fall short, however, in taking personal responsibility for discouraging young people from using drugs. Parents, teachers, community leaders—and our young people themselves—need to take a more active role in fighting drug use. I have made a personal commitment to do more to keep young people off of drugs, and I encourage my colleagues to do the same.

I am pleased that H.R. 956 offers more resources to the people on the front line of anti-drug efforts. Former First Lady Barbara Bush used to say that what happens in your house is more important than what happens in the White House. She was right on target: The solution to the drug problem begins at home. Data suggest that if parents would simply talk

to their children regularly about the dangers of substance abuse, use among youth could be expected to decline by as much as 30 percent. We must do all we can to help parents, teachers, clergy, and community leaders begin those conversations.

The drug problem comes down to this: Personal responsibility. Not just for those who abuse drugs, but for every community member. We must each take it upon ourselves to do a little more to fight drugs. I am making fighting youth drug use a top personal priority in southern Indiana. We can have an impact if a few more of us wear red drug-free ribbons, if a few more parents ask their children about drugs at the dinner table, if a few more businesses sponsor a youth drug-free program. If each of us insists on more responsibility—and sets a personal example by not using drugs and discouraging others not to use them—we may be able to keep our young people and our communities safe from the scourge of drugs.

I urge my colleagues to give this bill—and this issue—their strong and sustained support.

Mr. PORTMAN. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. TAYLOR of North Carolina). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Ohio [Mr. PORTMAN] that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 956, as amended.

The question was taken.

Mr. PORTMAN. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 5 of rule I and the Chair's prior announcement, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. PORTMAN. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks on H.R. 956.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Ohio?

There was no objection.

MOTION TO ADJOURN

Mr. MOAKLEY. Mr. Speaker, I move that the House do now adjourn.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion to adjourn offered by the gentleman from Massachusetts [Mr. MOAKLEY].

The question was taken; and the Speaker pro tempore announced that the noes appeared to have it.

Mr. MOAKLEY. Mr. Speaker, I object to the vote on the ground that a quorum is not present and make the point of order that a quorum is not present.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Evidently a quorum is not present.

The Sergeant at Arms will notify absent Members.

The vote was taken by electronic device, and there were—yeas 80, nays 339, not voting 15, as follows:

[Roll No. 152]

YEAS—80

Ackerman
Allen
Bishop
Bonior
Brown (CA)
Brown (FL)
Brown (OH)
Carson
Clay
Clyburn
Conyers
Coyne
Davis (IL)
DeFazio
DeGette
Delahunt
DeLauro
Dingell
Dixon
Doggett
Fattah
Filner
Foglietta
Ford
Frank (MA)
Frost
Gejdenson
Gutierrez

Abercrombie
Aderholt
Archer
Armey
Bachus
Baesler
Baker
Baldacci
Ballenger
Barcia
Barr
Barrett (NE)
Barrett (WI)
Bartlett
Barton
Bass
Bateman
Bentsen
Bereuter
Berman
Berry
Bilbray
Bilirakis
Blagojevich
Bliley
Blumenauer
Blunt
Boehert
Boehner
Bonilla
Bono
Borski
Boswell
Boucher
Boyd
Brady
Bryant
Bunning
Burr
Burton
Buyer
Callahan
Calvert
Camp
Campbell
Canady
Capps
Cardin
Castle
Chabot
Chambliss
Chenoweth
Christensen
Clayton
Clement
Coble
Coburn
Collins
Combest
Condit
Cook
Cooksey
Costello
Cox
Cramer
Crane

Hastings (FL)
Hilliard
Hinchey
Jefferson
John
Johnson, E.B.
Kanjorski
Kaptur
Kennedy (MA)
Kennedy (RI)
Kildee
Kilpatrick
Klink
Lampson
Lantos
Lewis (GA)
Maloney (CT)
Maloney (NY)
Manton
Markey
McCarthy (NY)
McDermott
McGovern
McNulty
Meeke
Millender-
McDonald
Miller (CA)

