

**RESOLUTION 2016 – 74**

**Re: State Funding for Communicable and Reportable Disease Prevention and Control**

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

**WHEREAS**, according to Trust for America's Health, Wisconsin ranks 45<sup>th</sup> in the nation for state public health funding for local health departments (\$13.03 per capita in Wisconsin compared to a median of \$31.06 per capita nationwide); and

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

**WHEREAS**, communicable and reportable diseases such as Ebola, Zika, Measles, HIV and AIDS, Tuberculosis, and Hepatitis can threaten the lives and well-being of Wisconsin residents and require substantial resources to contain; and

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

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

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

**WHEREAS**, there are approximately twenty-four Wisconsin Statutes and Administrative Rules that require local health departments to investigate, prevent, and control communicable and reportable diseases.

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the Vilas County Board of Supervisors in session this 15<sup>th</sup> day of November, 2016 urge the Wisconsin State Legislature to appropriate \$2.5 million each fiscal year statewide to support comprehensive, sustainable, effective and evidence-based communicable disease control and prevention programs.

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that a copy of this resolution is forwarded to Vilas County's State Legislators and to Governor Walker.

**SUBMITTED BY: Vilas County Board of Health**

Erv Teichmiller, Chair

Carolyn Ritter

s/ Marv Anderson

s/ Ron Kressin

s/ Alden Bauman

s/ Michael Schaars, MD

Cate Wilson, RN

s/ Phillip Epping

Katie Hom, DVM

Randy Samuelson

s/ Dave Poupart