



**M I C H I G A N  
A S S O C I A T I O N  
F O R L O C A L  
P U B L I C H E A L T H**



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## Michigan Marketplace Exchange Resolution

**Whereas**, pursuant to PA 368 of 1978, Section 333.2433, “A local health department shall continually and diligently endeavor to prevent disease, prolong life, and promote the public health through organized programs...”

**Whereas**, on August 13, 2012, at the monthly meeting of the Board of Directors of the Michigan Association for Local Public Health, the following resolution was adopted:

**Whereas**, The Michigan Marketplace Exchange (the Marketplace) fosters a competitive, market-driven platform for health insurance with emphasis on innovation, quality, and price to reduce growing healthcare costs and uncompensated care.

**Whereas**, the Marketplace establishes a small business health options program (SHOP) through which qualified employers could provide coverage for their employees and federally recognized Indian tribes could provide coverage for their tribal members in providing affordable insurance to employers, while covering employees to reduce the cost of uncompensated care of providers and health systems.

**Whereas**, the Marketplace would allow carriers to offer qualified dental plans under certain circumstances. Dental disease, known as a silent public health epidemic, has been associated with chronic disease such as diabetes, stroke, and heart disease.

**Whereas**, the Marketplace allows for community navigators to conduct public education activities to raise awareness of available health plans, distribute fair, accurate, and impartial information that is cultural and linguistically appropriate, provide referrals to any applicable office of health insurance assistance, and facilitate enrollment in qualified health plans.

**Whereas**, Medicaid and MiChild screening provisions, through community navigators, would ensure there is “no wrong door” for seamless enrollment and coordination of plans, benefits, and provider networks to prevent lapses and gaps in coverage.

**Whereas**, the Department of Licensing and Regulatory Affairs already applied for first round (Level 1) of Exchange Establishment Grants to help formulate a more concrete plan for the Marketplace’s functionality and costs and received \$1M in September, 2011.

**Whereas**, the Department of Licensing and Regularly Affairs would be eligible to then apply for Level 2 funding for implementation from the federal government.

**Whereas**, the State of Michigan, in establishing its own exchange will maintain a certain level of authority and flexibility in addressing the needs of Michigan citizens to ensure that every citizen has access to affordable healthcare coverage to reduce the rising costs of healthcare that cost taxpayers, employers, and providers.

**Therefore let it be resolved**, that in order to prevent disease, prolong life, and promote the public's health, citizens of Michigan should have equal access to affordable healthcare insurance and quality healthcare by establishing our own health insurance exchange, the Michigan Marketplace Exchange, as part of the solution to the rising costs of health insurance and healthcare.

Approved by the MALPH Board of Directors October 2, 2012.