



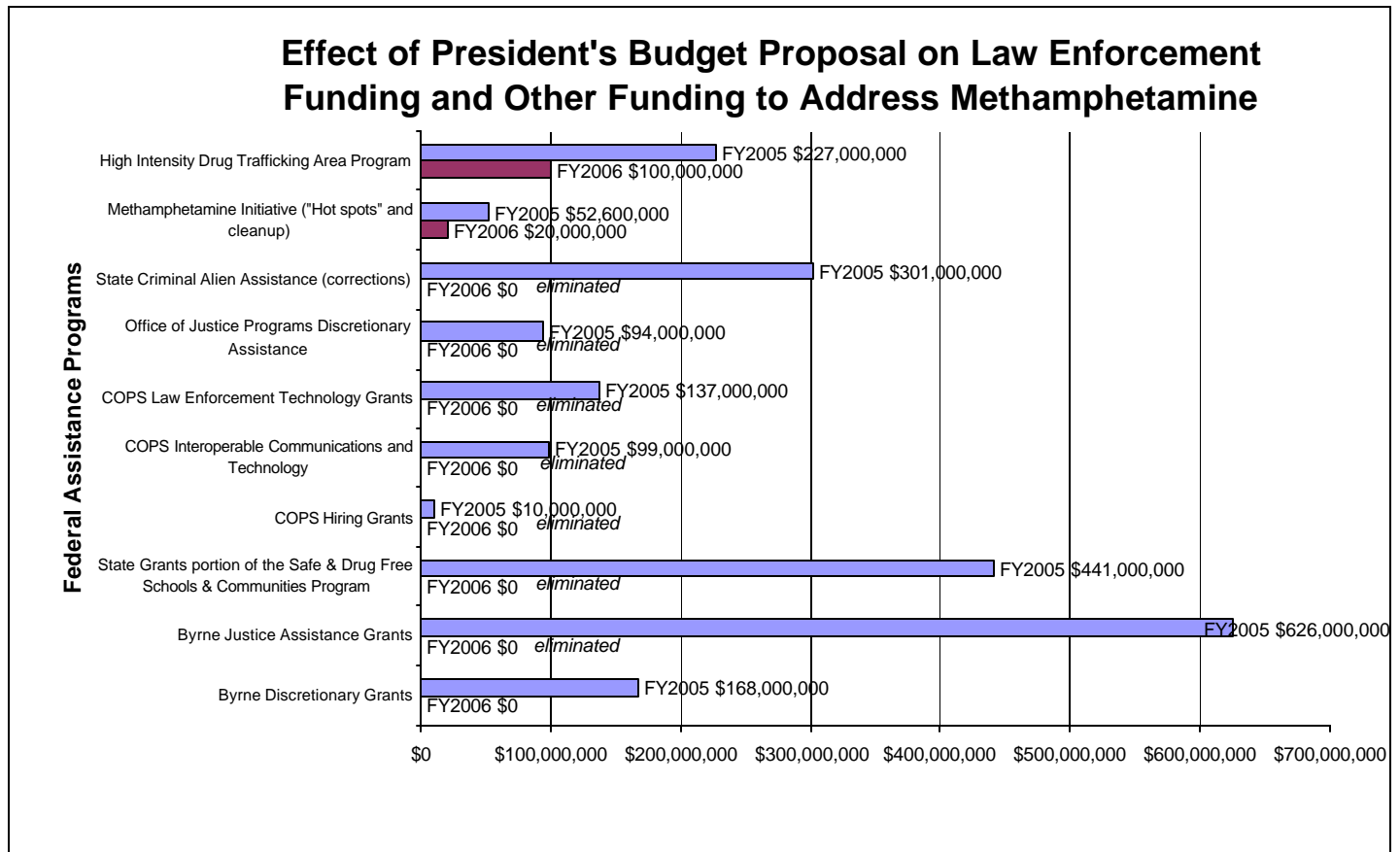
## LEGISLATIVE ALERT

### Funding Crisis for Law Enforcement and Drug Prevention Efforts in Kansas

#### *Urge Legislators to Restore Funding for Critical Programs*

The fiscal year 2006 budget proposed by President George Bush carries grave implications for efforts to address meth and other drugs in Kansas. The President's proposal drastically slashes the budget of some law enforcement and education programs, while eliminating other programs completely. If approved in its current form, this budget would have a devastating impact on law enforcement and drug prevention efforts in Kansas. In order for funding to continue for these vital programs, your legislators must hear from you about the importance of these programs to your community!

