

HCR

6

STATE OF ALASKA

ADVISORY BOARD ON ALCOHOLISM AND DRUG ABUSE

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES

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March 13, 2001

The Honorable Gene Therriault, Chair
Senate State Affairs Committee
Alaska State Legislature
Juneau, Alaska

Dear Senator Therriault and Committee Members:

The Advisory Board on Alcoholism and Drug Abuse wholeheartedly supports CS for HCR 6, and/or SCR 5, resolutions declaring March 18-24, 2001 to be Inhalants and Poisons Awareness Week. This resolution aims to increase the awareness of all Alaskans about the potential harm of poisons and inhalants.

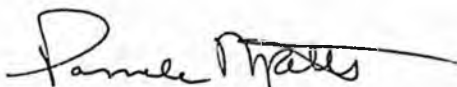
One in five youth nationwide, report sniffing or huffing common household products at least once in their lives to get high, according to the Partnership for Drug-Free America's most recent tracking study. Inhalants are especially problematic because they are so accessible to youth, and they are legally obtained. They can be found in kitchens and classrooms, and are generally inexpensive and easily abused.

March 18-24, 2001 is designated as National Inhalants and Poisons Awareness Week. This resolution would support the national effort to draw attention to and combat this alarming problem.

Resources and tools are available to help parents, caregivers, educators, and other adults identify the dangers and prevent inhalant abuse. Attached are references to resources and tools available to interested persons.

Your support of this important resolution is appreciated.

Respectfully,



Pamela Watts
Executive Director

Watts, Pam L.

To: Schultz, Anne G.
Subject: FW: MEDIA CAMPAIGN FLASH - March 13, 2001

This info can be used for a letter from the board to legislators

-----Original Message-----

From: Beltz, Darleen N.
Sent: Tuesday, March 13, 2001 10:24 AM
Subject: FW: MEDIA CAMPAIGN FLASH - March 13, 2001

FYI

-----Original Message-----

From: Soule, Susan
Sent: Tuesday, March 13, 2001 8:53 AM
To: Anthony Piper; Darleen Beltz; Michelle Bartley; Patti Bruce; Randall Madigan; Vicki Wells
Subject: FW: MEDIA CAMPAIGN FLASH - March 13, 2001

-----Original Message-----

From: Fletcher, Marilee M.
Sent: Tuesday, March 13, 2001 8:19 AM
To: Turner, Ernest J.; Jones, Loren A; Soule, Susan
Cc: Klose, Kay E.; Irwin, Marilyn F.
Subject: FW: MEDIA CAMPAIGN FLASH - March 13, 2001

-----Original Message-----

From: National Youth Anti-Drug Campaign [mailto:nyac@aed.org]
Sent: Tuesday, March 13, 2001 5:41 AM
Subject: MEDIA CAMPAIGN FLASH - March 13, 2001

MEDIA CAMPAIGN FLASH - March 13, 2001

NATIONAL INHALANTS AND POISONS AWARENESS WEEK SEEKS TO COMBAT YOUTH INHALANT USE

****Free Information and Resources Available Now for March 18-24 Awareness Week****

More than a thousand different household and commercial products - as close as the kitchen sink or found in any classroom - can be can be abused as inhalants. Items such as air fresheners, cooking spray, markers and glue are being used by kids to get a quick high by sniffing directly from an open container or "huffing" from a rag soaked in the substance and held to the face. Inhalants - generally inexpensive, legal, readily available and easily abused - can cause serious health problems or even death. One in five youth report sniffing or huffing common household products at least once in their lives to get high, according to the Partnership for a Drug-Free America's most recent Partnership Attitude Tracking Study.

National Inhalants and Poisons Awareness Week (NIPAW), March 18-24, offers a timely opportunity to draw attention to and combat this alarming problem. The National Youth Anti-Drug Media Campaign has joined with other government agencies, the National Inhalants Prevention Coalition (NIPC) and industry representatives to promote resources and tools to help parents, caregivers, educators and other adults identify the dangers and prevent inhalant abuse.

