



STATE OF WASHINGTON
WASHINGTON STATE BOARD OF HEALTH

PO Box 47990 • Olympia, Washington 98504-7990

January 9, 2008

TO: Washington State Board of Health Members

FROM: Craig McLaughlin, Executive Director

**SUBJECT: DRAFT STATEMENT OF BOARD POLICY ON POSSIBLE 2008
LEGISLATIVE ISSUES**

Background and Summary

State Board of Health Policy 2001-001 creates a procedure for monitoring legislative issues during session. It also establishes processes for communication between Board members and the Legislature. The policy (see attached) calls for the creation of a Board policy statement that would inform the activities of staff and individual Board members as issues came up during a legislative session.

At its December 2007 meeting, the Board reviewed a preliminary draft of a policy statement based on the previous statement, and it heard a staff assessment of issues that are likely to arise during the 2008 session. There was discussion about revisiting the underlying policy at the conclusion of this year's session. Specific recommendations for changes to the draft statement on legislative issues were minimal, although there was a request to address access to care issues for the elderly and to support funding that would help local health jurisdictions (as well as school districts) improve environmental health and safety in schools.

Based on that feedback, staff input, the Governor's budget proposal, and any additional information I have received since about the likely legislative agenda, I have developed a final draft for possible adoption at today's meeting (see attached). If adopted by the Board, the "Statement of Policy on Possible 2008 Legislative Issues" will serve as a guidance document for the legislative session that will convene January 14.

Recommended Board Action

The Board may wish to consider, amend if necessary, and adopt the following motion:

Motion: The Board adopts the Statement of Policy on Possible 2008 Legislative Issues as submitted on January 9, 2008.