

Association of State Correctional Administrators Resolutions

Resolution #11 - Need for Federal Funding for Substance Abuse Treatment Programs

WHEREAS, over 50 percent of the nation's inmates in State and Federal Correctional Facilities reported using alcohol or drugs during the commission of their offense;

WHEREAS, as many as 80 percent of the nation's prisoners report having used drugs at some time prior to their offense, a percentage that has risen in the past ten years;

WHEREAS, over 650,000 men and women leave State prisons each year to return to their communities;

WHEREAS, offenders who do not participate in addiction treatment programs have been shown to have a much higher chance of re-offending and being returned to prison;

WHEREAS, the Association of State Correctional Administrators strongly supports effective Reentry programs;

WHEREAS, substance abuse education and treatment are critical components of successful re-entry initiatives at both the institutional and community levels, and

WHEREAS, research has demonstrated that aftercare treatment is an essential component of an effective substance abuse treatment program;

WHEREAS, each jurisdiction may have unique needs relative to the allocation of funds by type and length of program.

WHEREAS, the nation's prisons have used the Federal funds provided through the Residential Substance Abuse Treatment program to assist with the expense of providing substance treatment programs within the prisons;

WHEREAS, the President and Congress have proposed substantial reduction and/or elimination of funding for drug abuse treatment in Prisons;

WHEREAS, other Federal grant funds seldom are available to correctional systems to provide such substance abuse treatment services;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Association of State Correctional Administrators supports legislation to fund the provision of addiction treatment for offenders in prison and subsequent to release to the community, and further

Be it resolved such appropriations should allow full flexibility in the allocation and utilization Substance Abuse Treatment funds relative to the length and type of eligible substance abuse programming in institutional and community formats.

Adopted by the Association of State Correctional Administrators – May 25, 2007.

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