

**WEST ORANGE HEALTH DEPARTMENT
66 MAIN STREET
WEST ORANGE, NJ 07052**

**RESOLUTION 175-23
IN SUPPORT OF LEGISLATION REINSTATING PUBLIC HEALTH PRIORITY
FUNDING**

WHEREAS, the West Orange Health Department provides public health services to the Township of West Orange and Borough of Essex Fells, and;

WHEREAS, the West Orange Health Department has held and continues to hold a position in support of providing increased sustained funding to local public health, and;

WHEREAS, Public Health Priority Funding, although statutorily required, has not been provided to local public health departments since 2011, and;

WHEREAS, on May 9, 2022 the Senate referred Bill No. 2413 requiring minimum annual State appropriation of \$10 million for Public Health Priority Funding to the Senate Health, Human Services and Senior Citizens Committee for consideration, and;

WHEREAS, on June 2, 2022 the Assembly referred Bill No. 4115 to the Assembly Health Committee for consideration, and;

WHEREAS, the Trust for America's Health recognizes that public health has been chronically underfunded¹, and;

WHEREAS, emergency funding is not sufficient to address system weaknesses created by chronic underfunding, and;

WHEREAS, the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation reports that 71% of the public supports increased funding to public health², and;

WHEREAS, the American Public Health Association states that every 10% increase in funding for public health programs has the potential to reduce deaths due to largely preventable causes by up to 7%³, and;

WHEREAS, it is estimated by America's Health Rankings that there is a savings of \$5.60 for every \$1 invested in public health⁴, and;

WHEREAS, the vast majority of local public health departments in New Jersey are funded almost entirely by local funds, and;



NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the West Orange Health Department, County of Essex, State of New Jersey, fully supports the proposed legislation and urges the legislature to pass the bills promptly.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that upon passage by the New Jersey State Legislature that the West Orange Health Department urges the Governor to sign the bill into law promptly.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Office of the Governor of the State of New Jersey, the State Legislators representing the Township of West Orange, the Speaker of the New Jersey General Assembly, the President of the New Jersey State Senate, the Senate Health, Human Services and Senior Citizens Committee, the Assembly Health Committee, and the Commissioner of the New Jersey Department of Health.

¹ The Trust for America's Health Report www.tfah.org/report-details/funding-report-2022/

² Robert Wood Johnson Poll www.rwjf.org/en/about-rwjf/newsroom/2021/05/poll-public-supports-substantial-increase-in-spending-on-us-public-health-programs.html

³ American Public Health Association funding analysis www.apha.org/-/media/files/pdf/topics/aca/apha_prevfundbrief_june2012.ashx

⁴ America's Health Rankings www.americashealthrankings.org/explore/annual/measure/PH_funding/state/ALL

Signed by:

Karen J. Carnevale, R.M.C.
Township Clerk

Tammy Williams
Council President

Adopted: May 16, 2023