

Title: Creation of a Michigan Department of Public Health

Introduced by: James E. Phillips, MD, MPH, for the Michigan Association of Public Health and Preventive Medicine Physicians

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Referred to: Reference Committee D

House Action:

Whereas, since 1996 the Michigan Department of Public Health ceased to exist and the components of the department were delegated to several other governmental agencies, and

Whereas, as a result of this disintegration, emphasis on public health and preventive medicine at the state level has diminished, and

Whereas, disease prevention and wellness promotion are by far the best ways to insure healthy citizens, address problems such as obesity and infant mortality, and to cut down on the ever rising costs of clinical health care, and

Whereas, as the major location for public health administration now resides in MDCH whose budget is dominated by Medicaid, and

Whereas, as this conflation of public health functions which effect all Michigan citizens, with Medicaid which provides clinical care for those in poverty, may alter proper emphasis and funding for public health preventive services, and

Whereas, consolidation of public health manpower in one agency would improve efficiency and help in overall management and implementation of Michigan's Public Health Code mandates, and

Whereas, in the past Michigan was renowned worldwide for its Department of Public Health; therefore be it

RESOLVED: That MSMS petition Governor Snyder to reestablish by executive order the Michigan Department of Public Health, to be organized as it was prior to January 1996.

WAYS AND MEANS COMMITTEE FISCAL NOTE: NONE