

BEFORE THE BOARD OF HEALTH  
SPOKANE REGIONAL HEALTH DISTRICT

RESOLUTION # 19-08

RE: ADOPTING A BOARD OF HEALTH LEGISLATIVE AGENDA FOR THE 2020 STATE OF WASHINGTON LEGISLATIVE SESSION

WHEREAS, according to its Governance Responsibilities, the Board of Health of Spokane Regional Health District leads and contributes to the development of policies that protect, promote and improve public health and health equity; and

WHEREAS, according to its Governance Responsibilities, the Board of Health of Spokane Regional Health District ensures the availability of adequate resources to perform essential public health services; and

WHEREAS, the Board of Health of Spokane Regional Health District has duly considered and prioritized matters of public policy and budget in the interests of public health and the sustainability of the activities of Spokane Regional Health District; and

WHEREAS, the Washington State Legislature has the authority to enact statewide legislation to protect, promote and improve public health and enact funding to support the public health system;


NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT HEREBY RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF HEALTH, that the attached Board of Health Legislative Agenda for the 2020 State Legislative Session is adopted, and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Spokane Regional Health District's Board of Health calls upon the Washington State Legislature to consider this Legislative Agenda as it works to enact legislation and budgets in the interests of public health, and


BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the attached Board of Health Legislative Agenda for the 2020 State Legislative Session shall be effective immediately upon adoption.

Signed this 5<sup>th</sup> day of December 2019 in Spokane, Washington.

SPOKANE REGIONAL HEALTH DISTRICT  
BOARD OF HEALTH

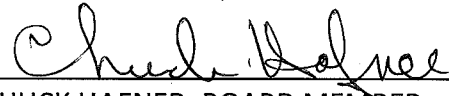
  
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CHAIR, BREEAN BEGGS

  
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KATE BURKE, COUNCILMEMBER

  
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KEVIN FREEMAN, MAYOR

**ABSENT**  
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AL FRENCH, COMMISSIONER

  
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ANDREA FROSTAD, BOARD MEMBER

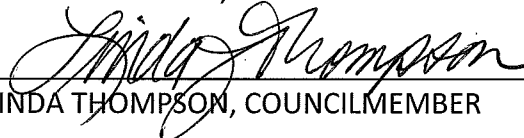
  
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CHUCK HAFNER, BOARD MEMBER

  
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VICE CHAIR, BEN WICK

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
JOSH KERNS, COMMISSIONER

**ABSENT**  
\_\_\_\_\_  
MARY KUNEY, COMMISSIONER

**ABSENT**  
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KAREN STRATTON, COUNCILMEMBER

  
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LINDA THOMPSON, COUNCILMEMBER

**Board of Health  
2020 Legislative Agenda**

**I. PRIORITY ISSUES for the SRHD Board of Health: SRHD staff and board members will actively participate in creating statewide support and will directly advocate with local legislators and through testimony to the legislature concerning policy and budget priorities that will have broad impact on the public's health in Spokane County.**

**A. Foundational Public Health Services (FPHS) Funding**

Support full funding for essential public health capabilities that must be present in every community in order to efficiently and effectively protect all people in Washington state, as adopted in HB 1497 (2019). This continues a phased approach to full funding of foundational services, focusing on environmental public health, communicable disease prevention and control, and assessment (surveillance and epidemiology).

**B. Preventing and Reducing the Impact of Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs)**

Support legislation that prevents and reduces the impact of ACEs by:

- Strengthening household financial security, including through the Working Families Tax Credit and housing affordability and access.
- Promoting social norms that protect against violence and adversity.
- Ensuring a strong start for children, including home visiting and Nurse-Family Partnership programs and accessible, high-quality child care.
- Teaching skills, such as social-emotional learning and parenting skills.
- Connecting youth to caring adults and activities, including mentoring and after-school programs.
- Intervening to lessen immediate and long-term harms through enhanced primary care, victim-centered services, and family-centered treatment for substance use disorders.

**C. Substance Misuse Prevention and Treatment**

Support budget and legislative changes to prevent and treat substance misuse by:

- Funding for the reduction of tobacco use and vaping for 18-20-year-olds; EHB 1074 raised the minimum legal age to purchase tobacco and vapor products to 21 years of age effective January 1, 2020.
- Improving the mental health and substance misuse system and availability of care, such as increasing the number of community-based behavioral health resources and treatment options.
- Funding substance misuse prevention and treatment beyond substance-specific programs.
- Promoting healthy social norms and limiting normalization of alcohol and other substances.
- Addressing state legislation preempting local regulation of tobacco and vapor products; for example, preemption prevents local regulations for retailers regarding advertising placement (e.g., at a child's eye level) and visual marketing of products.

**D. Access to Care**

Support access to affordable, high-quality health care for all individuals in Spokane County, including maintaining coverage and protections of the Affordable Care Act and improving health care affordability and reducing out-of-pocket expenses.

Other issues may be prioritized based on alignment with SRHD strategic priorities and stakeholder input.

**Board of Health  
2020 Legislative Agenda**

- II. ISSUES OF INTEREST for the SRHD Board of Health: SRHD staff and board members will monitor legislative activity on these issues, keep board members up to date, and share the importance of these issues to the Board of Health.**
- A. HIV modernization
  - B. Suicide and gun violence data and prevention
  - C. Safety net services
  - D. Physical activity
  - E. Healthy eating
  - F. Health equity