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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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**GOVERNORS APPLAUD PASSAGE OF THE COMBAT METH ACT**

Washington, D.C. – Members of the Midwestern Governors Association are applauding recent passage of the Combat Meth Act, which is part of H.R. 3199. The act will help states combat the production and distribution of meth by providing funding for equipment, training for law enforcement agents and grants to help those affected by meth. The act also sets a 7.5 gram limit on the amount of pseudoephedrine one person can buy in any 30-day period. In addition, it provides services for children affected by meth, increases awareness and involvement by businesses that sell pseudoephedrine, expands treatment options, provides law enforcement officers with more resources and increases the ability of prosecutors to bring justice to meth distributors.

“The Combat Meth Act allows the federal government and local governments to work together,” said Minnesota Gov. Tim Pawlenty, who is chairman of the MGA. “The legislation will help us control and stop the use and production of meth in Minnesota.”

Twenty percent of the meth used in Minnesota is made in the state.

Over the last decade, meth use has increased by 300 percent. Meth is considered to be the most addictive and rapidly spreading drug in the United States.

“I commend Congress for passing this legislation,” Missouri Gov. Matt Blunt said. “This new law will protect Missouri’s borders by preventing meth cooks from transporting chemicals across state lines to produce this deadly drug. Missourians can be proud that we passed the strongest anti-meth legislation in our state’s history last year. This legislation for the entire country will benefit all states, including Missouri.”

The Midwestern Governors Association is a nonprofit organization that brings together 13 governors from the Midwest. States included in the MGA are Illinois, Indiana, Iowa, Kansas, Kentucky, Michigan, Minnesota, Missouri, Nebraska, North Dakota, Ohio, South Dakota, and Wisconsin. The mission of the MGA is to increase regional development, work to facilitate interstate cooperation and improve intergovernmental relationships.