

**By- Laws
Of
Massachusetts Coalition for Local Public Health**

**Article I
NAME**

Name. The Name of the coalition shall be Coalition for Local Public Health

**Article II
MISSION**

Mission The Coalition for Local Public Health consists of public health organizations dedicated to advocating for resources needed to promote healthy communities in Massachusetts, through strong Boards of Health and Health Departments. Our organizations represent over 3,000 citizens and professionals interested in supporting the Commonwealth's local health infrastructure.

**Article III
GOALS/PURPOSE**

Goals and Purpose

1. Increase financial, personnel, and technological resources available to boards of health/health departments so they can better attend to disease prevention and health promotion activities.
2. Strengthen workforce development through increased training opportunities for local boards of health and staff, and through the development of performance standards.
3. In collaboration with localities, explore mechanisms for alternative service delivery including greater municipal and/or regional collaboration that does not usurp, preempt, or limit the authority of local Boards of Health.
4. Reinstate Local Health Services Office at the State Department of Public Health, with increased staffing at the regional offices.
5. Establish a public health nursing advisor position at the Department of Public Health to provide technical assistance and ensure communication at the local level.
6. Develop adequate infrastructure for local public health functions to include, at a minimum, a public health nurse and an inspector available in each community.
7. Ensure funding for all state required local public health initiatives and/or enforcement of regulations.

**Article IV
MEMBERSHIP**

Membership. Voting membership is open to representatives of the following public health organizations: MPHA, MEHA, MAPHN, MAHB and MHOA.

**Article V
RIGHTS OF MEMBERS**

Voting Any vote put before the general membership by the Chair shall be at a general or special meeting at which all five member organizations are present. Votes are limited to one vote per organization. The organization shall provide, prior to the vote, which member of the organization will actually vote and

assure that it represents the opinion of their professional organization. For sake of clarity, the question being voted upon shall be in writing and shall be included with the mailed agenda, unless an emergency prevents such. It will be the sole responsibility of each participating organization to see to it that a member is present from their organization for any vote. If a member organization is unable to attend a meeting, the member organizations present may require that the absent organization vote via email.

There will be these categories of voting:

- a. General business category votes shall deal with non controversial issues involving the general course of business of the Coalition.
- b. Bylaws category votes shall deal with changes to the Coalition's bylaws. Final wording of any bylaw changes to be voted upon will be mailed to the whole voting membership.
- c. Public Policy, Legislative and Regulatory Endorsements category votes will deal with endorsements of health policy and/or legislative policy that will become the formal position of the Coalition. Endorsements of public health policy, legislation or regulation shall only become the formal position of the Coalition if approved by members by a unanimous vote.. If approved by such a vote, formal endorsement of legislation or policies shall be made in writing only.

Resignation of Members. Any organization may resign from the coalition if directed by their by board by delivering a written resignation to the Coalition.

Compensation and Expenses. Members shall not receive any stated salary for their services as such, but by resolution of the coalition a member may be reimbursed for expenses if any. The Coalition shall have power in its discretion to contract for and to pay consultants/interns rendering unusual or special services to with compensation appropriate to the value of such services.

Robert's Rules of Order. Meetings shall be conducted in an orderly and business like-manner, according to the Modern Edition of Robert's Rules of Order.

Article VI DUES AND FINANCES

Custody of Funds. The treasurer shall have the custody of all funds and will report to the Coalition at each meeting the state of the Coalitions account.

Article VII EXECUTIVE BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Scheduled Meetings. The Board shall meet not less than quarterly.

Chairs The chair or co chairs of the meeting will rotate between member organizations. It will be the responsibility of chairs to set agenda and notify members of meeting time/location and to run the meeting.

Secretary The secretary of the coalition shall be elected amongst the membership for a period of one year and is responsible for keeping minutes of all meetings and getting copy to Chairs for next meeting.

Representation on Coalition The members shall consist of no more than three representatives from each professional organizations. Each organization will have one vote and the prior authority to vote as a representative of their membership.

Member Resignation from Coalition Board A resignation of any member will be filled by the professional organizations' membership. To provide consistency and effectiveness it is recommended that members commit to an extended term, to avoid ineffectiveness and unproductively which results with frequent turnover .

Special Meetings. Special meetings of the members may be called at any time by any member of the coalition.

Quorum. At all meetings of the Coalition a majority of the members shall be sufficient to constitute a quorum for the transaction of business other than an official vote which requires all member organizations present. If at any meeting there is less than a quorum present; a majority of those present will adjourn the meeting.

Article VIII FISCAL YEAR

Fiscal Year. The fiscal year of the Association shall commence July 1 of each year and end June 30.

Article IX

Special Committees . The Coalition, by majority vote, may request members to serve on various ad hoc committees, as it deems necessary.

Article XI By Law AMENDMENTS

The By- Laws may be altered, amended or repealed at any meeting of members of the coalition by a 4 out of the 5 vote of all the members of the coalition represented , provided that the proposed action is inserted in the notice of such meeting.

Article XII EFFECTIVE DATE

The effective date of these bylaws is August 2, 2002. These bylaws shall remain in effect unless and until amended in part or rescinded in their entirety according to section nine above.