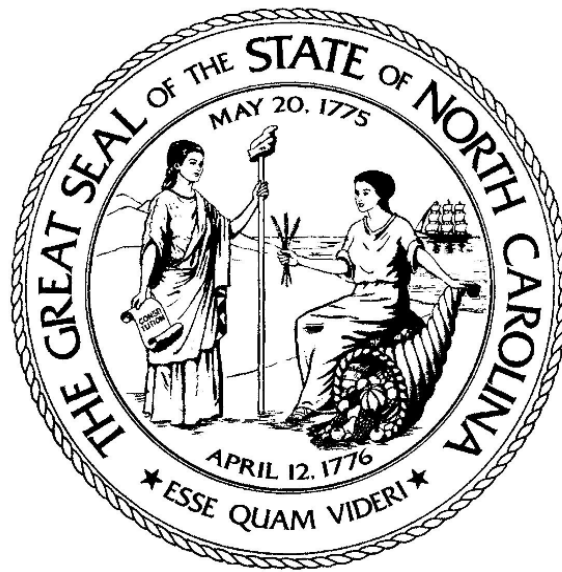


# **PUBLIC HEALTH STUDY COMMISSION**



## **REPORT TO THE GOVERNOR AND THE 2009 REGULAR SESSION OF THE 2009 GENERAL ASSEMBLY**

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*STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA*



*PUBLIC HEALTH STUDY COMMISSION*

**February 2009**

To: Governor Beverly Perdue  
Lieutenant Governor Walter Dalton, President of the North Carolina Senate  
Senator Marc Basnight, President Pro Tempore of the North Carolina Senate  
Representative Joe Hackney, Speaker of the North Carolina House of Representatives  
Members of the 2009 Regular Session of the 2009 General Assembly

**Attached is a report from the Public Health Study Commission submitted pursuant to North Carolina General Statute §120-202. The report contains recommendations and proposed legislation based on study conducted after the adjournment of the 2008 Regular Session of the General Assembly.**

Respectfully submitted,

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Senator William Purcell, MD  
Co-Chair

---

Representative Bob England, MD  
Co-Chair

# PUBLIC HEALTH STUDY COMMISSION

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## COMMISSION PROCEEDINGS

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The Public Health Study Commission met 1 time during the 2008-2009 interim. The Public Health Study Commission heard from the individuals listed below during the meeting.

### **December 12, 2008**

- Dr. Ed Baker, Director, North Carolina Institute of Public Health, presented an overview of Public Health Incubator Collaboratives in North Carolina.
- Dr. Leah Devlin, State Health Director, Division of Public Health (DPH), spoke to the Commission on the public health system and the recommended priorities for the future.
- Dr. Rosemary Summers, Orange County Health Director, discussed recommendations to strengthen public health infrastructure.
- Dr. Marcus Plescia, Chronic Disease and Injury Section Chief, DPH, reported on childhood obesity and diabetes prevention.
- Dr. Jeff Engle, Epidemiology Section Chief, DPH presented information on HIV bridge counselors for the correction system and Chlamydia testing in males.
- Dr. Kevin Ryan, Women's and Children's Health Section Chief, DPH, reported on health issues for women and children. Priorities in this area included school health, early intervention, and infant mortality.

# RECOMMENDATIONS

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## **Chairs:**

**Senator William Purcell, MD**  
**Representative Bob England, MD**

### **RECOMMENDATION 1:**

The Public Health Study Commission recommends that the General Assembly enact legislation to appropriate funds from the General Fund to the Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Public Health, to implement high priority initiatives within the North Carolina Public Health Improvement Plan, Public Health Task Force 2008 Final Report. Funds appropriated should be used to supplement and not supplant existing State, federal, county, or other funds allocated for the following identified purposes: build local health department capacity to provide the 10 essential public health services, implement the State's obesity prevention plan, hire counselors for HIV-positive inmates released from State prisons, hire additional school nurses, expand utilization of 17-Alpha Hydroxy Progesterone Caproate among low income women to reduce recurrent pre-term births, expand state initiatives addressing SIDS, provide universal childhood vaccines to all children in the State, continue screening public awareness, and other preventive efforts of the Diabetes and Kidney Programs, support the State's smoking cessation help line, and fund and further support the operations of the Stroke Advisory Council.

### **RECOMMENDATION 2:**

The Public Health Study Commission recommends that the General Assembly amend Chapter 130A of the General Statutes to create a new Article 5A establishing an Office of Men's Health within the Department of Health and Human Services to expand the State's public health concerns and focus to include a comprehensive outlook on the overall health status of men.



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**DRAFT LEGISLATION**

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**GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA  
SESSION 2009**

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**BILL DRAFT 2009-RDz-2 [v.2] (12/01)**

**(THIS IS A DRAFT AND IS NOT READY FOR INTRODUCTION)  
12/12/2008 1:41:41 PM**

Short Title: Fund High Priority Public Health Initiatives.

(Public)

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Sponsors: .

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Referred to:

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A BILL TO BE ENTITLED

AN ACT TO APPROPRIATE FUNDS TO IMPLEMENT HIGH PRIORITY PUBLIC HEALTH INITIATIVES, AS RECOMMENDED BY THE PUBLIC HEALTH STUDY COMMISSION.

The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

**SECTION 1.** There is appropriated from the General Fund to the Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Public Health, the sum of thirty-five million five hundred sixty-seven thousand five dollars (\$36,567,005) for the 2009-2010 fiscal year, and thirty-one million one hundred forty-five thousand nine hundred seventy-two dollars (\$31,145,972) for the 2010-2011 fiscal year. Funds appropriated by this act shall be used to supplement and not supplant existing State, federal, county, or other funds allocated for the identified purpose. These funds shall be used to implement high priority initiatives of the Public Health Study Commission, and shall be allocated by the Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Public Health, in the following amounts for the purposes indicated:

(1) \$18,200,000 in the 2009-2010 fiscal year and \$18,200,000 in the 2010-2011 fiscal year for noncategorical General Aid to County funds to build capacity for the 10 essential public health services in local health departments statewide.

