



AMENDED BY COUNTY BOARD

RESOLUTION # 49-11/09

TO: HONORABLE MEMBERS OF THE LA CROSSE COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

ITEM # 13/11

BOARD ACTION

Adopted: _____
For: 33
Against: 1
Abs/Excd: 1
Vote Req: _____
Other Action: _____
AMENDED

HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES BOARD COMMITTEE ACTION

Adopted: _____
For: _____
Against: _____
Abs/Excd: _____

RE: DECLARATION OF PUBLIC HEALTH EMERGENCY CAUSED BY H1N1 VIRUS

WHEREAS, on April 26, 2009, the United States government declared a public health emergency related to the presence of the H1N1 virus in the United States, and on October 24, 2009, President Barack Obama declared the H1N1 outbreak a national emergency; and,

WHEREAS, in order to protect the health and well-being of the residents of the State of Wisconsin, Governor Jim Doyle issued Executive Order #280 on April 30, 2009, proclaiming that a state of public health emergency, as defined in s. 166.02(7) of the Wisconsin Statutes, exists for the State of Wisconsin; and,

WHEREAS, on October 28, 2009 Gundersen Lutheran and Franciscan Skemp Healthcare sent a joint letter to Chairman Steve Doyle and the La Crosse County Board of Supervisors making an urgent request for declaration of a public health emergency in the County of La Crosse as a result of the H1N1 virus that has reached pandemic proportions on a global, national, statewide, and local level according to the websites of the World Health Organization (WHO), the U.S. Department of Health & Human Services (HHS), the Wisconsin Department of Health Services (DHS), and the La Crosse County Health Department (LCHD); and,

WHEREAS, as the major local healthcare providers in La Crosse County, Gundersen Lutheran and Franciscan Skemp report that they are experiencing dramatic increases in patients presenting at their facilities infected with the H1N1 virus and that the communicable nature of this virus threatens not only public health, but their public health infrastructure and staff, many of whom are routinely exposed to the virus in the course of patient care; and,

WHEREAS, according to Wis. Stats. s. 323.11, "The governing body of any local unit of government may declare, by ordinance or resolution, an emergency existing within the local unit of government whenever conditions arise by reason of...a disaster or imminent threat of a disaster that impairs ...medical care,...health or... other critical systems of the local unit of government."; and,

WHEREAS, Gundersen Lutheran and Franciscan Skemp Healthcare believe that La Crosse County should immediately declare by ordinance or resolution a public health emergency existing within La Crosse County to ensure all public health emergency resources and measures are made available in containing the spread of the H1N1 virus.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED, that the La Crosse County Board does hereby declare a public health emergency due to the pandemic proportions of the H1N1 virus pursuant to Section 323.11 of the Wisconsin Statutes.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the emergency power of the La Crosse County Board conferred under s. 323.11 includes the general authority to order whatever is necessary and expedient for the health, safety, protection, and welfare of persons and property within the County in the emergency, pursuant to s. 323.14(4).

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the period of the emergency caused by the H1N1 virus shall be limited to the time during which the emergency conditions exist or are likely to exist but no later than the regular County Board meeting in February 2010 unless renewed by the County Board.

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FISCAL NOTE: The fiscal impact to La Crosse County to ensure that all public health resources and measures are made available in containing the spread of the H1N1 virus are unknown at this time.

Date: 11/10/09

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COUNTY BOARD CHAIR




COUNTY CLERK

	Reviewed Only	Recommended	Not Recommended	
Co. Admin.	_____	_____	_____	Requested By: County Board Chair
Fin. Director	_____	_____	_____	Date Requested: October 28, 2009
Corp. Counsel	_____	_____	_____	Drafted By: Corporation Counsel
Board Chair	_____	_____	_____	

Adopted by the La Crosse County Board this 10th Day of November, 2009

STATE OF WISCONSIN
COUNTY OF LA CROSSE

I, Linda A. Stone, County Clerk of La Crosse County do hereby certify that this document is a true and correct copy of the original resolution required by law to be in my custody and which the County Board of Supervisors of La Crosse County adopted at a meeting held on the 10th day of November, 2009.



Linda A. Stone, La Crosse County Clerk