

Wisconsin Public Health Association, Wisconsin Association of Local Health Departments and Boards: Announce 2017-18 Friends of Public Health

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The Wisconsin Public Health Association (WPHA) and the Wisconsin Association of Local Health Departments and Boards (WALHDAB) today unveiled a list of state legislators selected as “Friends of Public Health” for the 2017-18 legislative session.

The 2017-18 “Friend of Public Health” recipients include the following legislators:

Rep. Mark Born Duchow	Rep. Rob Brooks	Rep. Cindi
Rep. Mary Felzkowski Kitchens	Rep. John Jagler	Rep. Joel
Rep. Scott Krug Murphy	Rep. Amy Loudenbeck	Rep. Dave
Rep. Jeff Mursau Nygren	Rep. Todd Novak	Rep. John
Rep. Mike Rohrkaste Spiros	Rep. Ken Skowronski	Rep. John
Rep. Robin Vos	Rep. Dave Considine	Rep.

David Crowley

Rep. Deb Kolste
 Katrina Shankland

Rep. Daniel Riemer

Rep.

Rep. Mark Spreitzer
 Taylor

Rep. Lisa Subeck

Rep. Chris

Rep. Don Vruwink
 Howard Marklein

Sen. Alberta Darling

Sen.

Sen. Jerry Petrowski
 Bewley

Sen. Tom Tiffany

Sen. Janet

Sen. Jon Erpenbach
 Dave Hansen

Sen. Tim Carpenter

Sen.

Sen. Lena Taylor

Sen. Bob Wirch

“This designation allows us to recognize legislators who supported bills that were important to local health officers. In particular, this includes those who supported dedicated state funding for communicable disease prevention, which was WALHDAB’s top legislative priority this past session,” said WALHDAB Co-Chair Linda Conlon.

“Dedicated state funding is a crucial step in protecting the public from the threats of communicable disease. We appreciate the chance to recognize legislators and their commitment to improving public health in communities across Wisconsin,” said WPHA Co-Chair Sue Kunferman.

In the 2017-2019 state budget, \$500,000 of dedicated state funding was allocated to local health departments to combat and prevent the spread of communicable diseases. The funds can be used for reducing the burden of communicable diseases, increasing capacity to respond and follow up to instances of communicable diseases, training to increase communicable disease competencies, purchasing additional equipment and increasing awareness in the community.

Together, WPHA and WALHDAB represent over 1,200 public health professionals in communities across Wisconsin, striving to prevent, promote, and protect the citizens of the state. WPHA and WALHDAB actively engage in legislative advocacy

and are committed to promoting a healthy population and workforce.