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Testimony to: JUDICARY COMMITTEE
From: Carol Keck, SSND
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RE: House Bill 12

The monies involved in confiscation and forfeiture should be returned to the communities from which it was taken. State Representative Acosta's House Bill 12 should be passed in order to provide funds to cities of the first class. Forty percent (40%) of the total cash or proceeds of property forfeited SHOULD go to:

Non-profit community-based organizations that are working to confront the drug problem right in their neighborhood.

These community-based organizations are providing a variety of social services such as Drug Prevention Education to inner city youth. They also are doing intervention with youth involved or nearly involved in the drug trade.

Some community-based organizations are working directly with youth providing After School Activities, week end trips, even employment. Drug Prevention, Building Self Esteem, Enhancing educational skills, Building healthy relationships are the focus of these programs.

and with other health issues. Some of this money should come from forfeiture funds.

The distribution of the money could be done through already existing agency or department. Creating a council to do this only provides more openings for problems, backroom dealing, political paybacks.

Local police report that 60 to 80% of all heroin and cocaine sold in Philadelphia area come from out of our community. 40% of those forfeitures should come back to the community to help rebuild some of what has been destroyed by the drug activity.
