

Governor Jim Gibbons



For Immediate Release: February 13, 2007

GIBBONS ANNOUNCES MEMBERS OF METHAMPHETAMINE WORKING GROUP

Carson City –Governor Jim Gibbons today released the names of his bipartisan 15 member Methamphetamine Working Group tasked with finding and recommending solutions to address Nevada’s meth epidemic. The group was created by Executive Order on January 20, 2007.

The group includes experts from law enforcement, healthcare, treatment, rehabilitation and education, along with representatives from state, local and tribal government. Members of the Methamphetamine Working Group represent Nevada’s rural and urban areas as well as both houses of the State Legislature.

The comprehensive Working Group is charged with creating a report with recommendations on the most efficient and effective course of action to mitigate the current meth epidemic and to create a plan to permanently reduce meth production, distribution and use. The report will be presented to the Governor and State Legislature by April 1, 2007.

“During my career in public service, I have remained dedicated to addressing the meth epidemic. Over the years we have garnered significant federal funding for a number of projects and programs aimed at reducing trafficking and production. Most recently, Washoe County received the designation of a High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area (HIDTA). However, it is imperative that we bolster our efforts at the state level. This is an issue that affects us all and continues to strain our state and local resources. It is my hope that these recommendations will lead to comprehensive legislation, allowing us to get a handle on this virulent drug,” said Governor Jim Gibbons.

Attorney General Catherine Cortez Masto will serve as Chairwoman of the working group. First Lady Dawn Gibbons, who has made fighting meth a top concern, will also serve as a member. Other members include:

Ken Furlong, Sheriff of Carson City
Phil Galeoto, Director of the Nevada Department of Public Safety
Doug Gillespie, Sheriff of Las Vegas Metropolitan Police Department
Chris Giunchigliani, Clark County Commissioner

Brent Boynton, Communications Director - (775) 684-5668 - Melissa Subbotin, Press Secretary

Office of the Governor . 101 North Carson Street . Carson City, NV 90701 . Fax: (775) 684-7198
Grant Sawyer State Office Bldg . 555 East Washington, Suite 5100 . Las Vegas, NV 89701 . Fax: (702) 486-2505

Mike Haley, Sheriff of Washoe County
Dr. Joseph Heck, Nevada State Senator
Sheila Leslie, Nevada State Assemblywoman
Ted Quasula , Chief of Police of the Nevada Paiute Tribe
Dr. Rob Roberts, Superintendent of Nye County School District
Dr. Richard Steinberg, CEO of WestCare Nevada
Mayor Marv Teixeira, Mayor of Carson City
Rhonda Zuraff, Publisher of Elko Daily Free Press
Mike Willden, Director of the Nevada Department of Health and Human Services

###