



STATE OF WASHINGTON  
**WASHINGTON STATE BOARD OF HEALTH**

*PO Box 47990 • Olympia, Washington 98504-7990*

## **News Release**

SBOH 05-05

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**Contact:** Lonnie Peterson, State Board of Health, (360) 236-4108  
Julie Graham, Spokane Regional Health District, (509) 324-1539

## **Governor appoints Dr. Kim Thorburn as Board's new chair**

On July 29 Governor Gregoire appointed Kim Marie Thorburn, MD, MPH, to the State Board of Health as the Board's new chair. Dr. Thorburn replaces Dr. Thomas Locke who represented local health officers.

"I am very honored and excited for this opportunity to work with the State Board of Health and the Governor to move forward the public health agenda in Washington State," said Dr. Thorburn.

"There are many important health issues facing our state including the elimination of health disparities. I look forward to tackling these issues with my colleagues on the State Board of Health."

Dr. Thorburn has been the Spokane County health officer since 1997. She received her MD from the University of California San Francisco and her MPH from the University of Hawai'i.

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The State Board of Health serves the citizens of Washington by working to understand and prevent disease across the entire population. Established in 1889 by the State Constitution, the Board provides leadership by suggesting public health policies and actions, by regulating certain activities, and by providing a public forum. The Governor appoints ten members who fill three-year terms. Visit the Board's Web site at [www.sboh.wa.gov](http://www.sboh.wa.gov).