#### *What law enforcement and drug prevention programs are jeopardized by the President's budget?*



## ***What impact would these budget cuts have on drug prevention efforts in Kansas?***

- **Midwest HIDTA**
  - The proposed budget would force substantial reductions or elimination of HIDTA assistance to task forces and Midwest law enforcement agencies, including the Southeast Kansas Drug Task Force.
  - Midwest HIDTA is a valued KMPP partner agency, providing the Project with prevention videos and brochures at no cost. Without Midwest HIDTA, the Kansas Methamphetamine Prevention Project (KMPP) would not be able to provide free meth prevention materials to Kansas schools and coalitions.
- **COPS Grants**
  - In FY2004, COPS grants funded 16 law enforcement projects in Kansas, including 4 methamphetamine initiatives.
  - COPS grants funded 17 law enforcement officers in Kansas during this same time period. The loss of this funding would have severe implications for law enforcement agencies, including the possible reduction of staff.
  - A partnership with Kansas Bureau of Investigation (KBI) makes it possible for KMPP to dispense COPS funding to communities across Kansas in the form of minigrants. If COPS funding is not restored, KMPP will no longer be able to provide essential financial support to communities for meth prevention strategies.
- **Byrne Grant funding**
  - Byrne-funded grant projects conducted 5,523 investigations and arrested 2,874 individuals in Kansas during the last reporting year.
  - During the same time period, 10,207 individuals were trained by Byrne-funded grant projects.
  - Byrne grant funds support KMPP staff and projects. If the Byrne grant is eliminated, KMPP would lose funding for staff and would cease to exist, essentially ending coordinated meth prevention efforts in the state of Kansas.
- **Safe and Drug Free School and Communities Grants**
  - SDFSC-funded grant projects provided services to 17,761 Kansas school children during the last reporting year.
  - During the same time frame, 95 law enforcement officials received services through SDFSC-funded programs.
  - SDFSC grants fund school-based prevention infrastructures in Kansas. If funding to SDFSC grants is not restored, funding for youth prevention education would fall to state and local governments.
- *"The threatened elimination of the Edward Byrne, COPS and reduction of HIDTA Grant programs are probably the top concern of Kansas law enforcement. After years of reduced state and local financial support, these programs have become the cornerstone of most anti-methamphetamine efforts by state and local law enforcement agencies. These cuts could reduce those efforts by millions of dollars. While we recognize the need for homeland security and attacking foreign sources of illegal drugs, those of us in the heartland know that our domestic production of meth is leaving a trail of devastation and death."*—Kyle Smith, Public and Governmental Affairs Director, Kansas Bureau of Investigation
- *"Over the last 15 years, and with the assistance of Title IV Safe and Drug Free Schools funding, the Emporia School District has seen downward trends in almost every drug use category among our 6<sup>th</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup> and 12<sup>th</sup> graders. If there is no more funding available in the future, as President Bush has proposed, this will severely limit what we are able to accomplish. Teachers, counselors, and principals have very little time to implement, coordinate, and follow through with developing drug and violence prevention programs and strategies, or to work with community coalitions to provide a comprehensive approach. A truly effective prevention program takes coordination, and this will be lost if our funding is cut."*—Margi Grimwood, Safe and Drug Free Schools Coordinator, USD 253 School District

**Please contact your local legislators and urge them to make the restoration of these funding cuts a top priority!**

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Please send KMPP a copy of your fax or e-mail if possible. If you call your legislator, please drop us an e-mail and let us know.

Thank you for your attention to this important matter!