



# KING COUNTY

1200 King County Courthouse  
516 Third Avenue  
Seattle, WA 98104

## Signature Report

June 23, 2009

### Resolution

**Proposed No.** 09-07.1

1                   A RESOLUTION endorsing the Seattle-King County  
2                   department of public health's 2009 tuberculosis control  
3                   program, as outlined in the response to the 2009 King  
4                   County Budget Ordinance, Ordinance 16312, Section 92,  
5                   Proviso P3.

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7                   WHEREAS, although tuberculosis is preventable and curable, it remains a serious  
8                   public health threat in King County, and

9                   WHEREAS, in 2007, active tuberculosis cases in King County reached a thirty-  
10                  eight-year high, with one hundred sixty-one cases reported, an eleven percent increase  
11                  over 2006, and

12                  WHEREAS, the rate of tuberculosis in King County in 2007 was 8.6 cases per  
13                  hundred thousand individuals, higher than the Washington State and national rate of 4.4  
14                  cases per hundred thousand individuals, and

15                  WHEREAS, tuberculosis disproportionately affects poor, foreign-born and  
16                  homeless populations in King County, and

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17           WHEREAS, the tuberculosis control program in King County serves over three  
18 times as many people of color, four times as many individuals living under two hundred  
19 percent of the federal poverty level, three times as many uninsured, and over ten times as  
20 many people who have limited English speaking skills, as compared to the overall King  
21 County population, and

22           WHEREAS, individuals who do not adhere to treatment are more likely to  
23 develop drug-resistant tuberculosis, require prolonged treatment, experience disease  
24 progression or relapse, and are more likely to die as a result of their infection, and

25           WHEREAS, drug-resistant tuberculosis can cost two hundred fifty thousand  
26 dollars per person to treat, and

27           WHEREAS, the Seattle-King County department of public health has a statutory  
28 responsibility for treating and controlling tuberculosis in King County, and

29           WHEREAS, the Seattle-King County department of public health's tuberculosis  
30 control program seeks to maximize adherence to treatment and minimize development of  
31 drug-resistant tuberculosis, and

32           WHEREAS, reflecting the financial crisis in public health and in King County's  
33 general fund, the 2009 proposed King County budget for public health included over four  
34 hundred thousand dollars in reductions for tuberculosis control activities, and

35           WHEREAS, in the 2009 Budget Ordinance, Ordinance 16312, the King County  
36 council restored two hundred fifty thousand dollars of the reduction in tuberculosis  
37 control and by proviso required the department of public health to submit a report on  
38 tuberculosis control activities, and

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39           WHEREAS, the Seattle-King County department of public health has submitted a  
40           proviso response on tuberculosis control activities and a plan for how funds shall be used  
41           to manage the highest priority cases of tuberculosis of public health significance;

42           NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE BOARD OF HEALTH OF  
43           KING COUNTY:

44           The Board of Health endorses the Seattle-King County department of public  
45           health's 2009 tuberculosis control program, as outlined in the response to the 2009 King  
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**Resolution**

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47 County Budget Ordinance, Ordinance 16312, Section 92, Proviso P3, which is  
48 Attachment A to this resolution.  
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Resolution was introduced on and passed by the Board of Health on 6/18/2009, by the following vote:

Yes: 9 - Ms. Lambert, Mr. Dunn, Ms. Clark, Ms. Frisinger, Dr. Counts and Mr. Gossett

No: 0

Excused: 8 - Ms. Patterson, Mr. Rasmussen, Dr. Sherman, Mr. Hutchinson, Dr. Nicola, Ms. Manning and Mr. Licata

BOARD OF HEALTH  
KING COUNTY, WASHINGTON

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Julia Patterson, Chair

ATTEST:

  
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Anne Noris, Clerk of the Board

**Attachments**      A. TB Proviso Response