



KING COUNTY

1200 King County Courthouse
516 Third Avenue
Seattle, WA 98104

Signature Report

February 25, 2013

Resolution 13-05

Proposed No. 13-05.1

Sponsors

1 A RESOLUTION calling on the Washington state
2 Legislature to help improve the health of King County and
3 Washington state residents by maintaining current levels of
4 funding for foundational public health services and by
5 securing the Medicaid expansion.

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

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

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

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

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

17 WHEREAS, the current state budget protects the most critical funding for
18 foundational local public health services, and

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

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

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

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

29 WHEREAS, securing the Medicaid expansion would provide considerable health
30 benefit by providing health insurance, access to care and a medical home to
31 approximately 350,000 Washington state residents, nearly 80,000 of whom reside in King
32 County, and

33 WHEREAS, participation in the Medicaid expansion is covered one hundred
34 percent by the federal government for the first three years, and

35 WHEREAS, participation in the Medicaid expansion will provide approximately
36 \$225 million in state general fund savings this biennium (2013-2015);

37 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Health of King
38 County:

39 A. The King County Board of Health calls upon the Washington state Legislature
40 to maintain the current level of state funding for the public health system in the 2013-
41 2015 biennial budget;

42 B. The King County Board of Health calls upon the Washington State Legislature
43 to secure the Medicaid Expansion in the 2013-15 biennial budget; and

44 C. The King County Board of Health strongly encourages other local boards of
45 health in Washington to adopt similar resolutions.

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Resolution 13-05 was introduced on and passed by the Board of Health on 2/21/2013,
by the following vote:

Yes: 9 - Mr. Conlin, Ms. Patterson, Mr. Licata, Ms. Clark, Dr. Baker,
Mr. McDermott and Ms. Wales

No: 0

Excused: 4 - Ms. Frisinger, Ms. Lambert, Dr. Nicola and Dr.
Danielson

BOARD OF HEALTH
KING COUNTY, WASHINGTON



Joe McDermott, Chair

ATTEST:



Anne Noris, Clerk of the Board

Attachments: None