

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25
26
27
28
29
30
31
32
33

REPORT 3
BOARD OF TRUSTEES

(Referred to Reference Committee B)

Resolution 16-203: Seeking Support of Pennsylvania Immunization Coalition – Resolution 16-203, introduced at the 2016 annual meeting and referred to the Board of Trustees for study, called on the Society to call on the State of Pennsylvania to provide \$200,000 in annual funding for the administration and activities of the Pennsylvania Immunization Coalition to increase awareness and compliance with recommended immunization practices to improve the health of all Pennsylvanians.

Background

The author is concerned that only approximately half of all counties in Pennsylvania have local immunization coalitions to increase awareness and utilization of available immunizations across the state. The Pennsylvania Immunization Coalition serves as an overarching organization to coordinate, promote and advocate for immunization education and increased administration across the state. It is believed that any incremental increase in immunizations will lead to a significant decrease in healthcare expenses required for caring for patients who acquire vaccine preventable diseases.

Discussion

Contact was made with the Immunization Director at the Pennsylvania Department of Health (DOH) to ascertain the status of the Pennsylvania Immunization Coalition (PAIC). According to DOH, they were working with the PAIC Executive Board to keep PAIC active. Effective April 2017, DOH will be providing annual funding to PAIC and an Independent Administrator will work with the Executive Board and serve as the point of contact for local and regional coalitions.

RECOMMENDATION

1. Since the Department of Health is providing annual funding to the Pennsylvania Immunization Coalition, the Board of Trustees recommends that staff continue to monitor the status of the Coalition.