



National Lieutenant Governors Association

1 **Resolution In Support Of Healthcare Ready**

2 WHEREAS in the past decade, there have been more than 1,412 federally-declared disasters, including
3 hurricanes, floods, tornadoes, wildfires, ice storms and H1N1 pandemics;

4 WHEREAS, all citizens are entitled to a reasonable expectation of access to healthcare before, during, and
5 after any domestic emergency or disaster;

6 WHEREAS, said disasters and public health emergencies have the potential to increase demand for
7 healthcare to treat disaster-related injuries, and further disrupt the treatment of chronic diseases like
8 diabetes, cancer, kidney disease, and others;

9 WHEREAS, this increased demand during a disaster or emergency requires public and private sector
10 collaboration and information sharing;

11 WHEREAS, the nonprofit Healthcare Ready was created to help ensure continued access to healthcare
12 during severe public health emergencies. Healthcare Ready leverages unique relationships with
13 government, nonprofit and medical supply chains to build and enhance the resiliency of communities
14 before, during and after disasters;

15 WHEREAS, Healthcare Ready (formerly Rx Response) was established in the aftermath of Hurricane
16 Katrina by the trade associations comprising the bio-pharmaceutical supply chain and the American Red
17 Cross where a need was identified help to coordinate government agencies, biopharmaceutical
18 manufacturers and other organizations to quickly and effectively address healthcare supply chain concerns
19 before, during and after disasters;

20 WHEREAS as the convener of industry and government, Healthcare Ready safeguards patient health by
21 providing solutions to critical problems and identifying best practices for healthcare preparedness and
22 response;

23 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the NLGA encourages states to collaborate with
24 Healthcare Ready as part of their state strategy for emergency preparedness;

25 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the NLGA encourages states to educate their constituencies about
26 the importance of individual preparedness, by utilizing the “Rx On The Run” toolkit,
27 (www.healthcareready.org/rxontherun);

28 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the NLGA encourages state and local agency officials, and
29 territories to share relevant information pertaining to their disaster planning, response, and recovery with
30 the healthcare sector including Healthcare Ready, which serves as a single point of contact for emergency
31 management and public health officials in the states.

Sponsors: Lt. Governor Matt Michels, SD; Lt. Governor Nancy Wyman, CT; Additional Co-Sponsors: