

- SECURING STATE FUNDING TO SUPPORT COMMUNICABLE DISEASE CONTROL FOR POPULATION HEALTH-

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

WHEREAS, Wisconsin statutes and administrative rules designate required communicable disease prevention and control work; and

WHEREAS, Eau Claire County had over 900 reportable communicable disease cases in 2015 as compared to just over 500 in 2007; and

WHEREAS, a strong local public health infrastructure that responds to and controls communicable disease issues, but also prevents them is paramount to the health of all citizens; and

WHEREAS, emerging and communicable diseases threaten health security, economics, and quality of life for all; and

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

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

WHEREAS, blood borne pathogens that cause long-term diseases such as hepatitis C are occurring at unprecedented rates—rates that are accelerating as a result of the opiate epidemic; and

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

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

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

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

WHEREAS, local health departments have placed a high priority on communicable disease control through work with individuals as well as community partners; and

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

WHEREAS, The Eau Claire City-County Health Department adopted a resolution on December 14, 2016 urging the state legislature to develop and enact legislation funding comprehensive, sustainable, effective and evidence based communicable disease control and prevention for the public's health;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Eau Claire County Board of Supervisors joins in the Eau-Claire City-County Health Department's request to secure state funding to support communicable disease control for population health.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Eau Claire County Board of Supervisors directs the county clerk to forward this resolution to the governor, assembly members and senators representing Eau Claire County and the Wisconsin Counties Association.

ADOPTED: June 20, 2017

Janet K. Loomis
County Clerk