



National Lieutenant Governors Association

1 **Resolution In Support Of Adult Immunizations**

2 **Whereas:** Vaccines have been cited as one of the ten great public health achievements; and

3 **Whereas:** Significant strides have been made to increase vaccine uptake rates and reduce vaccine preventable
4 diseases in the United States among children; and

5 **Whereas:** The United States Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the Advisory Committee
6 on Immunization Practices (ACIP) recommends immunization for adults who are over 18 years of age, against
7 14 different vaccine-preventable diseases including: influenza, tetanus, diphtheria, pertussis (whooping cough),
8 varicella (chickenpox), human papillomavirus (HPV), zoster (shingles), measles, mumps, rubella, pneumococcal
9 disease (pneumonia), meningococcal disease (meningitis), hepatitis A and hepatitis B; and

10 **Whereas:** Despite the recommendations of experts about the effectiveness and safety of adult vaccines,
11 immunization rates remain low and far beneath national targets; and

12 **Whereas:** Although immunization rates are low among all adults, substantial racial and ethnic disparities in
13 immunization exist with immunization rates among African Americans and Hispanics substantially below of
14 their white counterparts. For example, in the 2010-2011 influenza season 44% of Whites were vaccinated,
15 whereas only 40% of Hispanics, and 39% of Blacks were; and

16 **Whereas:** Between 40,000 and 50,000 adults die annually from vaccine-preventable diseases in the United
17 States; and

18 **Whereas:** The CDC has estimated the direct healthcare burden of adult vaccine-preventable diseases at \$10
19 billion annually; and

20 **Whereas:** The Institute of Medicine (IOM) has stated that one of the six causes of excess costs in the US
21 healthcare system is missed prevention opportunities; and

22 **Whereas:** Millions of American adults go without routine and recommended vaccinations because our medical
23 system is not set up to ensure that adults receive regular preventive healthcare.

24 **Now, Therefore Be It Resolved** that the National Lieutenant Governors Association hereby recognizes that
25 August is *National Immunization Awareness* month and urges all people to speak with their healthcare providers
26 to ensure that their vaccinations are up-to-date, and all providers and policy-makers to work to remove barriers
27 to vaccination and to protect adults from vaccine-preventable diseases.

Sponsors: Lt. Governor Rebecca Kleefisch, WI; Lt. Governor Mike Cooney, MT; Additional Co-Sponsors: Lt.
Governor Billy Nungesser, LA; Lt. Governor Mike Foley, NE

