

**Joe McDermott**  
*Board of Health Chair*

**401 Fifth Avenue  
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Seattle, Washington  
98104**

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October 28, 2022

The Honorable Claudia Balducci  
Chair, King County Council  
Room 1200  
C O U R T H O U S E

Dear Councilmember Balducci,

On behalf of the King County Board of Health (BOH), I am pleased to transmit a proposed Motion that would appoint twelve nonelected members to the BOH beginning January 2023. These twelve members are comprised of regular voting members and alternates, two of whom are selected by the American Indian Health Commission of Washington State (AIHC) and ten candidates selected through an application process overseen by the BOH.

In 2021, the state Legislature passed, and the Governor signed, House Bill 1152. This law modified the structure of local boards of health to require an equal number of elected to nonelected members, with one of the nonelected members to be selected by AIHC. Remaining nonelected members represent one of three categories – 1) public health, health care facilities, and providers, 2) consumers of public health, and 3) other community stakeholders.

In April 2022, the King County Council adopted Ordinance 19418 amending King County Code to reflect these requirements. Additionally, it called for the appointment of alternate members, a stipend for nonelected members, and a process for transmittal of appointment legislation.

In July 2022, the AIHC informed the BOH of their designated member and alternate, Esther Lucero and Abigail Echo-Hawk. The BOH invited these members to join a meeting to introduce themselves, and in September we were glad to host Ms. Lucero.

The BOH began a robust recruitment and review process beginning in May 2022 for the remaining ten seats. This process included virtual open houses conducted in English, Spanish, and American Sign Language, distribution of information in English and Spanish with an invitation for candidates to request information in additional languages, and published announcements in local media outlets, email newsletters, and through community networks. A BOH subcommittee then reviewed applications, conducted interviews, and recommended seven regular members and three alternates for consideration by the full BOH.

At the October 2022 meeting, the BOH interviewed these ten candidates and voted unanimously to recommend them to the King County Council.

I am pleased to transmit the recommended candidates to the King County Council for appointment to the BOH beginning in January 2023. Thank you in advance for your consideration.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Joe McDermott". The signature is stylized with a large initial "J" and a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Joe McDermott  
Chair