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**MADIGAN: UNANIMOUS SENATE VOTE TO PREVENT  
"PILL SHOPPERS" FROM AIDING METH CRIMINALS**

**Springfield** — Attorney General Lisa Madigan today congratulated the Senate after its unanimous vote in support of a bill to prevent so-called "pill shoppers" from purchasing pseudoephedrine for individuals who are barred from buying the key ingredient that is used to manufacture methamphetamine. Members voted 57-0 today to send House Bill 806 to the Governor's desk after House members unanimously passed the measure last month.

The legislation amends the Methamphetamine Precursor Control Act by making it illegal for individuals to knowingly purchase pseudoephedrine or ephedrine on behalf of convicted meth manufacturers. Madigan said this legislation is necessary because under current law, convicted meth manufacturers are banned from purchasing pseudoephedrine or ephedrine and, as a result, these meth cooks often turn to "pill shoppers" to buy pills on their behalf. The legislation strengthens the "pill shopping" violation, making it a Class A misdemeanor for a first offense and a Class 4 felony for a second or subsequent conviction.

Madigan stressed that the law will not impact lawful buyers of pseudoephedrine. They will still be able to obtain pseudoephedrine-based medications within the current limits set by Illinois law.

"The bill gives law enforcement a necessary tool to prosecute 'pill shoppers' who are paid to evade the laws that are designed to prevent convicted meth cooks from accessing pseudoephedrine to manufacture this deadly drug," Madigan said.

Sen. John Sullivan (D-Rushville) worked with Attorney General Madigan's office and sponsored the legislation.

"As meth destroys countless families and lives in our communities, this legislation will help stem the production of this devastating drug," Sullivan said. "By allowing law enforcement to crack down on individuals who traffic in these precursors, we can further limit meth production."

Attorney General Madigan has long worked to combat the scourge of meth use and production in Illinois, passing tough laws, including the 2006 Methamphetamine Precursor Control Act, that cracked down on the sale of pseudoephedrine and strengthening penalties for those convicted of meth-related offenses.

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