

**Michigan Association
For
Local Environmental Health
Administrators**



**RESOLUTION TO CALL FOR RESTORATION OF FEE EXEMPT SAMPLING FOR
LOCAL HEALTH DEPARTMENT INVESTIGATIONS INTO CONTAMINATED WATER**

WHEREAS, via a letter dated September 25, 2003, the Chief of the Laboratory Services Section, MDEQ, notified Michigan's local health officers of the elimination of water testing services fee exemption due to adjustments in the funding for the Drinking Water Testing Program; and

WHEREAS, when in April of 2003, the Department of Environmental Quality attempted to eliminate fee exempt testing in their 2003/04 budget proposal the House of Representatives concluded that the elimination for such testing was not in the best interest of the State; and

WHEREAS, the State Laboratory was founded with the express purpose of providing laboratory support for public health investigations; and

WHEREAS, the local health department is charged by the Public Health Code, "to prevent and control environmental health hazards", and

WHEREAS, the local health department is often on the front line in the investigation of contaminated surface and groundwater and in many instances water sample collection by local health departments has been the determining factor in identifying contamination sites and prompting action for cleanups, or drilling new wells.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, the Michigan Local Environmental Health Administrators are seeking the assistance of the MALPH Board to attempt to, once again, seek restored funding for fee exempt water testing by the State Water Lab.

Eric Pessell, REHS, President
Michigan Association of Local Environmental Health Administrators

Adopted by the Michigan Association for Local Public Health Board of Directors, December 8, 2003