Preparedness Policy Committee

Description/Mission
The Preparedness Policy Committee analyzes public health and health system preparedness issues to develop recommendations for state-based public health policy. The committee’s deliberations and recommendations are operationalized to assist members in developing preparedness activities and integrating preparedness efforts with existing state-based public health programs.

2019 Committee Priorities
- Develop State and Territorial Health Official Leadership for response to disasters
- Increase State/Territorial public health capacity to respond to disease outbreaks
- Education and Advocacy of public health preparedness funding and activities as integral parts of national security

Committee Goals and Objectives
- Identify, define, and quantify basic preparedness capabilities and thresholds, and prioritize infrastructure resources and services.
- Advocate for sustained preparedness funding for state health agencies to maintain their readiness to respond to public health threats and emergencies, including possible terrorist activities.
- Support national coordination of public health and health system preparedness efforts, and promote collaboration among state health agencies and non-governmental entities, as appropriate, to help build shared methods and practices to state-based preparedness.
- Develop and advance ASTHO policy positions on national public health preparedness and infrastructure issues.
- Discover and foster approaches to ensure optimal training and sustainment of the state public health workforce as new preparedness issues, policies, and programs emerge.
- Identify and promote enhanced communication and information sharing opportunities among state and federal health agencies, and other governmental entities about preparedness plans, processes, policies, and programs.
- Monitor and analyze emerging federal legislation.

2019 Committee Membership
- J. Patrick O’Neal [Chair] (SHO, GA)
- Randall Williams [Vice Chair] (SHO, MO)
- Tom Bates (SHO, OK)
- Kristina Box (SHO, IN)
- Alexia Harrist (SHO, WY)
- Paul Halverson (Alumni)
- Susan Fanelli (Sr. Deputy, CA)
- Ken Sharp (Sr. Deputy, IA)
- Michael Loehr (DPHP Chair, WA)
- Cheryl Petersen-Kroebker (DPHP Chair-Elect, MN)
- Wayne Denny (NASEMSO Representative)
- Alan Siniscalchi (CSTE Representative)
- Maureen Sullivan (APHL Representative)