

**THE COUNCIL OF STATE GOVERNMENTS
RESOLUTION ON PANDEMIC FLU PREPAREDNESS**

WHEREAS, influenza pandemics occurred three times in the previous century, and history suggests that the United States will face at least one pandemic in this century;

WHEREAS, pandemics can cause severe illness, death, economic and social disruption throughout the country and the world, with outbreaks occurring in many different locations at once;

WHEREAS, preparing for an influenza pandemic requires coordinated actions at all levels of government – federal, state, and local – and all sectors of society, including business, schools, faith-based and community organizations, families and individuals;

WHEREAS, the federal government is leading the nation’s efforts to prepare by monitoring outbreaks, providing funding and technical assistance to foster state and local preparedness, stockpiling and distributing vaccines and treatments, developing new treatments and coordinating the national response;

WHEREAS, states and local communities are responsible under their own authorities for responding to an outbreak within their jurisdiction and having comprehensive pandemic preparedness plans in place to protect their own citizens; and these plans must be continuously exercised and updated to achieve a stronger level of preparedness;

WHEREAS, pandemic preparedness strengthens state and local governments’ ability to respond to any type of public health emergency which has lasting benefits for the health of our nation;

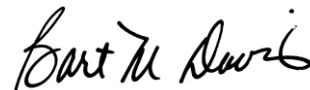
NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that The Council of State Governments encourages the federal government to allow flexibility in program requirements during response to a pandemic flu outbreak, to continue funding and technical support for state and local responses, and to provide effective communications to states on priority response actions. Additionally, federal agencies need to coordinate their efforts to facilitate regional sharing of services and support between states.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that The Council of State Governments urges states to implement, test and review pandemic preparedness plans for both the state and local jurisdictions to protect the health of citizens as well as the social and economic infrastructure, and to improve the ability to respond to any type of public health emergency. State legislators are encouraged to be leaders in this process, to become familiar with state and local preparedness plans, and to participate in testing of state and local plans including communications with emergency planners and constituents.

Adopted this 14th Day of November, 2009 at the CSG Annual Conference in La Quinta, CA.



Governor Joe Manchin III, West Virginia
2009 CSG President



Sen. Bart Davis, Idaho
2009 CSG Chair