Representative Mary Kapsner

State Capitol • Juneau, Alaska 99801-1182

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House District 39

Lower Kuskowkin and Upper Bristol Bay

Akiachak
Akiak
Aleknagik
Atmautluak
Bethel
Cheformak
Clarks Point
Dillingham
Eek
Ekuk
Ekwok
Goodnews Bay
Kasigluk
Kipnuk
Koliganek
Kongiganak
Kivethluk
Kwigillingok
Manokotak
Napaktak
Napaskiak
New Stuyahok
Nunapituk
Oscarville
Platinum
Portage Creek
Quinhagak
Togiak
Tuntutuliak
Twin Hills

Sponsor Statement

HOUSE CONCURRENT RESOLUTION NO. 6

Requesting the Governor to declare March 18-24, 2001 to be Inhalants and Poisons Awareness Week.

March 18th to the 24th, 2001 is National Inhalant and Poisons Awareness Week. A national campaign to bring awareness to the silent epidemic of inhalant abuse, the National Inhalant and Poisons Awareness (NIPAW) week was started by the National Inhalant Prevention Coalition to increase understanding about the use and risks of inhalants.

NIPAW is an inclusive program that involves youth, schools, media, police departments, health organizations and civics groups, among others. It has proven to be an effective means of mobilizing communities to reduce inhalant use. More than 800 organizations from 46 states participated in the 2000 campaign.

Statistics indicate that a large percentage of elementary school age children as well as adolescents and adults have experimented with, or likely to experiment with inhalants. More than 70 percent of chronic substance abusers began with inhalants. Inhalants are known to lead to the use of marijuana, crack cocaine, and other illegal drugs. Chronic use causes irreparable, permanent brain damage, and other risks include heart failure, and irreversible damage to liver, kidneys and bone marrow. Many people don't know the deadly effects of these poisons when inhaled or "huffed." It's like playing Russian Roulette. The user can die the 1st, 10th or 100th time a product is misused as an inhalant.

House Concurrent Resolution 6 requests the Governor to declare March 18th-24th National Inhalants and Poisons Awareness week to coincide with this national campaign to bring awareness and understanding to Alaskans. This resolution also would encourage all public and private agencies and citizens of the state to observe and recognize Inhalants and Poisons Awareness Week with appropriate activities.

National Inhalants & Poisons Awareness Week March 2001



One on five students in America has used an inhalant to get high by the time he or she reaches the eighth grade. Parents don't know that inhalants, cheap, legal and accessible products, are as popular among middle school students as marijuana. Even fewer know the deadly effects the poisons in these products have on the brain and body when they are inhaled or "huffed." It's like playing Russian Roulette. The user can die the 1st, 10th or 100th time a product is misused as an inhalant.

Prevention through education has proven to work against this popular form of substance abuse. This is why the National Inhalant Prevention Coalition has developed **National Inhalants & Poisons Awareness Week (NIPAW)**, an annual media-based, community-level program that takes place the third week in March. NIPAW is designed to increase understanding about the use and risks of inhalant involvement. It is an inclusive program that involves youth, schools, media, police departments, health organization, civics groups and more. It has proven to be an effective means of mobilizing communities to reduce inhalant use. More than 800 organizations from 46 states participated in the last NIPAW campaign.

Does NIPAW work? Yes. Results from Texas, where extensive state-wide NIPAW campaigns have been conducted, have been remarkable. Between 1992 and 1994, there was a reduction of more than 30 percent in elementary school inhalant use and a reduction of more than 20 percent at the high school level (based on state agency surveys of more than 176,000 students). This translates into over 100,000 students who may have used inhalants but didn't.

