Deputy Sheriff's Association of Michigan

March 13, 2014

Dear Members of the Michigan Legislature,

We are writing to express our support for legislation (Senate Bills: 535, 563, 564, and 756) authored by Senator John Proos that would help our law enforcement professionals, pharmacists and retailers crack down on methamphetamine criminals.

Senator Proos' legislation offers an innovative and balanced approach to Michigan's meth production problem that will significantly enhance the state's current anti-meth laws, which currently include real-time, electronic monitoring of sales of pseudoephedrine-based products. Under the senator's proposal, individuals who have previously been convicted of meth-related crimes will be banned from being able to purchase any over-the-counter pseudoephedrine-containing medicines for ten years after their conviction. The legislation will also stiffen the criminal penalties associated with "smurfing;" the practice of visiting numerous pharmacies individually or with a ring of people to purchase the legal limit of PSE (3.6 g daily), allowing the meth lab to obtain sufficient PSE for production.

Our organization supports this commonsense approach to the meth problem because it will target the criminals who are responsible for the meth problem while also ensuring that law-abiding Michiganders still have access to the nonprescription cold and allergy medicines of their choice. This is the kind of balanced, targeted solution that taxpayers deserve.

We urge you to support this robust and aggressive approach to Michigan's meth problem.

Sincerely,

Deputy Sheriff's Association of Michigan

Brian Earle, Legislative Director