RE: FINANCIAL SUPPORT OF LOCAL COMMUNICABLE DISEASE CONTROL BY THE STATE OF WISCONSIN

WHEREAS, pursuant to Wis. Stat. §252.03, every local health officer shall immediately investigate and promptly take measures to prevent, suppress and control communicable diseases; and,

WHEREAS, even though communicable disease control is one of 10 essential public health functions, the ability of public health departments to perform this function has been limited by a lack of stable funding; and,

WHEREAS, supporting a strong public communicable disease control is paramount in today's world with continuing occurrences of natural disasters, terrorist attacks, tuberculosis, H1N1 influenza, Ebola and Zika Virus; and,

WHEREAS, currently there is no state financial support to reimburse local health departments for the cost of carrying out the state mandate for communicable disease prevention and control, resulting in a variance in resources available from one local agency to the next to respond to urgent outbreak situations; and,

WHEREAS, La Crosse County utilizes approximately $250,000/year of local tax levy to meet the obligation of communicable disease control that protects both local and statewide populations; and,

WHEREAS, Wisconsin ranked 45th to 48th out of 50 states in the United States (20-37% below the national average) in 2016 for support of local public health funding; and,

WHEREAS, the Wisconsin Association of Local Health Departments and Boards supports state funding for local communicable disease control.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the La Crosse County Board urges the state legislature to support funding of comprehensive, sustainable, effective and evidence-based communicable disease control and prevention for the public's health as mandated of local health officers by state law.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the County Clerk shall send a copy of this resolution to Governor Walker, Senator Shilling, Representatives Billings and Doyle, Wisconsin Public Health Association, Wisconsin Association of Local Health Departments and Boards (WALHDAB), and the Wisconsin Counties Association.

FISCAL NOTE: No cost to the County.

Date: April 11, 2017

HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES BOARD CHAIR

Date: April 11, 2017

RECORDING CLERK

Reviewed Only

Co. Admin.  
Fin. Director  
Corp. Counsel  
Board Chair

Recommended

Not Recommended

Requested By: Jen Rombalski
Date Requested: April 11, 2017
Drafted By: Corporation Counsel

Adopted by the La Crosse County Board this 18 Day of April, 2017.

STATE OF WISCONSIN
COUNTY OF LA CROSSE

I, Ginny Dankmeyer, County Clerk of La Crosse County do hereby certify that this document is a true and correct copy of the original resolution required by law to be in my custody and which the County Board of Supervisors of La Crosse County adopted at a meeting held on the 18th day of April 2017.

Ginny Dankmeyer, La Crosse County Clerk