



STATE OF WASHINGTON
WASHINGTON STATE BOARD OF HEALTH

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WHEREAS the Washington State Board of Health was established by the State Constitution 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 people in Washington;

WHEREAS Kate Dean was appointed to the Board in February 2023 by Governor Inslee to represent county elected officials who serve on local boards of health;

WHEREAS Member Dean has served as the Chair of the Board's Environmental Health Subcommittee since December 2023. In this role, she provided leadership on pressing environmental health issues such as on-site sewage systems, shellfish sanitation, drinking water quality, and water recreation;

WHEREAS Member Dean has dedicated over 25 years to revitalizing communities. She was elected to the Jefferson County Board of Commissioners in 2017, where she prioritizes tackling complex issues that face rural communities and seeking multi-benefit solutions that create equitable outcomes for impacted people, the environment and local economies. She also served her communities as an entrepreneur, community and economic development practitioner, and the Vice Chair of the Puget Sound Partnership Leadership Council;

WHEREAS Member Dean has championed issues related to drinking water, including regulating contaminants such as per- and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS). She is widely regarded by her colleagues for her thoughtful questions and insights, which encourage critical thinking among staff and fellow Board members;

WHEREAS Member Dean has consistently prioritized equity in her work, championing initiatives that address the needs of Tribes, rural communities, and historically marginalized groups, ensuring that all voices are heard and considered in public health decision-making;

WHEREAS Member Dean has accomplished this and more during her time as a Board member;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Board thanks and recognizes Kate Dean for her dedicated and outstanding service to the people of Washington State as a member of the Washington State Board of Health, for her commitment to protecting and advancing public health, and for demonstrating an unwavering commitment to integrity and making difficult decisions for the greater good.