



National Lieutenant Governors Association

1 **Resolution In Support of Meningococcal Disease Awareness**

2 **WHEREAS**, meningococcal disease is any infection caused by the bacterium *Neisseria meningitidis*, or
3 meningococcus, and

4 **WHEREAS**, 1 in 10 people are carriers for these bacteria with no signs or symptoms of disease, and
5 sometimes *Neisseria meningitidis* bacteria can cause illness, and

6 **WHEREAS**, meningococcal disease is spread from person to person via the exchange of the bacteria
7 through respiratory and throat secretion during close or lengthy contact, and

8 **WHEREAS**, meningococcal disease can progress rapidly and result in long-term sequelae or death as
9 early as 24 hours from onset. 10%-20% of survivors experience long-term sequelae such as amputations,
10 deafness, and neuro-developmental deficits, and

11 **WHEREAS**, in 2018, there were 329 cases of meningococcal disease in the United States, and

12 **WHEREAS**, infants under one year of age, as well as young adults between the ages of 16 and 23, are
13 most commonly impacted by this disease, and

14 **WHEREAS**, three meningococcal serogroups (B, C, and Y) are responsible for most meningococcal
15 disease cases in the U.S., with serogroup B, causing more than one-third of all cases, and

16 **WHEREAS**, there are vaccines that help provide protection against all five serogroups (A, B, C, W and
17 Y) commonly seen in the United States, and

18 **WHEREAS**, vaccination for serogroups A, C, W and Y is routinely recommended by the Centers for
19 Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), and

20 **WHEREAS**, in 2019, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's Advisory Committee on
21 Immunization Practices recommended that decisions to vaccinate adolescents and young adults 16 through
22 23 years of age against serogroup B meningococcal disease should be based on shared clinical decision-
23 making between the patient and health care provider, and

24 **WHEREAS**, it is critical that students, parents, educators, and health care providers understand the
25 dangers of meningitis B and are aware that a vaccine is available to prevent disease resulting from this
26 serogroup, and



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27 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the National Lieutenant Governors Association hereby
28 recognizes the importance and awareness of meningococcal disease and all five dangerous strains of
29 meningococcal disease, including meningococcal B.

ADOPTED, this day, the 29th of July, 2020.

Sponsors: Lt. Governor Mike Cooney (D – Montana), Lt. Governor Adam Gregg (R – Iowa)