



# Illinois State Association of Counties

## POSITION STATEMENT

JANUARY 22, 2021

### **ADDITIONAL FUNDING FOR PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENTS**

**SUPPORT**

Local public health departments provide services intended to promote health and the prevention of illness and disease. According to the Illinois Department of Public Health (IDPH), there are 97 local public health departments in Illinois.

#### **Current Law:**

The COVID-19 pandemic is straining county budgets as a consequence of the additional services and activities required to address the needs of county residents. The requirement for further financial resources to contend with the pandemic has compelled county public health departments to shift existing resources toward pandemic-related expenses. Federal and state funding has not bridged these local budgetary gaps.

#### **Proposed Change:**

The General Assembly and Governor should appropriate additional funding to public health departments based on their critical role in responding to the COVID-19 pandemic and other public health issues in local communities.

**LOCAL PUBLIC HEALTH DEPARTMENTS REQUIRE ADDITIONAL STATE FUNDING TO OFFSET THE COSTS OF SERVICES.**