

Some were skeptical when Arizona voted to stop incarceration of drug users.

Here's what the experts are now saying:

SUPREME COURT OF ARIZONA

*Drug Treatment and Education Fund Implementation Year Full Report
Fiscal Year 1997-1998*

- Arizona taxpayers saved \$2.6 million in one year
- 77.5% of drug possession probationers tested negative for drug use after the program

The court stated, "The Drug Medicalization, Prevention and Control Act of 1996" has allowed the judicial branch to build an effective probation model to treat and supervise substance abusing offenders . . . resulting in safer communities and more substance abusing probationers in recovery.

New York Times Editorial, April 21, 1999

ARIZONA SHOWS THE WAY ON DRUGS

Arizona is a politically conservative state. Its voters showed that they were tired of paying the costs of a bad idea. In requiring that drug offenders be treated before being freed of supervision, they may have made themselves safer. By treating drugs as a health problem, they have shown states like New York, which spends \$700 million a year to imprison drug felons, a better way.

Talk of the Nation, February 25, 1998

Drug Czar, General Barry R. McCaffrey

"I don't think we're going to arrest our way out of this. We've got 1.7 million people behind bars right now."

*President Clinton, Senator Lott, Speaker Hastert:
Isn't it time to stop incarcerating nonviolent drug
offenders and start treating them?*

**For "Drug War Facts" and "The Effective National Drug Control Strategy"
visit <http://www.csdp.org>**

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