WASHINGTON STATE NURSES ASSOCIATION

RESOLUTION #2

ACHIEVING PERMANENT FUNDING AND SUPPORT FOR PUBLIC HEALTH SERVICES

WHEREAS, Public health is the most cost effective system for disease prevention and health improvement and is also our first line of defense in responding to bioterrorism and in disaster preparedness, and

WHEREAS, Only 2% of the Nation=s total health care dollars are spent on public health services, and Washington ranks 44th in the nation in per capita spending on public health, and

WHEREAS, Funding has eroded over the past decade and public health districts have already streamlined to provide only the most essential and critical services, and now even these services are in jeopardy because there is no long-term, stable funding source for public health, and

WHEREAS, The general public, communities and decision-makers have limited knowledge regarding the scope and essential nature of public health services, interventions and their long term impact on the general welfare and health of all residents of Washington State, and

WHEREAS, WSNA has a long history of support for public health and the common welfare of our citizens and WSNA seeks to join with and support our colleagues on the front lines of public health,

BE IT THEREFORE

RESOLVED, That WSNA conduct a review of current state and national public health standards and recommendations and develop a WSNA position paper describing the essential components of public health policy and public health nursing consistent with delivery of high quality public health care and nursing practice,

AND, BE IT FURTHER

RESOLVED, That WSNA, through its lobbying, coalition and public relations efforts, continue to lead and educate the Washington State legislature, local governments and the general public about the critical need for public health and public health nursing and strongly advocate for an adequate and permanent stable funding source for these essential services,

Resolution submitted by: Professional Nursing and Health Care Council
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Recommended for adoption by the Professional Nursing and Health Care Council
Recommended for adoption as edited by the WSNA Bylaws/Resolutions Committee 01-22-09
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