

RESOLUTION NO. H-2-2013

A RESOLUTION calling on the Washington State Legislature to maintain current levels of funding for foundational public health services. This measure would request that the Washington State Legislature maintain the current level of State funding for the public health system in the 2013-15 biennial budget.

WHEREAS, every Washingtonian has the right to expect a strong network of local public health jurisdictions and public health services; and

WHEREAS, prevention and public health is recognized to play an important role in improving the health of Washingtonians; and

WHEREAS, an effective public health infrastructure is essential to decreasing the burden of chronic disease and ensuring our children are healthy and ready to learn; and

WHEREAS, those most essential services that protect everyone — immunizations, water and food safety, infectious disease prevention, and services to vulnerable children and families — must remain strong; and

WHEREAS, there is a continued need to protect people from communicable diseases and other public health threats; and

WHEREAS, the current State budget protects the most critical funding for foundational local public health services; and

WHEREAS, this funding is an immediate, urgent need and is essential to keeping the public health system operational; and

WHEREAS, funding and delivering foundational public health services is a shared responsibility between the state and local governments; and

WHEREAS, many local governments have stepped up to ensure this critical component of the broader public safety system in Washington State remains functional; and

WHEREAS, substantial efforts are underway to ensure that the public health successes of the 20th century are carried forward by a nimble, sustainable, responsive, cost-effective and accountable 21st century public health system;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Thurston County Board of Health calls upon the Washington State Legislature to maintain the current level of State funding for the public health system in the 2013-15 biennial budget;

AND BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Thurston County Board of Health strongly encourages other local Boards of Health in Washington to adopt similar resolutions.

ADOPTED: February 12, 2013

ATTEST:


Clerk of the Board

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

JON TUNHEIM
PROSECUTING ATTORNEY


Deputy Prosecuting Attorney

BOARD OF HEALTH
Thurston County, Washington


KAREN VALUENZELA, Chair


CATHY WOLFE, Vice Chair


SANDRA Romero, Commissioner