

**RESOLUTION  
ROCK COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS**

Board of Health  
INITIATED BY



Marie-Noel Sandoval  
DRAFTED BY

Board of Health  
SUBMITTED BY

April 1, 2017  
DATE DRAFTED

**Resolution to Secure State Funding to Support Communicable Disease Control for  
Population Health**

1 **WHEREAS**, Wisconsin has no dedicated, stable federal and state funding sources for communicable  
2 disease control and prevention efforts; and,

3  
4 **WHEREAS**, a strong public health infrastructure is paramount to the health of all citizens; and,

5  
6 **WHEREAS**, emerging and existing communicable diseases threaten health security, economies, and  
7 quality of life for all; and,

8  
9 **WHEREAS**, communicable diseases such as Ebola, H1N1, measles, HIV and AIDS, tuberculosis,  
10 influenza, measles, syphilis, gonorrhea, rabies, hepatitis, polio, and pertussis, can threaten the lives and  
11 well-being of Wisconsin residents; and,

12  
13 **WHEREAS**, emerging and re-emerging threats such as Ebola, H1N1, SARS, and measles threaten  
14 personal and community safety and require substantial resources to contain; and,

15  
16 **WHEREAS**, blood borne pathogens that cause long-term disease such as Hepatitis C are occurring at  
17 unprecedented rates – rates that are accelerating as a result of the opiate epidemic; and,

18  
19 **WHEREAS**, Wisconsin local health department communicable disease programs protect residents by  
20 investigating and controlling communicable diseases, collecting data, educating the community about  
21 prevention and the importance of immunizations, and caring for those affected by these diseases; and,

22  
23 **WHEREAS**, public health departments have been successful in controlling communicable diseases  
24 through case reporting and involvement of public health staff in referral of exposed persons for screening  
25 and prevention services; and,

26  
27 **WHEREAS**, evidence in the scientific literature indicates that partner notification services are not  
28 adequately assured in the absence of specific public health staff involvement; and,

29  
30 **WHEREAS**, local health departments and the State of Wisconsin have demonstrated commitment,  
31 competence and success in assuring the confidentiality of persons with reported communicable disease  
32 for decades, including cases of AIDS; and,

33  
34 **WHEREAS**, local health departments have placed a high priority on communicable disease control; and,

35  
36 **WHEREAS**, communicable disease control is one of the ten essential functions of public health.

37  
38 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Rock County Board of Supervisors duly assembled  
39 this 13<sup>th</sup> day of APRIL, 2017 urges the state legislature to develop and enact bipartisan  
40 support for funding of comprehensive, sustainable, effective and evidence based communicable disease  
41 control and prevention for the public's health.

42  
43 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that a copy of this resolution be sent to Governor Scott Walker, Rock  
44 County legislative delegation, the Wisconsin Counties Association, the Wisconsin Association of Local  
45 Health Departments and Boards, as well as the Wisconsin Public Health Association.

17-4A-258

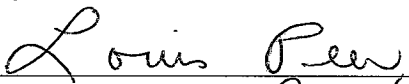
# Resolution to Secure State Funding to Support Communicable Disease Control for Population Health

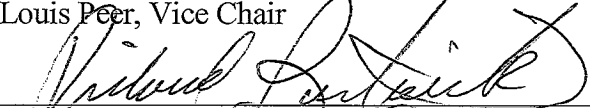
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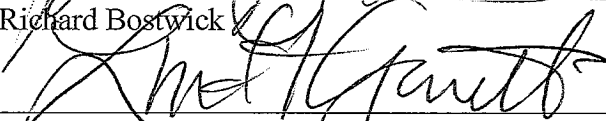
Respectfully submitted,