(2) \$3,829,454 in the 2009-2010 fiscal year and \$3,829,454 in the 2010-2011 fiscal year for Childhood Obesity Prevention to continue funding interventions in preschools, schools, communities, faith organizations, and healthcare settings that promote and support physical activity and healthy eating; and continue funding worksite chronic disease/obesity prevention programs for State employees.

(3) \$209,138 in the 2009-2010 fiscal year and \$199,304 in the 2010-2011 fiscal year for counselors for HIV-positive inmates released from State prisons to ensure that they are referred to HIV provider agencies for case management.

1 (4) \$5,000,000 in the 2009-2010 fiscal year and \$5,000,000 in the 2010-  
2 2011 fiscal year to hire 83 additional school nurses to work toward the goal of  
3 achieving a Statewide school nurse to student ratio of 1:750.

4 (5) \$247,000 in the 2009-2010 fiscal year and \$247,000 in the 2010-2011  
5 fiscal year to improve birth outcomes by expanding utilization of 17-Alpha Hydroxy  
6 Progesterone Caproate for low income women to reduce recurrent pre-term births; and  
7 by expanding and strengthening current statewide initiatives addressing SIDS risk  
8 reduction, Safe Sleep, and secondhand smoke exposure for women of reproductive age  
9 and their families.

10 (6) \$709,296 in the 2009-2010 fiscal year and \$1,418,592 in the 2010-2011  
11 fiscal year to maintain compliance with the Centers for Disease Control and  
12 Prevention's Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices in providing protection for  
13 children against influenza as part of the State's universal immunization program.

14 (7) \$86,756 in the 2009-2010 fiscal year and \$86,756 in the 2010-2011 fiscal  
15 year to continue screening, public awareness, and other preventive efforts of the  
16 Diabetes and Kidney Programs.

17 (8) \$6,883,179 in the 2009-2010 fiscal year and \$1,815,684 in the 2010-2011  
18 fiscal year to hold the Early Intervention Program harmless for the loss of revenues  
19 associated with the rate reduction of Targeted Case Management services.

20 (9) \$352,182 in the 2009-2010 fiscal year and \$349,182 in the 2010-2011  
21 fiscal year for gonorrhea/chlamydia testing among men in local health department  
22 Sexually Transmitted Disease clinics.

23 (10) \$1,000,000 in the 2009-2010 fiscal year for operation of the North  
24 Carolina Tobacco Quitline. These funds shall be used to maximize funding from the  
25 State alliance project being underwritten by the American Legacy Foundation to  
26 promote tobacco-use cessation for adults.

27 (11) \$50,000 for the 2009-2010 fiscal year to support further operation of the  
28 Stroke Advisory Council so that the Council may continue to identify and address the  
29 issues needed to establish a coordinated system of stroke care for the State and to  
30 improve stroke care provided in the State.

31 **SECTION 2.** This act becomes effective July 1, 2009.

GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF NORTH CAROLINA  
SESSION 2009

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D

BILL DRAFT 2009-RDz-6 [v.2] (12/02)

(THIS IS A DRAFT AND IS NOT READY FOR INTRODUCTION)  
12/12/2008 1:51:16 PM

Short Title: DHHS/Office of Men's Health.

(Public)

Sponsors: .

Referred to:

1 A BILL TO BE ENTITLED  
2 AN ACT TO ESTABLISH THE OFFICE OF MEN'S HEALTH, WITHIN THE  
3 DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES, AS RECOMMENDED  
4 BY THE PUBLIC HEALTH STUDY COMMISSION.

5 The General Assembly of North Carolina enacts:

6 SECTION 1. Chapter 130A of the General Statutes is amended by adding  
7 the following new Article to read:

8 "Article 5A.

9 "Men's Health.

10 "§ 130A-131.26. Office of Men's Health established.

11 (a) There is established in the Department the Office of Men's Health. The  
12 purpose of the office is to expand the State's public health concerns and focus to include  
13 a comprehensive outlook on the overall health status of men. The primary goals of the  
14 Office shall be the prevention of disease and improvement in the quality of life for men  
15 over their entire lifespan. The Department shall develop strategies for achieving these  
16 goals which shall include, but not be limited to:

17 (1) Developing a strategic plan to improve public services and programs  
18 targeting men;

19 (2) Conducting policy analyses on specific issues related to men's health;

20 (3) Facilitating communication among the Department's programs and  
21 between the Department and external men's health groups and  
22 community-based organizations;

23 (4) Building public health awareness and capacity regarding men's health  
24 issues by providing a series of services including evaluation,  
25 recommendation, technical assistance, and training; and

1           (5) Developing initiatives for modification or expansion of health services  
2           oriented towards men's health issues with the intent of establishing  
3           meaningful public/private partnerships in the future.

4       **(b) The Office shall study the feasibility of establishing initiatives for:**

5           (1) Early intervention services for men infected with HIV; and

6           (2) Outreach, treatment, and follow-up services to men at high risk for  
7           contracting sexually transmitted diseases.

8       In conducting the study, the Department shall take into consideration related services  
9       already in place in the Department and at the local level."

10           **SECTION 2.** The Department of Health and Human Services shall use funds  
11 available for the 2009-2010 and 2010-2011 fiscal years to implement this act.

12           **SECTION 3.** This act becomes effective July 1, 2009.

