

<b>CLEARANCES</b>	<b>Initial</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Date Received in Council Office</b>	<b>Agenda Date</b>	<b>Assigned to:</b>
<i>Originator:</i>		1/9/2007		1/9/2007	Council BOH
<i>Division Head:</i>					
<i>Dept. Head:</i>					
<i>Prosecutor:</i>					
<i>Purchasing/Budget:</i>					
<i>Executive:</i>					

**TITLE OF DOCUMENT:**  
 Res. Supporting 4410 Joint Select Committee on public health financing

**ATTACHMENTS:**

SEPA review required?    (    ) Yes    (    ) NO SEPA review completed?    (    ) Yes    (    ) NO	Should Clerk schedule a hearing ?    (    ) Yes    (    ) NO Requested Date:
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**SUMMARY STATEMENT OR LEGAL NOTICE LANGUAGE:** *(If this item is an ordinance or requires a public hearing, you must provide the language for use in the required public notice. Be specific and cite RCW or WCC as appropriate. Be clear in explaining the intent of the action.)*

Resolution supporting the findings and recommendations of the 4410 Joint Select Committee on public health financing

<p><b>COMMITTEE ACTION:</b></p>	<p><b>COUNCIL ACTION:</b>                      1/9/2007: Council met as Board of Health                      Council Amended and Approved                      7-0 Res. 2007-001</p>
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<b>Related County Contract #:</b>	<b>Related File Numbers:</b>	<b>Ordinance or Resolution Number:</b> Res. 2007-001
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**Please Note:** Once adopted and signed, ordinances and resolutions are available for viewing and printing on the County's website at: [www.co.whatcom.wa.us/council](http://www.co.whatcom.wa.us/council).

SPONSORED BY: EXECUTIVE KREMEN  
PROPOSED BY: HEALTH  
INTRODUCTION DATE: 1/9/07

**RESOLUTION NO.** 2007-001

**SUPPORTING THE FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE 4410  
JOINT SELECT COMMITTEE ON PUBLIC HEALTH FINANCING**

**WHEREAS**, in 2005, the State Legislature created the 4410 Joint Select Committee on Public Health Financing to study and recommend alternative funding strategies for the public health system; and

**WHEREAS**, Washington State does not have a dedicated funding source for public health, state funding has not increased since 1999 despite inflation and other rising costs, and Washington is 44<sup>th</sup> in the nation for per capita spending on public health; and

**WHEREAS**, the 4410 Joint Select Committee evaluated Washington's public health system and found that the system is under-funded by more than \$600 million each biennium; and

**WHEREAS**, the 4410 Joint Select Committee concluded that public health services are essential to Washington's residents and that additional flexible funding for services is needed; and

**WHEREAS**, the 4410 Joint Select Committee recommends that certain core public health functions should be consistently available throughout the state, including: stopping communicable disease, promoting health, investing in healthy families, protecting against environmental health risks, and helping people access care; and

**WHEREAS**, the 4410 Joint Select Committee recommends that the state establish a stable, dedicated funding source for the public health system, and provide an additional \$100 million in funding during the '07-'09 biennium, as an initial investment; and

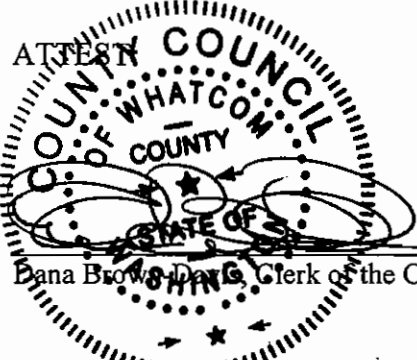
**WHEREAS**, on January 9, 2007, the Whatcom County Board of Health received a briefing on findings and recommendations of the 4410 Joint Select Committee;

Now, therefore let it be resolved that the Whatcom County Board of Health

1. Supports the findings and recommendations of the 4410 Joint Select Committee on Public Health Financing; and
2. Urges the Washington Legislature to provide an initial investment of \$100 million (\$50 million annually) to public health during the '07-'09 biennium, as recommended by the 4410 Joint Select Committee, and to allocate additional funds according to a fair distribution formula, based on public health needs; and
3. Urges the Washington Legislature to identify and establish a stable, dedicated funding source for the public health system which meets the need for \$300 million annually, as identified by the 4410 Joint Select Committee; and

4. Urges the Washington Legislature to allow flexible use of funding, to address critical gaps in local public health services.

ADOPTED this 9 day of January, 2007.



WHATCOM COUNTY COUNCIL  
WHATCOM COUNTY, WASHINGTON

Dana Brown-Davis, Clerk of the Council

Laurie Caskey-Schreiber, Health Board Chair

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

Karen R. Fisher  
Civil Deputy Prosecutor

Pete Kremen  
Pete Kremen, County Executive

Date: 1-17-07