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July 19, 2018

Glen P. Mays, M.P.H., Ph.D.
F. Douglas Scutchfield Endowed Professor in Health Services and Systems Research
University of Kentucky College of Public Health
121 Washington Ave, Rm 204
Lexington, KY 40536-0003

Letter of Support for CDC Funding Opportunity *Validity and Utility of the National Health Security Index for Public Health*

Dear Dr. Mays,

The Association of State and Territorial Health Officials (ASTHO) is pleased to join with the University of Kentucky on undertaking the following project -- "Validity and Utility of the National Health Security Index for Public Health Preparedness," in response to Topic 2 on CDC Broad Agency Announcement 2018-N-67817. The Association proposes to provide support via a 3-year subcontract totaling \$60,000. Our work and budget is included in the submitted proposal.

ASTHO is the national non-profit organization representing the state and territorial public health agencies of the United States, the US Territories and the District of Columbia. ASTHO's members, the chief health officials of these jurisdictions and their leadership teams, are dedicated to formulating and influencing thoughtful public health policy, and to assuring excellence in state-based public practice.

ASTHO has a long history with the Preparedness Index and was instrumental in its development. ASTHO and the University of Kentucky have partnered successfully on many projects. We look forward to continuing to this partnership and working to improve the Preparedness Index and address strengths and challenges with respect to its application in practice.

Sincerely,



Michael R. Fraser, PhD MS CAE FCPP
Chief Executive Officer