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John Weston

Member of Parliament for West Vancouver—Sunshine Coast—Sea to Sky Country

November 13, 2009

Mayor Pamela Goldsmith-Jones
Municipal District of West Vancouver
750 - 17th Street
West Vancouver BC V7V 3T5


Dear Mayor Goldsmith-Jones,

Re: Tackling Crystal Meth and "Ecstasy" Head-on

I write for three reasons: to advise you of a private member's bill that I have introduced; to seek your endorsement; and to seek your introduction to other individuals or organizations that might add their endorsements.

1. This Bill, originally introduced as Bill C-428 by my colleague Chris Warkentin, M.P. (Peace River), creates a new criminal offence relating to the procurement of the ingredients of crystal meth and "ecstasy," with intent to manufacture the offending drugs. Bill C-428 received unanimous support in the House and broad support in the Senate last time, and reached second reading in the Senate before it died on the order paper due to the 2008 election.

One of the two differences between the attached Bill, Bill C-475, and Bill C-428 is the addition of "ecstasy". "Ecstasy" has been added at the suggestion of law enforcement officials who say that the production of crystal meth and "ecstasy" is often linked. The second difference is the length of time for the imprisonment term. We solicited input from the three opposition Justice Critics. The NDP Critic, echoed by the Liberal Critic, suggested we state that the maximum sentence possible under this new offence should be ten years *less a day*. We have accepted their rationale, which was to leave open the possibility of a conditional sentence. (A new bill, C-42, eliminates the possibility of a conditional sentence if the potential term related to a drug offence is ten years or more.)

2. Why am I seeking endorsements? Given the importance of this bill, I wish to add as much as possible to its existing strong momentum. Why am I inviting you to endorse this bill? Your city council strikes me as one that shares my commitment to get on the side of our youth and to take a stand against these two drugs that haunt so many Canadians. I would very much like unanimous support from your council as we go forward in this fight.

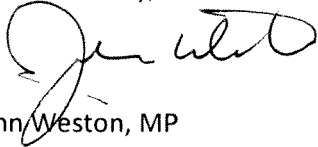
Endorsing this bill means you would champion this issue with me in your area and would be willing to stand publicly with Parliamentarians from all political parties in the House of Commons and the Senate; law enforcement officials; parents; teachers; and others who are committed to getting on the side of our youth and to taking a stand against the scourge of these two drugs.

1. Are you aware of any individuals or organizations who would also be interested in endorsing this bill? If yes, please let me know. Please also find attached a petition; I would appreciate any signatures that you could gather to give this bill even more momentum. Additionally, are you aware of any personal stories relating to crystal meth or ecstasy use that you would be comfortable sharing for public consumption?

Thank you for considering this request. I introduced this bill to the House of Commons on Monday, November 2. Please let my office know your response at your earliest convenience, preferably before December 3. You can contact Joshua Peters, my Legislative Assistant, at westoj8@parl.gc.ca, or call my office at 613-947-4617 with your decision or if you have any questions.

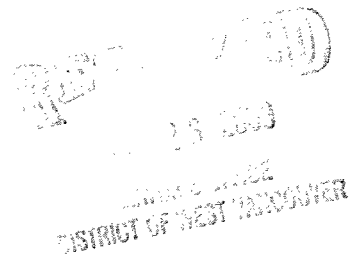
I look forward to working with you to tackle "ecstasy" and crystal meth head-on.

Yours sincerely,



John Weston, MP

Encl: Final Draft of Bill; Petition



Petition to the House of Commons in Parliament Assembled (Canadians in support of Standing up in the Fight on Drugs)

We, the undersigned citizens of Canada, draw the attention of the House to the following:

THAT WHEREAS a large number of great Canadians and others have become addicted to Crystal Meth and “Ecstasy” drugs;

AND WHEREAS these drugs harm people physically, mentally, emotionally, financially, and in other ways;

AND WHEREAS it is the duty of Parliament to prevent Canadians from harm, such as this harm caused by these drugs;

THEREFORE your petitioners request the House of Commons in Parliament assembled to adopt provisions controlling the procurement of ingredients of Crystal Meth and “Ecstasy” by persons who intend to manufacture or distribute these drugs,

SIGNATURES

ADDRESSES

(Original signatures; do not print)

(Give your home address, city, province and postal code)

1.	_____	_____
2.	_____	_____
3.	_____	_____
4.	_____	_____
5.	_____	_____
6.	_____	_____
7.	_____	_____
8.	_____	_____
9.	_____	_____
10.	_____	_____
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22.	_____	_____
23.	_____	_____
24.	_____	_____
25.	_____	_____

NOTE: a petition can only be certified correct as to form and content if it: contains proper, respectful language; is submitted on **unaltered** pages containing the **subject matter** of the petition; is submitted on **regular paper**, not exceeding the dimensions of legal size paper; and contains **no** attachments or enclosures.

Please return signed petition to: **John Weston, MP, West Vancouver – Sunshine Coast – Sea to Sky Country, House of Commons, Ottawa, ON K1A 0A6** (postage is free on mail to Ottawa). Please return petition a.s.a.p. Make more copies as needed or telephone (613) 947-4617.