NAYS—339

Crapo
Cubin
Cummings
Cunningham
Danner
Davis (FL)
Davis (VA)
Deal
DeLay
Dellums
Diaz-Balart
Dickey
Dicks
Dooley
Doolittle
Doyle
Dreier
Duncan
Dunn
Edwards
Ehlers
Ehrlich
Emerson
Engel
English
Ensign
Eshoo
Etheridge
Evans
Everett
Ewing
Farr
Fawell
Fazio
Flake
Foley
Forbes
Fowler
Fox
Franks (NJ)
Frelinghuysen
Furse
Gallegly
Ganske
Gekas
Gephardt
Gibbons
Gilchrist
Gillmor
Gilman
Gonzalez
Goode
Goodlatte
Goodling
Gordon
Goss
Graham
Granger
Green
Greenwood
Gutknecht
Hall (OH)
Hall (TX)
Hamilton
Hansen
Harman

McInnis
McIntosh
McIntyre
McKeon
McKinney
Meehan
Menendez
Metcalf
Mica
Miller (FL)
Minge
Molinari
Mollohan
Moran (KS)
Moran (VA)
Morella
Murtha
Myrick
Nethercutt
Neumann
Ney
Northup
Norwood
Nussle
Oberstar
Obey
Olver
Ortiz
Oxley
Packard
Pappas
Parker
Pastor
Paul
Paxon
Pease
Peterson (MN)
Peterson (PA)
Petri
Pickering
Pickett
Pitts
Pombo
Pomeroy
Porter
Portman
Poshard
Price (NC)

Hastert
Hastings (WA)
Hayworth
Hefley
Herger
Hill
Hilleary
Hinojosa
Hobson
Hoekstra
Holden
Hooley
Horn
Hostettler
Houghton
Hoyer
Hulshof
Hutchinson
Hyde
Inglis
Jackson (IL)
Jackson-Lee
(TX)
Jenkins
Johnson (CT)
Johnson (WI)
Johnson, Sam
Jones
Kasich
Kelly
Kennelly
Kim
Kind (WI)
King (NY)
Kingston
Klecza
Klug
Knollenberg
Kolbe
Kucinich
LaFalce
LaHood
Largent
Latham
LaTourette
Lazio
Leach
Levin
Lewis (CA)
Lewis (KY)
Linder
Lipinski
Livingston
LoBiondo
Lofgren
Lowey
Lucas
Luther
Manzullo
Martinez
Mascara
Hall (OH)
Hall (TX)
McCarthy (MO)
McCollum
McDade
McHale

Pryce (OH)
Radanovich
Rahall
Ramstad
Redmond
Regula
Reyes
Riggs
Riley
Rivers
Rodriguez
Roemer
Rogan
Rogers
Rohrabacher
Ros-Lehtinen
Rothman
Roukema
Royce
Rush
Ryun
Sabo
Salmon
Sanchez
Sandlin
Sanford
Sawyer
Saxton
Scarborough
Schaefer, Dan
Schaefer, Bob
Schumer
Scott
Sensenbrenner
Serrano
Sessions
Shadegg
Shaw
Shays
Sherman
Shimkus
Shuster
Sisisky
Skaggs
Skeen
Skelton
Smith (MI)
Smith (NJ)

NOT VOTING—15

Andrews
Becerra
Cannon
Deutsch
Hefner
Hunter
Istook
McCrery
McHugh
Pelosi
Schiff
Snowbarger
Thompson
Torres
White

□ 1208

Messrs. HOEKSTRA, VENTO, LEVIN, MCINTOSH, WATTS of Oklahoma, BLAGOJEVICH, and LATHAM, Ms. ESHOO, Mrs. NORTHUP, Ms. RIVERS, Ms. SANCHEZ, and Mrs. LOWEY changed their vote from "yea" to "nay."

Messrs. QUINN, FRANK of Massachusetts, and JOHN changed their vote from "nay" to "yea."

So the motion was rejected.

The result of the vote was announced as above recorded.

LEGISLATIVE PROGRAM

(Mr. MOAKLEY asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. MOAKLEY. Mr. Speaker, I would like to engage my dear friend, the gentleman from New York [Mr. SOLOMON], the chairman of the Committee on Rules, in a little dialogue so that the House, or at least I, will know where we are at the present time.

As the Speaker knows, we do not have any papers concerning the budget or the supplemental budget in front of us, so I would like to ask my dear friend from New York when we can expect to see something on the budget resolution, and when we can expect to