

HCR 110

1 HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 110
2 BY REICHERT, T. TAYLOR, BUKTA, WHITAKER, MURPHY,
3 PETTENGILL, D. TAYLOR, KRESSIG, WENDT, BERRY, FOEGE,
4 SWAIM, BELL, MERTZ, COHOON, DAVITT, D. OLSON, SMITH,
5 HEDDENS, FREVERT, GASKILL, THOMAS, WINCKLER, JOCHUM,
6 LENSING, KUHN, MCCARTHY, R. OLSON, SHOULTZ, MASCHER,
7 REASONER, SCHUELLER, QUIRK, PETERSEN, WISE, DANDEKAR,
8 SHOMSHOR, FORD, WHITEAD, LYKAM, JACOBY, OLDSON,
9 and HUNTER
10 (COMPANION TO LSB 6597SS BY KREIMAN)
11 A Resolution urging the federal government to restore
12 funding under the Byrne-Justice Assistance Grant
13 program.
14 WHEREAS, the Byrne-Justice Assistance Grant program
15 is a federal aid program designed to fund frontline
16 drug enforcement officials in local communities and
17 establish local drug task forces; and
18 WHEREAS, drug use, specifically methamphetamine
19 use, is a growing problem in Iowa's urban and rural
20 areas, and combating the ills of drugs in our society
21 is of the greatest importance; and
22 WHEREAS, the Byrne-Justice Assistance Grant program
23 has been a vital source of funding for local drug
24 enforcement task forces in Iowa for the better part of
25 two decades; and
26 WHEREAS, Byrne-Justice Assistance Grant program
27 funding levels have been reduced by more than 50
28 percent since 2003, and funding formulas have been
29 changed to further divert money away from states with
30 lower populations, causing further cutbacks in Iowa

1 drug enforcement task forces and other local drug
2 control projects; and

3 WHEREAS, federal program changes between 2003 and
4 2005 reduced the number of program-supported drug
5 control projects in Iowa from 61 to 38 and the number
6 of program-supported positions from 110 to 65, and
7 additional reductions will result in 2006; and

8 WHEREAS, in the 2007 federal budget proposed by
9 President Bush, the Byrne-Justice Assistance Grant
10 program would be eliminated, thereby eliminating
11 Iowa's \$2.7 million 2006 federal funding share; and

12 WHEREAS, the President's 2007 federal budget
13 proposal would eliminate remaining Byrne-Justice
14 Assistance Grant support for projects that include 23
15 drug task forces and 51 drug task force personnel, or
16 more than half of the local and state law enforcement
17 positions dedicated to drug enforcement in Iowa,
18 dealing a critical blow to the reduction of drug use
19 in Iowa; NOW THEREFORE,

20 BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES, THE
21 SENATE CONCURRING, That the General Assembly urges the
22 federal government to restore Byrne-Justice Assistance
23 Grant funding, to continue to support local drug
24 enforcement officers and their efforts to fight the
25 effects of drug use and trafficking here in Iowa, and
26 to restore an appropriate funding formula that does
27 not punish states with lower populations and that
28 supports local rural populations in their fight
29 against illicit drug use and trafficking; and

30 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That a copy of this

1 Resolution be forwarded to the President of the United
2 States, the President of the Senate of the United
3 States, the Speaker of the House of Representatives of
4 the United States, and members of Iowa's congressional
5 delegation.

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