



DATE: June 6, 2016

TO: Washington State Board of Health Members

FROM: Michelle Davis, Executive Director

SUBJECT: 2016 DRAFT STATE HEALTH REPORT

Background and Summary:

RCW 43.20.100 requires the Washington State Board of Health to develop a “State Health Report” by July 1 of each even-numbered year. The report includes “suggestions for public health priorities for the following biennium and such legislative action as it deems necessary.” The 2014 State Health Report focused on key initiatives to improve the health of Washington state residents and promote health equity. These initiatives included: the Board’s Recommended Strategies to Improve Oral Health in Washington, and the Governor’s Interagency Council on Health Disparities recommendations to improve language access. It also highlighted the Board’s work to assess the impact of potential legislative or budgetary proposal through the Health Impact Review process.

Staff developed this year’s report based on direction from the Board. The 2016 report includes recommendations regarding:

- Foundational Public Health Services,
- the Governor’s Interagency Council on Health Disparities efforts to help eliminate disparities in adverse birth outcomes and promote equity in state policy and program development,
- increased capacity for Health Impact Reviews,
- funding for near vision screening devices for schools, and
- school environmental health and safety rules implementation.

Today, I am asking the Board to approve a motion to finalize the State Health Report.

Recommended Board Action:

The Board directs staff to develop a final 2016 State Health Report in close consultation with the Chair. The Chair is authorized to approve a final report for transmittal to the Governor by June 30, 2016.