YOUR LETTERHEAD

DATE

John Weston, MP,
424 Confederation Building
House of Commons
Ottawa, ON
K1A 0A6
Email: westoj8@parl.gc.ca
Phone: (613) 947-4617
Fax: (613) 947-4620

To the office of John Weston, MP;

I allow my name or that of my organization to stand as an endorser of Bill C-475.

Yours truly,

Signature

Print name

Date

C-475

Second Session, Fortieth Parliament,
57-58 Elizabeth II, 2009

HOUSE OF COMMONS OF CANADA

BILL C-475

An Act to amend the Controlled Drugs and Substances Act
(methamphetamine and ecstasy)

FIRST READING, NOVEMBER 2, 2009

C-475

Deuxième session, quarantième législature,
57-58 Elizabeth II, 2009

CHAMBRE DES COMMUNES DU CANADA

PROJET DE LOI C-475

Loi modifiant la Loi réglementant certaines drogues et
autres substances (méthamphétamine et ecstasy)

PREMIÈRE LECTURE LE 2 NOVEMBRE 2009

MR. WESTON (*West Vancouver—Sunshine Coast—Sea to Sky
Country*)

M. WESTON (*West Vancouver—Sunshine Coast—Sea to Sky
Country*)

SUMMARY

This enactment amends the *Controlled Drugs and Substances Act* to prohibit a person from possessing, producing, selling or importing anything knowing it will be used to produce or traffic in methamphetamine or ecstasy.

SOMMAIRE

Le texte modifie la *Loi réglementant certaines drogues et autres substances* afin d'interdire à une personne d'avoir en sa possession, de produire, de vendre ou d'importer toute chose sachant qu'elle sera utilisée pour la production ou le trafic de méthamphétamine ou d'ecstasy.

HOUSE OF COMMONS OF CANADA

CHAMBRE DES COMMUNES DU CANADA

BILL C-475

PROJET DE LOI C-475

An Act to amend the Controlled Drugs and Substances Act (methamphetamine and ecstasy)

Loi modifiant la Loi réglementant certaines drogues et autres substances (méthamphétamine et ecstasy)

Her Majesty, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate and House of Commons of Canada, enacts as follows:

Sa Majesté, sur l'avis et avec le consentement du Sénat et de la Chambre des communes du Canada, édicte :

1996, c. 19

CONTROLLED DRUGS AND SUBSTANCES ACT

LOI RÉGLEMENTANT CERTAINES DROGUES ET AUTRES SUBSTANCES

1996, ch. 19

1. The *Controlled Drugs and Substances Act* is amended by adding the following after section 7:

1. La *Loi réglementant certaines drogues et autres substances* est modifiée par adjonction, après l'article 7, de ce qui suit :

Possession, etc.,
for use in
production of or
trafficking in
substance

7.1 (1) No person shall possess, produce, sell or import anything knowing that it will be used to produce or traffic in a substance referred to in item 18 of Schedule I or subitem 1(9) of Schedule III.

7.1 (1) Il est interdit d'avoir en sa possession, de produire, de vendre ou d'importer toute chose sachant qu'elle sera utilisée pour la production d'une substance inscrite à l'article 18 de l'annexe I ou au paragraphe 1(9) de l'annexe III ou pour faire le trafic d'une telle substance.

Possession etc.,
pour utilisation
dans la
production ou le
trafic

Punishment

(2) Every person who contravenes subsection (1) is guilty of an indictable offence and liable to imprisonment for a term of not more than ten years less a day.

(2) Quiconque contrevient au paragraphe (1) commet un acte criminel passible d'un emprisonnement maximal de dix ans moins un jour.

Peine

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COORDINATING AMENDMENT

DISPOSITION DE COORDINATION

Bill C-15

2. If Bill C-15, introduced in the 2nd session of the 40th Parliament and entitled *An Act to amend the Controlled Drugs and Substances Act and to make related and consequential amendments to other Acts*, receives royal assent, then, on the first day on which sections 6 and 7 of that Act and section 1 of this Act are all in force,

2. En cas de sanction du projet de loi C-15, déposé au cours de la 2^e session de la 40^e législature et intitulé *Loi modifiant la Loi réglementant certaines drogues et autres substances et apportant des modifications connexes et corrélatives à d'autres lois*, dès le premier jour où les articles 6 et 7 de cette loi et l'article 1 de la présente loi sont tous en

Projet de loi
C-15

subsection 7.1(1) of the *Controlled Drugs and Substances Act* is replaced by the following:

vigueur, le paragraphe 7.1(1) de la *Loi réglementant certaines drogues et autres substances* est remplacé par ce qui suit :

Possession, etc.,
for use in
production of or
trafficking in
substance

7.1 (1) No person shall possess, produce, sell or import anything knowing that it will be used to produce or traffic in a substance referred to in item 18 of Schedule I or subitem 19(8) of Schedule I.

7.1 (1) Il est interdit d'avoir en sa possession, de produire, de vendre ou d'importer toute chose sachant qu'elle sera utilisée pour la production d'une substance inscrite à l'article 18 de l'annexe I ou au paragraphe 19(8) de l'annexe I ou pour faire le trafic d'une telle substance.

Possession etc.,
pour utilisation
dans la
production ou le
trafic

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