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STATE OF NEW HAMPSHIRE

DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

29 HAZEN DRIVE, CONCORD, NH 03301-6527
603-271-4612 1-800-852-3345 Ext. 4612
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Nicholas A. Toumpas
Commissioner

José Thier Montero
Director

June 9, 2014

Her Excellency, Governor Margaret Wood Hassan
and the Honorable Council
State House
Concord, New Hampshire 03301

66% federal funds
40% General funds

REQUESTED ACTION

Retroactive

Authorize the Department of Health and Human Services to pay the Association of State and Territorial Health Officials (ASTHO), 2231 Crystal Ave., Suite 450, Arlington, VA 22202, (Vendor #168523), \$18,800.00 for the annual membership dues, effective **retroactive** to July 1, 2014 through June 30, 2015. Funds are available in the following account for SFY 14:

05-95-90-900010-51100000 HEALTH AND SOCIAL SERVICES, DEPT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SVS, HHS: DIVISION OF PUBLIC HEALTH, ADMINISTRATION, OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR

Fiscal Year	Class/Object	Class Title	Job Number	Total Amount
SFY 2014	026/500251	Organizational Dues	90072000	\$18,800.00
			Total	\$18,800.00

EXPLANATION

This request is **retroactive** as the invoice was not received until June 5, 2014 which is the deadline for the June 18, 2014 Governor and Council meeting.

Funds are requested to pay annual membership dues with ASTHO. The Association of State and Territorial Health Officials is the national nonprofit organization representing the state public health agencies. Association of State and Territorial Health Officials has a dual mission: to assist state health departments in the development and implementation of programs and policies to promote health and prevent disease, and to serve as a conduit for the state discussions and policy development with federal partners.

Listed below are answers to standard questions required for Governor and Council organization dues and membership approval submissions:

1. How long has this organization been in existence and how long has this agency been a member of this organization?

- Association of State and Territorial Health Officials was incorporated on March 23, 1942 and the Department of Health and Human Services has been associated with this organization since March 1942.

2. Is there any other organization which provides the same or similar benefits which your agency belongs to?

- No

3. How many other state's belonging to this organization and is your agency the sole New Hampshire state agency that is a member?

- All 50 States, 6 U.S. Territories, and the District of Columbia. Yes, the Department of Health and Human Services, Division of Public Health Services is the only state agency that is a member of the Association of State and Territorial Health Officials.

4. How is the dues structure established? (Standard fee for all states, based on population, based on other criteria, etc)

- Association of State and Territorial Health Officials membership dues are population based; there has been no price increase in membership due this year.

5. What benefit does the state receive from participating in this membership?

- Association of State and Territorial Health Officials provides staff to advocate in Washington, DC for national issues of public health significance. For small states such as New Hampshire that do not have a Washington, DC office, Association of State and Territorial Health Officials legislative staff provide timely briefings to state health officials on congressional activities, and non-partisan advocacy on public health issues such as funding for the AIDS Drug Assistance Program, Immunization, maternal and child health as well as chronic diseases. Given that more than half of the public health operating budget comes from federal sources, the Department's participation with Association of State and Territorial Health Officials is vital to maintain our ability to continue to receive Federal grants and funding for these programs.
- Association of State and Territorial Health Officials played a key role as a coordinating entity and an information clearinghouse regarding sequestration; thus enabling states to effectively understand and communicate the impacts to their administrations and elected officials.
- Between 2009-2011 Association of State and Territorial Health Officials played a key role as direct interface between the states and the federal government for all H1N1 related activities. They developed a centralized information distribution system that was key to NH's success in responding to the pandemic and assessing lessons learned.
- During the last couple of years Association of State and Territorial Health Officials has played a key role in advocating for the inclusion of health promotion and disease prevention concepts and philosophy in the health care discussion at the national level. They have been instrumental in bringing to members of congress and the federal government consolidated information from the states regarding successful

implementation of a population based approach and its positive impact on quality of health care delivery while controlling costs.

