

To: Chair and Members

Public Health Council

**Through:** Christopher R. Rinn, Assistant Commissioner

Public Health Infrastructure, Laboratories and

**Emergency Preparedness** 

From: Michael F. Lakat, Director

Office of Local Public Health

**Date:** 07 AUG 2015

**Subject:** Short Form Readoption of N.J.A.C. 8:52

Public Health Practice Standards of Performance for Local

Boards of Health in New Jersey

These rules establish standards of performance for public health services that meet the legislative intent as set forth in the Local Health Services Act, *N.J.S.A.* 26:3A2-1 *et seq.* and Local Boards of Health, *N.J.S.A.* 26:3-1 *et seq.* 

Pursuant to Executive Order No. 66(1978), *N.J.A.C.* 8:52, *Public Health Practice Standards of Performance for Local Boards of Health in New Jersey*, expires on August 11, 2015. The Department has reviewed these rules and has determined them to be necessary, reasonable, and proper for the purpose for which there were originally promulgated.

While we have initiated a process which will eventually lead to revision of the rules, an effort supported by the New Jersey Association of County and City Health Officials (NJACCHO) and the New Jersey Environmental Health Association (NJEHA), we will not be able to adopt the proposed new rules prior to the expiration of the current rules on August 11, 2015. As such, this proposal for readoption without amendments will assure there is no loss in continuity of the chapter as work on the amendments continues.

This proposal shall continue to have a beneficial social impact by allowing the Department, in consultation with the Public Health Council, to meet the legislative mandates of *N.J.S.A.* 26:1A-15 and 26:3A2-1 et seq. in establishing standards of performance for public health services that meet the legislative intent as set forth in the Local Health Services Act, *N.J.S.A.* 26:3A2-1 et seq. and Local Boards of Health, *N.J.S.A.* 26:3-1 et seq.

Readoption shall also continue to ensure that all local boards of health and local health agencies comply with and enforce this chapter and applicable public health laws. It further designates activities that all local boards of health are to conduct to safeguard public health, protect and promote physical and mental health, and prevent disease, injury, and disability. Each local health agency shall establish and maintain the standards of performance as set forth in these rules.

Thank you for your timely consideration in this matter. If you have any questions or comments feel free to contact me at 2-4993.