

Opportunity Employment laws are spelled out clearly in the bill, which do not allow for discrimination in hiring.

But there was another amendment that was not ruled in order—my amendment. My amendment would have protected the privacy of our faith-based organizations and the integrity of our tax dollars. The amendment that I offered in the Committee on Rules would have simply required faith-based organizations to create a separate bank account, a separate bank account in which to receive Federal dollars for the Head Start program—distinct and from the private dollars that a religious organization collects to advance their religious mission.

Why do we need to do that? Well, first, we need to protect Federal tax dollars from being used improperly; and, secondly, we need to protect the privacy of faith-based organizations' accounting books for their religious mission. With the commingling of funds, if fraud is suspected, a faith-based organization would have to open up all of their books for inspection. My amendment would have required separate accounts, therefore, protecting the church's mission and the Federal education mission of Head Start.

Mr. Chairman, let me quote from the *Covenant Companion*, a Christian publication, which I submit for the RECORD, as well as one other publication that speaks to this issue.

From the *Covenant*: "Churches are particularly vulnerable to embezzlement because of the high-level of trust given to employees and volunteers that lack the sophistication, fiscal controls, and oversight."

My amendment simply would have been a preemptive strike against financial abuse that we know will happen because it has already occurred. For example, this past summer,

\$800,000 was stolen from a Federal Head Start program run by a church.

Mr. Chairman, I urge my colleagues to reject this rule. We need a new rule, one that will protect the taxpayers, one that will protect faith-based organizations, and one that will prevent discrimination.

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ADDICTION, TREATMENT AND  
RECOVERY

HON. DAN BOREN

OF OKLAHOMA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, September 28, 2005*

Mr. BOREN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to express my support of the 16th annual celebration of recovery month. All people are affected by addiction in some way, and it is important to celebrate those who beat addictive diseases and are now in recovery. Most people who know very little about the dangers of addiction suppose they could identify an addict if they saw one. Surprisingly, addiction can confront any person in any family, and this makes the joys of recovery all the more important. One mother whose daughter received treatment at Narcanon Arrowhead in my district said:

"I am the mother of five beautiful, intelligent and talented children. I gave up a lucrative and rewarding profession so that I could spend my life raising my children. I wanted to be part of every moment of their lives. As every mother does, I made plans. Those plans were for my spouse and myself and of course, our children. We want them to be healthy, educated and successful.

Six months ago, my days, hours, weeks were consumed with finding a solution to my daughter's drug addiction, which seemed an impossible task. My daughter fought her addiction and lost since she was 13 years old. It all began by harmless experimentation with marijuana and alcohol but she then fell into the drug trap battling an addiction to every drug available today.

As her addiction grew worse and worse my husband and I feared the day when we would get the call that she had landed in jail, or worse—she had died. Thankfully that call never came. In July of 2001 we gave her an ultimatum—either she seek treatment or we could no longer have anything to do with her. For 2 months after she was "out there" doing whatever she could to get high. I have never been that scared in my life. In August she finally agreed to go into treatment.

Thanks to the Narcanon Program my daughter has been clean for over six months. She is happy and functioning and for the first time in a long time, she is stable. I never want any parent to go through the nightmare that I went through with my child and there are millions of us going through it right now. I am writing this to tell you that there is hope. Today I can honestly say that I have my daughter back."

Stories like the one from this mother give me hope. I have hope for the treatment and recovery of the growing number of citizens in Oklahoma addicted to methamphetamines. Although the problem is daunting, with enough support and understanding addiction can be beaten! I appreciate what this month celebrates, and I am proud to share a success story from my home state.