- Association of State and Territorial Health Officials provides technical support and conveys the support from states across the nation when NH encounters programmatic difficulties. Association of State and Territorial Health Official's support on the federal audit of the Public Health Emergency Preparedness grant was invaluable.
- Association of State and Territorial Health Officials provides technical support and helps NH apply for and obtain private foundation grants that are helping the agency in the development and implementation of its strategic priorities as stated by the NH Public Health Improvement Council.
- Association of State and Territorial Health Officials provides resources and technical support to assist the Department in various operational aspects including consultation on financing, organization, and how best to use information technology to achieve programmatic goals at a reasonable cost.
- Association of State and Territorial Health Officials provides resources to assist DHHS in responding rapidly to new and emerging issues of regional and national importance, such as H7N9 and the Coronavirus, which has the potential to become the new SARS epidemic. When these issues arise, Association of State and Territorial Health Officials provides coordination between various Federal agencies, and convenes State Health Departments to assure information sharing, streamlined communication, and a coordinated response.
- Association of State and Territorial Health Officials serves as a clearinghouse for state public health agencies to confidentially share best practices with each other. Association of State and Territorial Health Officials also serves as a clearinghouse for public health information and statistics.
- Association of State and Territorial Health Officials has served as the conduit for the development of a strong partnership between the regional Public Health directors; the group holds weekly conference calls and has regular discussions with the regional federal assignees.

6. Are training or educational/research materials included in the membership? If so, is the cost included? Explain in detail.

- The Division of Public Health Services receives numerous educational and research materials from ASTHO and the cost is included in the membership. Federal grants are received by the Association of State and Territorial Health Officials to provide the states with training that far exceeds any training that are provided for at the state level.

7. Is the membership required to receive any federal grants or required in order to receive or participate in licensing or certification exams? Explain.

- No.

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8. Is there any travel included with this membership fee? Explain in detail any travel to include the number of employees involved, the number of trips, destination if known and purposes of membership supported trips.

- Yes, the Association for State and Territorial Health Officials cover all costs for the Director of the Division of Public Health Services to attend all ASTHO Meetings during the year.

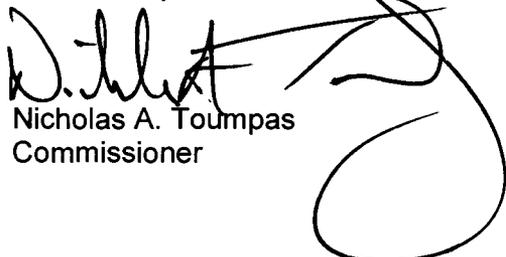
Should Governor and Executive Council not authorize this Request, all of the services provided by the Association of State and Territorial Health Officials, as detailed above, will not be available to the Department of Health and Human Services here in New Hampshire.

Area served: statewide.

Source of Funds: Source of Funds is 60% Federal Funds from Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and 40% General Funds.

In the event that the Federal Funds become no longer available, General Funds will not be requested to support this program.

Respectfully submitted,


Nicholas A. Toumpas
Commissioner



Association Of State And Territorial Health Officials
2231 Crystal Drive, Suite 450 | Arlington, Virginia 22202
(202) 371-9090 | www.astho.org

June 3, 2014

José Montero
Director, Division of PHS
New Hampshire Department of Health & Human Services
29 Hazen Drive
Concord, NH 03301-4604

Dear Dr. Montero:

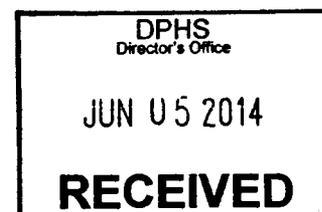
Serving as president of ASTHO is a truly gratifying and rewarding experience. It affords me a unique perspective to learn from and appreciate the collective expertise of my colleagues around the country and the territories, and to witness the positive influence of sound public health policy that we can generate as a group. ASTHO plays a critical role in organizing and concentrating our efforts and sharing approaches among states. One important way to ensure this ongoing progress and level of service is to support ASTHO through the remittance of your annual membership dues.

ASTHO provides each of us with valuable, timely, and accurate information, advice, and support on critically important public health concerns. ASTHO's efforts, representing the interests of state/territorial health agencies and the communities we serve, have paid big dividends. In the last year alone this has been demonstrated in multiple ways: by providing timely and relevant information on new infectious disease outbreaks such as MERS-CoV; providing technical assistance on accreditation, quality improvement, and business processes; offering phenomenal support during natural disasters; building partnerships with the March of Dimes, HRSA, and CMS to support states' efforts to address preterm birth; providing opportunities to link public health and healthcare; engaging federal partners and multiple sectors in the ASTHO 2014 President's Challenge to reduce prescription drug abuse and misuse; and working to secure funding for state public health agencies, such as through the restoration of the Preventive Health and Health Services Block Grant.

