

June 11, 2009

Washington, D.C. – Today, Congressman Jerry McNerney (CA-11) introduced a bill that will help address

“Meth use is a critical problem for our area,” said Rep. McNerney. “I introduced this bill because I want to

Cary Martin, Chairperson of the San Joaquin County Mental Health Board, joined Congressman McNerney

“My thanks to Congressman McNerney for his leadership in helping San Joaquin County fight back against

Specifically, the bill instructs the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services to:

- Collaborate with professionals to raise awareness about how to recognize signs of substance abuse
- Develop a clearinghouse that provides information and educational materials to employers and employees
- Grant awards in rural areas that have been determined to have a shortage of mental health professionals
- Expand, intensify, and coordinate efforts to provide methamphetamine or other drug addiction treatment
- Provide resources to develop a student-driven methamphetamine awareness project, such as a public

The bill also provides for funding of such programs for 5 fiscal years, beginning with the amount of \$20 million

According to a 2008 report issued by the California Partnership for the San Joaquin Valley, which referred

The bill is now expected to be referred to the Energy and Commerce Subcommittee on Health for further