



National Lieutenant Governors Association

1 **Resolution in Support of Influenza Immunization and Awareness**

2 **WHEREAS**, influenza is a contagious respiratory illness caused by influenza viruses that infect the nose, throat, and
3 lungs and can cause fever, cough, sore throat, body aches, headaches, chills, and fatigue (1), and

4 **WHEREAS**, influenza viruses spread mainly through droplets made when infected persons cough, sneeze or talk,
5 and through touching a surface or object that has influenza virus on it (2), and

6 **WHEREAS**, complications of influenza include bacterial pneumonia, ear infections, sinus infections, and worsening
7 of chronic medical conditions, such as congestive heart failure, asthma, or diabetes (3), and

8 **WHEREAS**, Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) estimates that on average, between 8-11% of the
9 U.S. population gets infected with influenza each season (4), and

10 **WHEREAS**, CDC estimates that the median influenza incidence rates by age group were 9.3% for children 0-17
11 years, 8.8% for adults 18-64 years, and 3.9% for adults 65 years and older (5), and

12 **WHEREAS**, CDC estimates that influenza has resulted in between 9.3 million to 49 million incidents of illnesses
13 and between 140,000 to 960,000 hospitalizations annually since 2010 (6), and

14 **WHEREAS**, CDC estimates that influenza has resulted in between 12,000 – 79,000 deaths annually since 2010 (7),
15 and

16 **WHEREAS**, CDC estimates that over 7.5 million children ages 5-17 years, over 14.4 million people between the
17 ages of 18-48 years, and over 15.5 million people between the ages of 50-65 years, and over 7.3 million people
18 above the age of 65 years had symptomatic influenza illness during the 2017-2018 influenza season (8), and

19 **WHEREAS**, CDC estimates that influenza resulted in more than the following number of medical visits and
20 hospitalizations, respectively, for the following age groups in the 2017-2018 influenza season: ages 4 and under: 2.6
21 million, 27,000; ages 5-17: 3.9 million, 20,000; ages 18-49: 5.3 million, 80,000; ages 50-64: 6.7 million, 165,000;
22 ages 64 and older: 4 million; 959,000 (9), and

23 **WHEREAS**, CDC estimates that 118 infants below the age of 4 years, 500 children between ages 5-17 years, 2,873
24 people between ages 18-49 years, 7,478 people between ages 50-64 years, and 68,448 people above the age of 65
25 died due to influenza disease during the 2017-18 influenza season (10), and

26 **WHEREAS**, CDC determined that among all children ages 6 months to 17 years, influenza vaccination uptake was
27 only 57.9% (11), and

28 **WHEREAS**, CDC determined that among all adults above the age of 18 years, influenza vaccination uptake was
29 only 37.1% (12), and



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- 30 **WHEREAS**, Healthy People 2020 maintains the goal of increasing immunization rates and the goal of reducing
31 preventable infectious diseases in the United States (13), and
- 32 **WHEREAS**, safe and effective vaccines exist for infants, children, and adults for the prevention of Type A and
33 Type B influenza virus (14), and
- 34 **WHEREAS**, the Advisory Committee on Immunization Practices (ACIP) recognizes that vaccination is particularly
35 important for those at increased risk for severe complications from influenza infection, which include all children
36 aged 6-59 months; all persons above the age of 50 years; adults and children who have chronic pulmonary or
37 cardiovascular, renal, hepatic, neurologic, hematologic, or metabolic disorders; persons who are
38 immunocompromised; women who are or will be pregnant during the influenza season; those ages 6 month-18 years
39 who are receiving aspirin- or salicylate-containing medications; residents of nursing homes and other long-term care
40 facilities; American Indians or Alaska Natives; and persons who have a body mass index above 40 (14), and
- 41 **WHEREAS**, vaccines have aided in reducing the burden of widespread and often fatal diseases, enabling
42 individuals to lead longer and healthier lives while reducing health care costs, and
- 43 **WHEREAS**, the ACIP recommends that providers offer vaccination during routine health care visits and
44 hospitalizations to avoid missed opportunities for vaccination, and
- 45 **WHEREAS**, the World Health Organization lists vaccine hesitancy as one of the top ten threats to global health, and
- 46 **WHEREAS**, the annual economic burden of vaccine-preventable diseases in American adults is estimated to be
47 between \$4.7 billion and \$15.2 billion (15), and
- 48 **WHEREAS**, the Institute of Medicine (IOM) has stated that one of the six causes of excess costs in the U.S.
49 healthcare system is missed prevention opportunities (16).
- 50 **NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED** that the National Lieutenant Governors Association hereby recognizes
51 the importance and awareness of influenza disease.
- 52 **BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED** that NLGA supports increased public awareness of the importance of
53 immunizations against influenza, and supports outreach and education efforts concerning adult vaccination.

[1] CDC. About Influenza. <https://www.cdc.gov/flu/keyfacts.htm>

2 Ibid.

3 Ibid.

4 CDC. Key Facts About Influenza (Flu).

https://www.cdc.gov/flu/about/keyfacts.htm?CDC_AA_refVal=https%3A%2F%2Fwww.cdc.gov%2Fflu%2Fkeyfacts.htm

5 Ibid.

6 CDC. Burden of Influenza, 2017-2018 Influenza Season. <https://www.cdc.gov/flu/about/burden/2017-2018.htm>

7 Ibid.

8 Ibid.

9 Ibid.



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10 Ibid.

[1]1 CDC. Estimates of Flu Vaccination Coverage Among Children, 2017-2018 Season.

<https://www.cdc.gov/flu/fluvaxview/coverage-1718estimates-children.htm>

[1]2 CDC. Estimates of Influenza Vaccination Coverage among Adults—United States, 2017–18 Flu Season.

<https://www.cdc.gov/flu/fluvaxview/coverage-1718estimates.htm>

[1]3 HHS Office of Disease Prevention and Health Promotion. Immunization and Infectious Diseases.

<https://www.healthypeople.gov/2020/topics-objectives/topic/immunization-and-infectious-diseases>

[1]4 Ibid.

[1]5 CDC. Recommendations of the ACIP, 2018-19 Influenza Season. <https://www.cdc.gov/mmwr/volumes/67/rr/rr6703a1.htm>

[1]6 Ibid.

[1]7 Ibid.

[1]8 Ibid.

ADOPTED, this day, the 19th day of July, 2019.

Sponsors: Lt. Governor Mandela Barnes (D – Wisconsin), Lt. Governor John Fetterman (D – Pennsylvania), Lt. Governor Garlin Gilchrist (D – Michigan), Lt. Governor Adam Gregg (R – Iowa), Lt. Governor Lynn Rogers (D – Kansas)