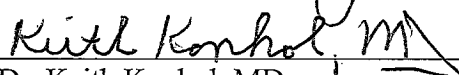
## BOARD OF HEALTH

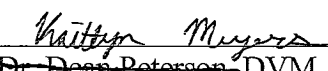
  
Sandy Kraft, Chair

  
Louis Peer, Vice Chair

  
Richard Bostwick

  
Linda Garrett

  
Dr. Keith Konkol, MD

  
~~Dr. Dean Peterson, DVM~~  
Dr. Kaitlyn Meyers

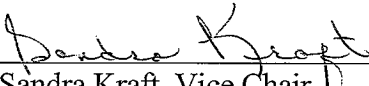
Dr. Connie Winter, DDS

  
Judith Wade

  
Eric Gresens

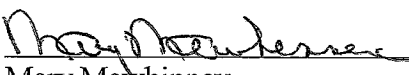
## COUNTY BOARD STAFF COMMITTEE

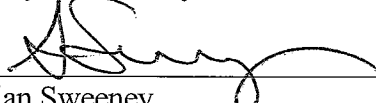
  
J. Russell Podzilni, Chair

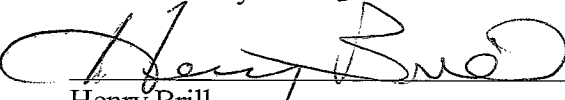
  
Sandra Kraft, Vice Chair

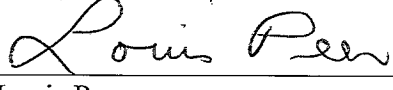
Absent  
Betty Jo Bussie

Absent  
Eva Arnold

  
Mary Mawhinney

  
Alan Sweeney

  
Henry Brill

  
Louis Peer

  
Terry Thomas

### FISCAL NOTE:

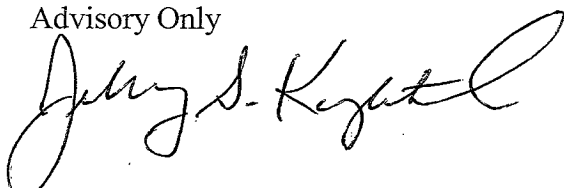
This resolution is advisory only and has no direct fiscal impact on Rock County operations in and by itself.



Sherry Oja  
Finance Director

### LEGAL NOTE:

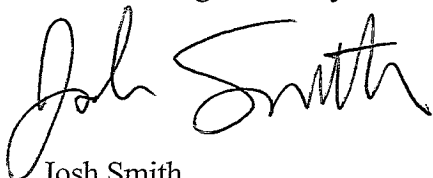
Advisory Only



Jeffrey S. Kuglitsch  
Corporation Counsel

### ADMINISTRATIVE NOTE:

The Wisconsin Counties Association 2017-2018 Legislative Agenda includes a request for additional state funding to County health departments to control and prevent communicable disease.



Josh Smith  
County Administrator

## Executive Summary

Wisconsin's Local Health Departments (LHDs) are as varied in size and composition as the populations of the jurisdictions they serve. However, all these LHDs share a common mission of protecting and improving community well-being. This is accomplished by preventing disease, illness, and injury and by impacting social, economic, and environmental factors fundamental to excellent health.

Communicable disease control is one of the ten essential public health functions. Unfortunately the ability of local public health departments to perform this core functions has been drastically limited by lack of funding. A significant number of communicable diseases exist within communities, but health departments rarely have sufficient staff time and expertise to support effective diseases prevention efforts.

Today's system for financing public health in Wisconsin has several noteworthy aspects:

- No dedicated, stable state and federal funding for communicable disease control and prevention
- Inadequate Public Health and CDC funding per capita
- Declining local level funding due to budget levy limits
- Emerging and re-emerging health threats
- Reliance on categorical/silo funds
- Increasing reliance on fees
- Local funding disparities between agencies

In a comparison of state budgets and appropriations for the agency in charge of public health services, Trust for America's Health (TFAH) has consistently found that Wisconsin has ranked 46<sup>th</sup> – 49<sup>th</sup> out of 51 in state funding for public health. Wisconsin ranked 43<sup>rd</sup> – 46<sup>th</sup> in CDC funding per capita. There has been some progress in moving funding levels toward the median however we are still at the bottom of the rankings and need to continue to make public health funding a priority.

In the April 2012 report For the Public's Health: Investing in a Healthier Future, the Institute of Medicine (IOM) identified "essential ingredients" to renew the public health system:

- Adequate and sustainable funding for governmental public health;
- Reform of governmental public health infrastructure and operations to align spending with need; and
- Using public health knowledge to help improve delivery and quality of clinical care and integrate it with public health's population-based efforts.

Supporting a strong public health infrastructure is paramount with the continuing occurrences of natural disasters, terrorist attacks, and infectious diseases like tuberculosis, Ebola, whooping cough and flu.