Resolution on
Local Public Health Funding for Legally Mandated Services
[MCL 333.1101-333.25211]

WHEREAS, the U.S. Constitution establishes public health a responsibility of the states; and

WHEREAS, the Michigan Constitution establishes public health as a priority; and

WHEREAS, local public health departments are on the front lines for providing essential public health services, disease surveillance, and response to health threats for Michigan residents in all 83 counties; and

WHEREAS, local public health departments are responsible for providing mandated public health services, referred to as Local Public Health Operations (LPHO), that include communicable disease control, food service sanitation, sexually transmitted disease control, immunizations, hearing screening, vision screenings, drinking water supply safety, and onsite sewage management; and

WHEREAS, six of the eight services mandated by PA 368 address the challenge of controlling communicable diseases; and

WHEREAS, Executive Order 2009-22 has reduced funding for mandated public health services (LPHO) for fiscal year 2008-09 by $1.2 million dollars; and

WHEREAS, the Executive Order reduction has jeopardized the service delivery system of local public health departments for mandated programs and placed an unfair burden upon local units of government; and

WHEREAS, the Michigan Association for Local Public Health recommends that no LPHO services be eliminated due to the economic and community benefit each of the eight mandated services provides;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED: The Michigan Association for Local Public Health urges the Governor and Michigan Legislature to restore the $1.2 million dollar cut sustained to the LPHO line item, appropriate sufficient dollars in the fiscal year 2009-10 budget to comply with PA 368 of 1978, and make a stronger financial commitment to protecting the basic health and welfare of Michigan residents.

Adopted by the MALPH Board of Directors on July 13, 2009