Who should join? NIPAW Partners have included sponsors from state government agencies (education, health, alcohol & drug, etc.), state associations such as retailers, medical and pharmacy groups, state alliances of the Partnership for a Drug-Free America, local anti-drug coalitions, community and regional drug and alcohol councils, police departments and DARE officers, district attorneys, scout troops, firefighters, the National Guard, PTO/PTA chapters, faith communities, civic and voluntary organizations, student councils, local retailers, schools, individual parents, Poison Control Centers, local medical communities (hospitals, emergency medical services, individual doctors and nurses, retailers, pharmacists, etc.) and TV and radio stations - just to mention a few. If you fall into any of these groups and want to prevent or reduce inhalant use in your community, this campaign is for you. The campaign can be conducted anytime and anywhere there is a need for inhalant awareness education.

If you have an interest in reducing inhalant usage in your area, this campaign is for you.



WHAT DO I GET WHEN I JOIN NIPAW?

Each NIPAW Partner receives a Local Coordinator's Kit and weekly NIPAW UPDATES detailing what activities are happening around the country and what is working in various communities. The kit costs \$35 plus \$5 shipping (the price of production and mailing) and is available in English and Spanish.

The kit includes:

- up to date statistics about inhalant use in the country
- a comprehensive "How To" guide to conduct a local media/awareness campaign
- inhalant education and background information
- suggested campaign activities
- tips on working effectively with the media
- camera-ready art for print reproduction (with space to add local identification) for:
 - bag stuffers
 - window flyers
 - posters
 - newspaper/magazine print ads
 - brochures
 - handout flyers
- sample copies of:
 - letters to the editor
 - op eds
 - radio scripts
 - editorials
 - news releases
 - media advisories
- camera-ready art for overhead presentations
- regular NIPAW UPDATES indicating what other Partners are doing and any new statistics and information that become available
- tips for teachers
- a list of NIPAW Partners in your state


(Print art will be available in two versions in each kit: one with the products depicted and the other without the products. Coordinator's kit will be available in English and Spanish.)

HOW DO I JOIN NIPAW?

Joining is easy.

- Either e-mail NIPC with your name, organization, address and phone number or call 1-800-269-4237 to add your organization to our list of NIPAW Partners.

- The cost of the kit is \$35 plus \$5 for shipping.
- NOTE: NIPC does not make money transactions over the Internet. We will bill you after we have contacted you via phone and confirmed your registration.
- NIPC waits to include the latest national inhalant statistics ("The Monitoring the Future Survey," available in December) in the Local Coordinator's Kit. **Accordingly, 2001 kits are not mailed to Partners until the end of January.**

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FISCAL NOTE

STATE OF ALASKA
2001 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

Fiscal Note Number: 1
 Bill Version: CSHCR 6(HES)
 (H) Publish Date: 2/28/01

Revision Date/Time (Note if correction): _____ Dept. Affected: _____
 Title: Relating to declaring March 18-24, 2001 as BRU: _____
 Inhalants and Poisons Awareness..... Component: _____
 Sponsor: Kapsner Component Number: _____
 Requester: _____

Expenditures/Revenues (Thousands of Dollars)

Note: Amounts do not include inflation unless otherwise noted below.

OPERATING EXPENDITURES	FY 2002	FY 2003	FY 2004	FY 2005	FY 2006	FY 2007
Personal Services						
Travel						
Contractual						
Supplies						
Equipment						
Land & Structures						
Grants & Claims						
Miscellaneous						
TOTAL OPERATING	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

CAPITAL EXPENDITURES						
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CHANGE IN REVENUES ()						
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FUND SOURCE (Thousands of Dollars)

1002 Federal Receipts						
1003 GF Match						
1004 GF						
1005 GF/Program Receipts						
1037 GF/Mental Health						
Other (Specify Type)						
TOTAL	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0

Estimate of any current year (FY2001) cost: 0.0

POSITIONS

Full-time						
Part-time						
Temporary						

ANALYSIS: (Attach a separate page if necessary)

Prepared by: HOUSE HEALTH, EDUCATION & SOCIAL SERVICES COM

Phone 465-3759

Representative Fred Dyson
Committee Chair

Date 2/24/01