

Kentucky Public Health Association
RESOLUTION #1-2006

Mandatory Reporting Of Healthcare-Associated Infections

WHEREAS healthcare-associated infections affect 1 out of 20 persons who are hospitalized and contribute to increased length of stays in the hospitals, increased costs, and approximately 90,000 deaths a year; and

WHEREAS the Centers for Disease Control believe one third of these healthcare-associated infections to be preventable; and

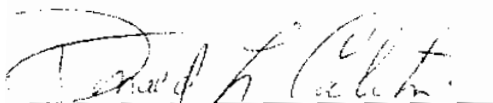
WHEREAS mandatory public disclosure of health-associated infection rates will provide consumers with the information they need to make educated choices about healthcare, give healthcare agencies the needed impetus to focus on preventing healthcare-associated infections, and prevent unwarranted illnesses and death; and

WHEREAS the Kentucky Public Health Association supports mandatory public disclosure of healthcare-associated infections (HAI);

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the Kentucky Public Health Association supports legislation for mandatory reporting of HAIs in Kentucky and urges implementation of a public reporting system. Realizing that a national standardized method for collecting, analyzing and reporting healthcare-associated infection data has yet to be developed, the guidelines published March 2005 by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention "Guidance on Public Reporting of Healthcare-Associated Infections;" may be used as a model; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, a copy of this resolution be forwarded to the Governor, the Secretary of the Cabinet for Health Services, the Commissioner of the Department for Public Health, Commissioner of the Department of Health, and to all members of the Kentucky General Assembly.

This resolution was approved by the Board of Directors of the Kentucky Public Health Association this 11th day of January, 2006.



Donald L. Calitri, Ed.D., President
Kentucky Public Health Association