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News

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Tuesday, April 4, 2006 12:56 AM CDT

Meth makers would be listed under proposal

By Matt Adrian
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SPRINGFIELD - The Illinois State Police would have to begin tracking convicted methamphetamine makers under a proposal approved by the House on Monday.

Police and ordinary citizens would be able to search the Internet database of people convicted of making the high-powered stimulant.

"It really makes public some vital information, because of the dangers in making this stuff," said state Rep. Roger Eddy, R-Hutsonville.

Making the drug involves a volatile brew of anhydrous ammonia, phosphorous, lithium and cold tablets. Cleaning up a methamphetamine lab often requires the expertise of a hazardous materials team.

The state police would be required to make the searchable database available via the Internet. The database would include the convicted person's name, birth date as well as the type of crime and the county where it was committed.

The agency has not taken a position on the proposal, said state police spokesman Rick Hector.

While the specific rules governing the database must still be written, Eddy wants to see meth lab locations included in the information.

"If you're going in the housing market it would be worthwhile knowing - if that home has been used to cook meth and whether or not it has been cleaned up," he said.

The information would be collected by local circuit court clerks and the Illinois Department of Corrections.

The House voted 110-0 in favor of the proposal that now heads to the governor's office.

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Doesn't make sense wrote on April 04, 2006 10:32 AM:

"Not to even get in to the constitutional issues this type of law brings up, but how would just listing meth convicts help? Am I to believe that if only I had access to a databse with the names of people convicted of crimes involving meth that somehow I'd be safer or that this would prevent crime in any way? What an idiotic reaction."

huh? wrote on April 04, 2006 7:49 AM:

"Where is the D.O.C. going to get the staff to collect the information? This Governor has cut D.O.C. staff to dangerously low numbers. Some hiring will need to be done. "

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