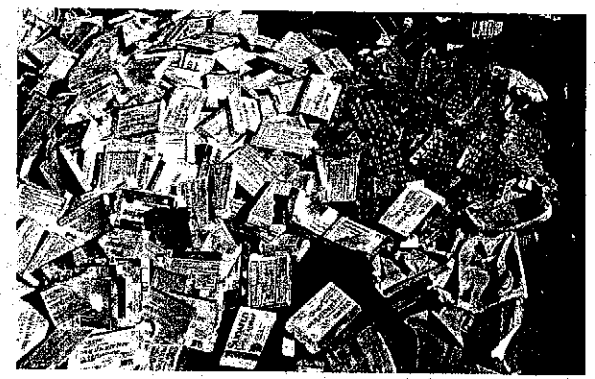
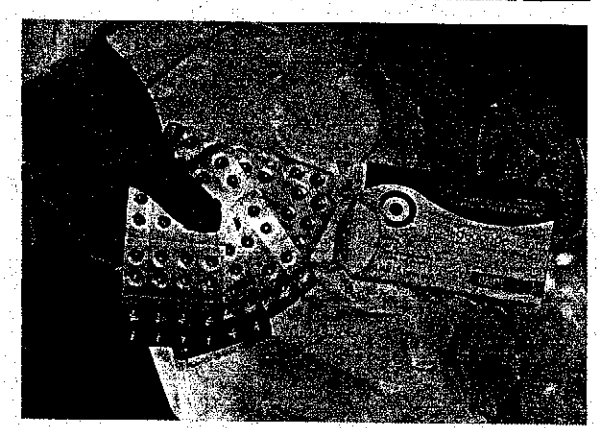
FAST FACTS ABOUT PSEUDOEPHEDRINE

- Pseudoephedrine is the precursor to manufacture Methamphetamine. The "Cook" (chemical reaction) removed one oxygen atom from the pseudoephedrine molecule—this changes the chemical structure
- We see all types of pseudoephedrine-containing products in Montana meth labs --various over-the-counter (OTC) cold medications, allergy medications and nasal decongestants. These are not strictly pseudoephedrine-only products, but products that contain pseudoephedrine.
- One commonality is these OTC products are in pill or tablet form. The pseudoephedrine-containing products discovered in Montana meth labs are purchased or shoplifted locally—they are not smuggled in from Mexico or Canada
- SB287 is modeled on Oklahoma's law that went into effect April 4, 2004. Oklahoma saw a substantial drop in meth labs, however, the border states of Oklahoma (KS, MS, TX AR) have generally increased!
- Bordering states to Montana either already have similar legislation or are currently proposing legislation. We don't want to become the "hole in the middle" that all the meth cooks will fall into.
- Previously the Federal Government mandated that all pseudoephedrine-containing products be packaged in blister packs. It was thought that this change would seriously restrict the manufacture of Meth.
- No one thought that meth cooks would sit down and individually pop out hundreds or even thousands of pills from blister packs, but they do! This law did little to restrict illegal production of methamphetamine.
- We see the same effect in the store-imposed limit to the number of boxes of pseudoephedrine-containing products a person can purchase at one time - - this may slow down the meth cooks, but this just changes their behavior to going from store to store and buying the limit at each store.

YOU CAN'T MAKE METH WITHOUT PSEUDOEPHEDRINE



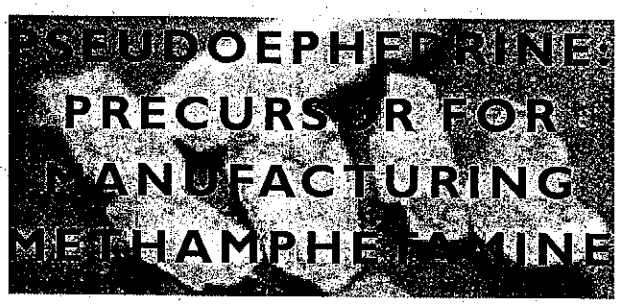


RESTRICT AND CONTROL PSEUDOEPHEDRINE SALES AND IT WILL REDUCE METH PRODUCTION

Montana is the "Last Best place" and SB 287 will stop Montana from becoming the "Last Best Place to Make Meth"

MNOA

Montana Narcotics Officers Association



WHY IS METH A PROBLEM?

- **40 Children were removed from meth labs in 2004**
- Highly addictive
- Detrimental to the body
- Production is on the rise
- Clean-up is **COSTLY** and **DANGEROUS**
- Toxic chemicals in production are dangerous to communities and the environment

WHAT DOES IT TAKE TO MAKE IT?

- Precursors
  - Ephedrine
  - Pseudoephedrine
- Reagents
  - Red Phosphorous
  - Iodine
  - Anhydrous Ammonia
- Solvents
- Equipment

EXHIBIT 4
DATE 4-4-05
SB 287

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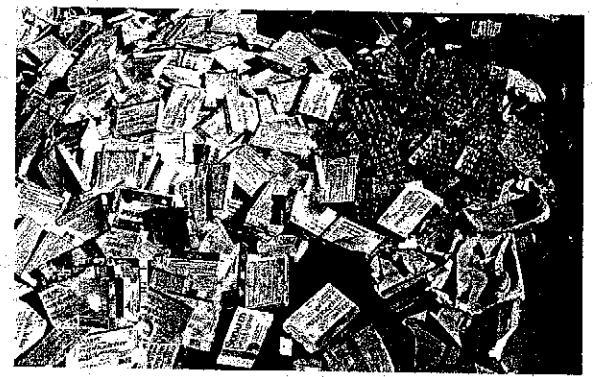

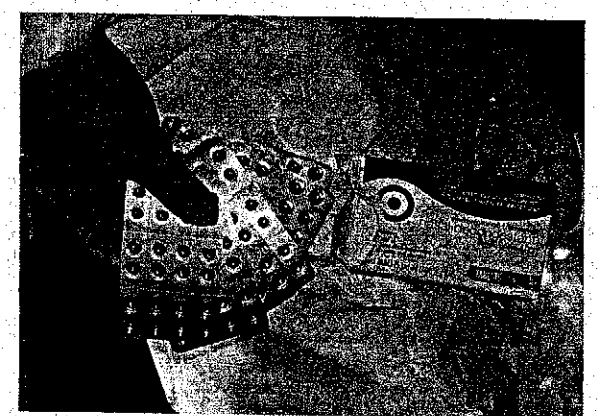

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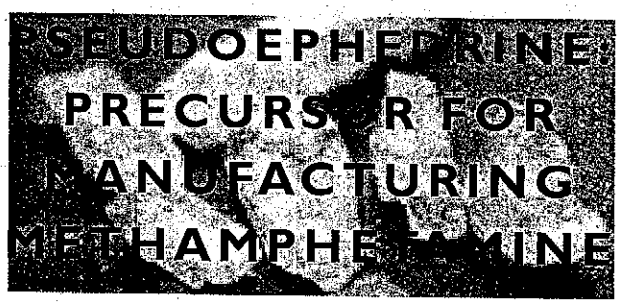

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