



STATE OF WASHINGTON
WASHINGTON STATE BOARD OF HEALTH
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March 11, 2009

TO: Washington State Board of Health Members
FROM: Tara Wolff, SBOH Policy Advisor
SUBJECT: HEALTH DISPARITY POLICY COMMITTEE

Background and Summary

In March 2008 the Board reviewed its current structure for policy committees. The Board decided to:

- Retain the Environmental Health Committee.
- Dissolve the Access Committee and create a new policy committee tentatively named the Services and Systems Assurance Committee that would continue the work of the Access Committee work and address systems.
- Dissolve the Children's Health and Well Being Policy Committee and create a Health Promotion Committee.

The Board opted to continue the discussion of the Health Disparities Committee. The Board identified three options: (1) retain the Health Disparities Policy Committee, (2) disband it and assign its work across all of the Board's policy committees, or (3) establish it as a sub-committee of an existing policy committee such as the Health Promotion Policy Committee.

Today we will continue our discussion in order to settle on the committee structure that will best advance the Board's health disparities agenda.

Recommended Board Action

The Board may choose to consider a motion to retain the current Health Disparity Policy Committee, disband the Health Disparity Policy Committee and assign its work to all of the committees, or create a Health Disparity Subcommittee.