



## National Lieutenant Governors Association

### 1 Resolution In Support of HIV Viral Load Suppression in Improving Health Outcomes 2 and Reducing Transmission

3 **WHEREAS**, over 1.2 million people living in the United States are infected with HIV, and one in eight is  
4 unaware of the infection, and

6 **WHEREAS**, significant advances in antiretroviral therapy (ART) for HIV have made it possible to reduce  
7 transmission rates, avoid over 862,000 premature deaths, gain over 27 million life-years, and gain \$615  
8 billion in economic value over the cost of HIV treatment in the United States alone, and

10 **WHEREAS**, a 2011 clinical study from the National Institutes of Health found that treating HIV-positive  
11 people with ART reduces the risk of transmitting the virus to HIV-negative sexual partners by 96% from  
12 the start of treatment, and

13 **WHEREAS**, viral load suppression saves state Medicaid programs an estimated \$1 million per treated  
14 patient by preventing transmissions, and

15 **WHEREAS**, viral load suppression not only improves individual health, but it all also reduces HIV  
16 transmission on a population level, and

17 **WHEREAS**, the HIV Health Improvement Affinity Group (HHIAG), a joint initiative between the  
18 Centers for Medicare and Medicaid Services, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, and the  
19 Health Resources and Services Administration, offers federal support for state-level efforts to improve  
20 rates of sustained viral load suppression among Medicaid and Children's Health Insurance Program  
21 enrollees who are living with HIV, and

22 **WHEREAS**, states that participate in the HHIAG benefit from direct technical assistance to develop and  
23 implement a viral load suppression improvement plan and leverage best practices to improve state viral  
24 load suppression rates.

26 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the National Lieutenant Governors Association hereby  
27 recognizes the critical importance that viral load suppression plays in improving health outcomes and  
28 reducing transmission.

ADOPTED, this day, the 29<sup>th</sup> of March, 2019.

Sponsors: Lt. Governor Mandela Barnes (D – Wisconsin), Lt. Governor Josh Green (D – Hawaii), Lt. Governor Bethany Hall-Long (D – Delaware), Lt. Governor Mike Kehoe (R – Missouri), Lt. Governor Tregenza Roach (D – Virgin Islands), Lt. Governor Lynn Rogers (D – Kansas), Lt. Governor David Zuckerman (D – Vermont)