



STATE OF WASHINGTON

WASHINGTON STATE BOARD OF HEALTH

PO Box 47990 • Olympia, Washington 98504-7990

Resolution 2022-02

WHEREAS the State Constitution established the Washington State Board of Health in 1889;

WHEREAS the Board provides a forum for developing public health policy in Washington State and is empowered to hold hearings and explore ways to improve the health status of the citizenry;

WHEREAS on November 16, 2012, Governor Christine Gregoire appointed Frances Bessermin to the Board to serve as a member representing consumers of health care; and Governor Inslee reappointed her 2015 and 2018;

WHEREAS Ms. Bessermin brings a unique mix of expertise and experience that have informed her deep commitment to public service and her community as evidenced by her service as a former Stevens County commissioner, past chair of the State Council on Aging, her participation on the Aging and Long Term Care Planning and Management Committee, the Senior Assistance Fund for Eastern Washington, and United Way Spokane Emergency Food and Shelter Program, and most recently through her dedication as a volunteer in support of her community's public health response efforts to the COVID-19 pandemic;

WHEREAS Ms. Bessermin generously shared her perspective and voice as a person who has lived in rural Eastern Washington, and understands the unique challenges that small communities face;

WHEREAS Ms. Bessermin has been steadfast in her commitment to Board's work, even when it meant driving countless miles and traveling at odd hours in order to be present and participate in Board meetings;

WHEREAS Ms. Bessermin, a life-long learner and respected educator, has regularly demonstrated a keen interest in understanding the impact of policy decisions on those who live, work, and play in Washington, and has worked tirelessly on their behalf to help develop policies and rules that promote children's health, prevent disease and death, and protect and advance the public's health;

WHEREAS Ms. Bessermin has participated in the Board's Environmental Health subcommittee and the Health Promotion subcommittee, and has listened with respect and a genuine desire to understand the concerns of who have shared their comments with the Board;

WHEREAS Ms. Bessermin has served the Board with courage, integrity, and wisdom and has approached this work with patience;

WHEREAS Ms. Bessermin has accomplished this and more during her time as a Board member;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board recognizes and thanks Ms. Bessermin for her dedicated and outstanding service to the people of Washington State by working to assure the public's health as a member of the Washington State Board of Health.

Keith Grellner, Chair