

House Resolution 1560

By: Representative Cox of the 102<sup>nd</sup>

### A RESOLUTION

1 Creating the House Pandemic Preparedness and Response Study Committee; and for other  
2 purposes.

3 WHEREAS, it is essential to public health and safety that this state be prepared in the event  
4 of a public health emergency caused by either bioterrorism or the rapid transmission of a  
5 life-threatening disease; and

6 WHEREAS, a pandemic or epidemic has the potential of causing both devastating health  
7 consequences for the citizens of this state and the disruption of critical community services  
8 due to the incapacitation of essential human infrastructure and, to attempt to avoid such  
9 tragic consequences, there should be an evaluation of the state's preparedness and a  
10 consideration of the need for state and local contingency plans; and

11 WHEREAS, in the event of a public health emergency or disaster, state and local officials  
12 will be called upon to implement a response plan.

13 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES that  
14 there is created the House Pandemic Preparedness and Response Study Committee to be  
15 composed of five members. The Speaker of the House of Representatives shall appoint the  
16 members of the committee and shall designate one of such members as chairperson. The  
17 chairperson shall call all meetings of the committee.

18 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the committee shall undertake a study of the conditions,  
19 needs, issues, and problems mentioned above or related thereto and recommend any actions  
20 or legislation which the committee deems necessary or appropriate.

21 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the committee shall review and consider the following  
22 concerns and issues as these relate to pandemic preparedness and response:

23 (1) The need for coordinated response plans on the regional, state-wide and national levels;

- 1 (2) Interagency cooperation and agreements between agencies and private entities on the
- 2 local, regional, state, and national levels, including agreements with elected representatives,
- 3 law enforcement, first responders, and the media;
- 4 (3) Agreements with health care insurers, Medicaid or other federal medical programs, and
- 5 health care product, equipment, and services providers for cooperation with public health
- 6 recommendations during an epidemic;
- 7 (4) The coordination, recruitment and training of medical and nonmedical volunteers;
- 8 (5) The identification of available facilities for the provision of medical care,
- 9 decontamination, quarantine, training, and morgue services;
- 10 (6) The need to stockpile medications or medical equipment;
- 11 (7) The availability of communication and the need for developing communication
- 12 procedures;
- 13 (8) The development of uniform and humane quarantine procedures; and
- 14 (9) Methods for filling critical infrastructure services such as police, fire, and EMT
- 15 services as well as sanitation, water, and electrical services.

16 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the committee may conduct such meetings at such  
17 places and at such times as it may deem necessary or convenient to enable it to exercise fully  
18 and effectively its powers, perform its duties, and accomplish the objectives and purposes  
19 of this resolution. The members of the committee shall receive the allowances authorized  
20 for legislative members of interim legislative committees but shall receive the same for not  
21 more than five days unless additional days are authorized. The funds necessary to carry out  
22 the provisions of this resolution shall come from the funds appropriated to the House of  
23 Representatives. In the event the committee makes a report of its findings and  
24 recommendations, with suggestions for proposed legislation, if any, such report shall be  
25 made on or before December 31, 2006. The committee shall stand abolished on December  
26 31, 2006.