RESOLUTION 2016-32
RESOLUTION TO SECURE STATE FUNDING FOR PUBLIC HEALTH TO SUPPORT COMMUNICABLE DISEASE CONTROL

To the Honorable Chair and Board of Supervisors of Calumet County, Wisconsin:

WHEREAS, Wisconsin has no consistent federal or state funding sources for the communicable disease control and prevention efforts of local public health agencies; and

WHEREAS, A strong public health infrastructure is paramount to the health of all citizens; and

WHEREAS, Emerging and existing communicable diseases threaten health security, economies, and quality of life for all; and

WHEREAS, Communicable diseases such as Ebola, H1N1, measles, HIV and AIDS, tuberculosis, influenza measles, syphilis, gonorrhea, rabies, polio, Hepatitis, and pertussis, can threaten the lives and well-being of Wisconsin residents and require substantial resources to contain; and

WHEREAS, Blood-borne communicable diseases such as Hepatitis C are occurring at unprecedented rates—rates that are accelerating as a result of the opiate abuse epidemic; and

WHEREAS, Public health programs protect residents by investigating and controlling communicable diseases, collecting data, and educating the community about prevention and the importance of immunizations; and

WHEREAS, Evidence in the scientific literature indicates that partner notification services related to sexually transmitted infections are not adequately assured in the absence of public health staff involvement; and

WHEREAS, Limited funding may decrease follow up with contacts of those infected with a communicable disease, which can increase the spread of the disease; and

WHEREAS, Local health departments place a high priority on communicable disease control.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED That the Calumet County Board of Supervisors urges the Wisconsin state legislature to develop and enact consistent public health funding in the 2017/2019 biennial budget which would allow for comprehensive, sustainable, effective, and evidence-based communicable disease control and prevention.
BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED That a copy of this resolution be sent to Governor Scott Walker, the Wisconsin Department of Health Services, state legislators representing Calumet County, State of Wisconsin Joint Finance Committee Members and the Wisconsin Counties Association.

Dated this 17th day of January 2017.

INTRODUCED BY THE HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES BOARD

Mary Schwalenberg
Mary Schwalenberg, Chair

Merlin Gentz
Merlin Gentz

Ronald L Dietrich
Ronald Dietrich

James Stecker
James Stecker

Kevin Weinberger
Kevin Weinberger

Jeff Yelton
Jeff Yelton

COUNTERSIGNED BY

Alice Connors, County Board Chair
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RES 2016-32  Passed (16 Y - 0 N - 0 A - 5 Absent) Majority Vote