



**Wheeling-Ohio County Health Department
Resolution of the Wheeling-Ohio County Board of Health**

Whereas, the Human Immunodeficiency Virus (HIV) is a public health threat; and

Whereas, HIV can be controlled by early diagnosis and treatment; and

Whereas, the informed consent requirement for HIV testing has been found to be a barrier to HIV diagnosis interfering with the prevention of the spread of HIV, and

Whereas, West Virginia remains one of the few states that by law requires informed consent for HIV testing, and

Whereas, there are no other infectious diseases that require informed consent for testing, and

Whereas, the Center for Disease Control (CDC) recommends that informed consent for HIV testing be eliminated, and

Whereas, the CDC, the American College of Physicians and other medical organizations are encouraging more extensive HIV screening for certain population groups in an effort to stop the spread of HIV, therefore be it

RESOLVED, that the Wheeling-Ohio County Board of Health call upon the West Virginia Legislature to repeal the law that requires informed consent for HIV testing, and be it further

RESOLVED, that the Wheeling-Ohio County Board of Health seek the support of the West Virginia Bureau of Public Health and the other county Boards of Health in West Virginia to repeal this law.

John Holloway, M.D.,
Chairman, Board of Health

William C. Mercer, M.D.
Health Officer, Ohio County

*Approved & Adopted by the Board of Health
January 27, 2009*