

**PUBLIC HEALTH STATUTE  
MODERNIZATION COLLABORATIVE**

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**THE TURNING POINT PUBLIC HEALTH  
STATUTE MODERNIZATION COLLABORATIVE***A Robert Wood Johnson Foundation Grantee*

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The Public Health Statute Modernization Collaborative (Collaborative) was formed in April 2000. The Collaborative has spent the past three years developing the Turning Point Model State Public Health Act (Turning Point Act) that states and localities can use as a tool to assess their current public health laws and to identify areas that need updating and improving.

The Collaborative is a multi-disciplinary group comprised of representatives from five states and nine national organizations and government agencies, assisted by experts in specialty areas of public health. The Alaska Division of Public Health is responsible for coordinating the Collaborative.

States involved include Alaska, Colorado, Nebraska, Oregon and Wisconsin. National organizations include the American Public Health Association, the Association of State and Territorial Health Officials, the National Association of County and City Health Officials, the National Conference of State Legislatures and the National Governors Association. Government agencies include the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention and the Health Resources and Services Administration. The Collaborative includes tribal representation from the Gila River Indian Community Department of Public Health.

The Collaborative worked with several consultants to develop the Turning Point Act, including Lawrence Gostin and James G. Hodge, Jr. of the Center for Law and the Public's Health at Georgetown and Johns Hopkins Universities who drafted the Act and Myra Munson, partner in the law firm of Sonosky, Chambers, Sachse, Miller & Munson, who acted as a consultant on tribal health law for the project.

A draft version of the Turning Point Act was sent out for public review in January 2003 and the final Act incorporates recommendations from many citizens, health professionals, public officials, and legal scholars.

The Collaborative was funded by The Robert Wood Johnson Foundation as part of its Turning Point Initiative to strengthen the public health system in the United States.

For more information, please visit [www.turningpointprogram.org](http://www.turningpointprogram.org) or [www.hss.state.ak.us/dph/improving/turningpoint/MSPHA.htm](http://www.hss.state.ak.us/dph/improving/turningpoint/MSPHA.htm)