Attached is a document that briefly outlines various services ASTHO provides to you and your agency staff. Many of these valuable services are only available because of the unrestricted funding provided through membership dues. I sincerely hope you give this request your prompt attention and demonstrate your support of ASTHO by remitting the enclosed invoice. Please feel free to contact me or Paul should you have any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

Terry L. Cline, PhD
ASTHO President
Commissioner, Oklahoma State Department of Health





Association Of State And Territorial Health Officials
2231 Crystal Drive, Suite 450 | Arlington, Virginia 22202
(202) 371-9090 | www.astho.org

20 May 2014

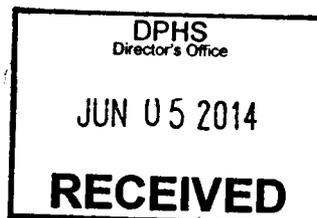
José T. Montero, MD, MPH, MHCDS
Director, Division of Public Health Service
New Hampshire Department of Health & Human Services
29 Hazen Drive
Concord, NH 03301

Invoice 070114-NH

ASTHO Annual Dues for the period July 1, 2014 – June 30, 2015	\$18,800.00
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Invoice Total	\$18,800.00
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Tax ID # 35-1044487



DUNS: 10-673-5830



Benefits of Membership

Leadership Development

ASTHO provides educational, training and leadership development opportunities designed specifically for cabinet-level state health agency leaders. An example of this is the State Health Leadership Initiative (SHLI) supported by the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation. SHLI includes a site visit from an ASTHO executive, a two-day public policy training in DC, a one-week, case study-based public health leadership program at the John F. Kennedy School of Government at Harvard University, a mentoring program, mini-grants for strategic planning and a professional development fund for each state and territorial health official. ASTHO and the CDC jointly sponsor an orientation and public health training for new health officials.

Estimated value of health agency leader services

	Estimated Direct Cost Value (excludes ASTHO staff-time)
Executive Site Visit and Follow-up	\$1,500
Leadership in Government Meeting	\$1,500
Leadership for New Health Officials (Harvard JFKS)	\$15,500
Winter Strategy Meeting for Health Officials	\$1,500
Mentoring Program	\$1,500
Customized Professional Development Fund	\$5,000
Strategic Planning Grant*	\$10,000
CDC Orientation for New Health Officials	\$1,500
Total	\$27,500-37,500

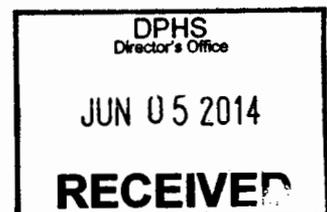
*Strategic planning grants are not universally available. ASTHO offers at least 2/year.

ASTHO supports the development of other state and territorial public health leaders through services that include in-person and virtual events, list-servs, secure online discussion boards, peer-to-peer mentoring and coaching, and technical assistance. Health agency staff that are supported include:

- Senior Deputies*
- Chief Fiscal Officers*
- State Legislative Liaisons*
- Directors of Public Health Preparedness*
- Human Resources (HR) and Workforce Development Directors*
- Informatics Directors
- Performance Improvement Directors
- Primary Care Officers
- State Environmental Health Directors
- Strategic National Stockpile (SNS) Coordinators

* Indicates the availability of in-person meetings, with each meeting valued at \$1,500.

In addition, ASTHO policy committees are mainly comprised of state and territorial health agency personnel, and all work and travel for the important work of these committees is covered by ASTHO through federal grants.





Benefits of Membership

Policy Support

ASTHO provides state health officials with valuable, timely and accurate information, advice, and support on critically important state and federal public health policy matters. ASTHO supports state efforts to understand and implement federal laws such as the Affordable Care Act, Food Safety Modernization Act, and Healthy Hunger Free Kids Act in a manner which maximizes health improvements for their population. We also work continuously with policymakers in Congress and the Administration to ensure state public health's voice is heard and remains an integral part of the federal-state-local governmental public health system.

Technical Assistance

ASTHO provides technical assistance to our members and partners on issues of public health policy and practice. In addition to responding to requests from states, territories, and partners, ASTHO proactively assists our members with reports, site visits, webinars, etc. on broad ranging issues, such as accreditation, preparedness, and health reform. Technical assistance provision to state and territorial health agencies ranges from phone consultation to development of written reports to comprehensive site visits by expert staff, members, or partners.

Sharing of Best Practices among States and Territories

ASTHO collects and shares best and promising public health practices from the state and territorial health agencies. ASTHO analyzes this information, shares it with states and territories via different modalities (e-newsletters, publications, in person meetings, virtual events, etc.) and uses in all aspects of our work to help states achieve better health outcomes and inform federal and national partners.