



## **Planning Resolution**

**Between**

**Secretary of Health and Human Services Mike Leavitt**

**and**

**Governor Rod R. Blagojevich of Illinois**

### **Whereas:**

1. **Influenza pandemics have occurred three times in the last century, and history and science suggest that the country and the world could face one or more pandemics in this century;**
2. **A pandemic can cause severe illness, death and disruption throughout the country and the world, and outbreaks can occur in multiple locations simultaneously;**
3. **Preparing for an influenza pandemic requires coordinated action at all levels of government federal, state, local, tribal - and all sectors of society, including businesses, schools, faith-based and community organizations, families and individuals;**
4. **The government has committed to taking a leadership role in creating a prepared Nation by monitoring international and domestic outbreaks, providing funding and technical assistance to foster local and state preparedness, stockpiling and distributing countermeasures, developing new treatments, and coordinating the national response;**
5. **The Secretary of the United States Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) has committed to holding pandemic planning summits in all 50 states, assisting states to improve their level of preparedness;**
6. **President George W. Bush asked Congress for emergency spending authority to prepare the United States for the possibility of a pandemic. The Congress has provided over \$3 billion for that purpose in the Defense Appropriations Act for 2006, including funding for state and local;**

7. States and local communities are responsible under their own authorities for responding to an outbreak within their jurisdictions.

8. Consistent with its statutory authorities, direction from Congress, and Departmental regulations and policy, and subject to available funding, HHS will provide Illinois with an initial amount of financial assistance for the purposes of pandemic planning. Terms and conditions of such assistance will state that additional amounts will depend upon achievement of specific preparedness goals as agreed to by HHS and Illinois, including a self-assessment of readiness on the part of Illinois. Consistent with its authorities and availability of funding, HHS may provide additional resources to the states with the intent of (1) stopping, slowing or otherwise limiting the spread of a pandemic to the United States; (2) limiting the domestic spread of a pandemic, and mitigating disease, suffering and death;

9. Preparedness plans must be continuously exercised, tested and updated to ensure that they work to achieve a higher level of preparedness; and

10. Pandemic preparedness will help communities deal with various types of medical emergencies and will have lasting benefits for the health of our Nation;

11. HHS and ILLINOIS share common goals, and have shared and independent responsibilities for influenza planning and preparedness.

## **Be it resolved,**

1. HHS will be responsible for:

a) Continuing to provide substantial guidance and technical assistance to ILLINOIS as it prepares to respond to a possible influenza pandemic. Among other things, HHS, and its operating divisions, coordinates pandemic response activities with state, local and tribal public health and health care agencies; supports state pandemic planning efforts; communicates and disseminates timely influenza pandemic information and technical guidance to state and local public health departments and health care agencies; and provides direct support and technical guidance for epidemiological investigations and diagnostic services through the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC).

b) Consistent with its statutory authorities, direction from Congress, and Departmental regulations and policy, and subject to available funding, providing States with financial assistance through funds appropriated as part of the FY 2006 Defense Appropriations Act for the purposes of pandemic planning. Although a portion of those funds will be made available to ILLINOIS immediately upon receipt of a self assessment of readiness, receipt by ILLINOIS of additional amounts will depend upon achievement of specific preparedness goals as agreed to by HHS and ILLINOIS.

c) Within six months, of reviewing ILLINOIS' plans for use, the storage and distribution of antivirals and providing notification to ILLINOIS of its portion of the federal stockpile of pandemic influenza antiviral drugs.

2. ILLINOIS will be responsible for:

a) Augmenting state and local planning with a State and Local Pandemic Preparedness Summit.

b) Updating ILLINOIS' pandemic influenza plans based on guidance given in the HHS Pandemic Influenza Plan and the National Strategy for Pandemic Influenza both released in November 2005 and any guidance the Secretary may provide concerning the use of countermeasures necessary to address a pandemic.

c) Assuring that the operational plan for pandemic influenza response is an integral element of the overall state and local emergency response plan that will coordinate effectively with Emergency Support

