

## 108. LAW AND ORDER

We support action to:

1. Bring about firm, fair, and prompt enforcement of existing laws.
2. Increase enforcement of existing littering laws.
3. Provide aid to victims of crime.
4. Create greater awareness of and increased activity by our members in surfacing, selection and election of qualified persons who will be capable of administering effective law enforcement programs.
5. Require that the County Sheriff and State's Attorney be notified by the State Department of Corrections when an inmate from their county is released from a state correctional institution.
6. Reduce the fiscal impact imposed on local governments related to the increasing of minimum federal jail standards. Such efforts should relate to providing state and local government jurisdictions with flexibility to meet minimal care standards for such facilities.
7. Allow law enforcement officials to seize vehicles used in the commission of a theft involving agricultural commodities, supplies or equipment.

We will support:

1. Effective enforcement of present laws and the enactment of new legislation where needed to prevent the illegal production, importation, manufacture, or distribution of narcotics, marijuana, other drugs, harmful substances, and related paraphernalia.
2. Work programs for prisoners.
3. Continued efforts to inform the victim of the impending release of an inmate.

We oppose:

1. The "early release program" as a solution to prison overcrowding.
2. The use, production and distribution of marijuana for recreational purposes.

We will seek legislation to provide for severe and mandatory sentences for crimes committed with weapons. The defense of one's person or property with a weapon needs to be more clearly defined legally.

We will:

1. Work with county Farm Bureaus in developing coalitions to address the problems with methamphetamine production and use.
2. Encourage vigorous education efforts to inform youth, parents, and others concerning the harmful effects of substance abuse including the dangers of methamphetamine production and use.
3. Work with local, state, and federal officials in addressing the issue of methamphetamine production and use.
4. Work with our urban legislators to help educate them on the severity of this problem in rural areas and the cost to the taxpayer for treating methamphetamine addicts.
5. Encourage the research and development necessary to produce an economical additive for anhydrous ammonia to prevent its use for the production of methamphetamine or other illegal purposes.
6. Seek legislation imposing stiffer penalties for theft of anhydrous ammonia for methamphetamine production.

We encourage counties to consider the establishment of Juvenile Justice Councils.